

Withlacoochee State Trail

From: Northern Citrus Springs Trailhead on Magenta Drive.

To: Central Ridge District Park at the end of the new Spur.

Mileage: Approx: 13 Miles Round Trip

Date: Friday, July 9TH

Time: Start Bike Ride at 8:30 AM

Restroom: Available at the Northern Citrus Springs Trailhead.

Directions to Northern Citrus Springs Trailhead

1. **Take Rte 491 North to US 41 (Florida Ave)** – There is a Blinking Light at this intersection.
2. **Turn Left onto US 41**
3. **Go 4.6 Miles (North) on US 41.**
4. **Turn Left onto G. Martinelli Blvd**
5. **Go to the end of G, Martinelli Blvd, approx: 1 Mile.**
6. **Turn Left at the Stop Sign onto Magenta Dr.**
7. **Go a short distance, then take 1st right into the Withlacoochee Trail parking lot.**

Travel Tips:

1. There are two Trailheads in Citrus Springs this is the Northern most Trailhead (The southern trailhead is on W. Citrus Springs Blvd which is 1 Mile North of the Rte 491 intersection >>Don't stop at this Trailhead.
2. Approx; 8/10th of a Mile before you make the Left Turn onto G. Martinelli Blvd there is a Traffic Light so after you go through the traffic light be prepared to make a left in 8/10th of a Mile. As you approach G. Martinelli Blvd there is a small brown sign on the right side of the road directing you to take a left for the Withlacoochee State Trail.

After the Ride, everyone is welcome to join us for a Barbecue at our house. Bring your bathing suit if you would like to take a dip in the pool. For the Barbecue we will be providing baked beans, kielbasa, and hot dogs. For drinks we will be providing lemonade, tea, coffee, and water or BYOB. And we will be providing a desert. Please bring a side dish to pass such as a green salad or a Fruit Salad or a macaroni salad, or etc.

In case of afternoon showers, bring your favorite board or card game.

Please RSVP so that we will know how many to provide for and let us know what dish you plan to bring.

John and Coreen Schempf - Biking Coordinators

Home Phone: 489-2784

Cell Phone: 697-1003

E-Mail: jcschempf@bellsouth.net

RAMBLERS BIKE RIDE

Friday, September 17 at Floral City Trailhead.

Parking available at meeting area (blinking red light, route 41, town center).

Bike from Floral City, south to Istachatta and return. Approx. 9 miles each way.

Meet and sign-in at 8:30am and on the Withlacoochee Trail by 9:00am.

No need to RSVP, just show up.

Call Jan Hitchcock at 613-6746 or Theresa Schmidt 794-0414 if you have questions.

Trip will be cancelled only if a major natural (or unnatural) disaster occurs. For example if there is a lightning storm, obviously we will not bike.

Our October ride will be the 16th Annual Rails to Trails Ride

Date: Sunday, October 3, 2010

Location / Start Time: Citrus Springs Southern Trailhead (W. Citrus Springs Blvd) at 7:30 AM

Or

Location/Start Time: Inverness at the N. Apopka Ave Trail Crossing - Registration/Continental Breakfast at 8:30 AM.

Those starting out at Citrus Springs will join the Inverness group for Registration / Continental Breakfast at 8:30 AM.

Length of Ride: Open ended. Each rider is free to determine pace and round trip distance they would like. The distance from Inverness to Floral City and back is 14 miles, 32 miles from the trail head in Citrus Springs and back.

Lunch: Provided at no charge from 11 am to 2 pm in Inverness at the N. Apopka Ave Trial Crossing.

SAG STOPS:

There are 6 stops along the way that provide free water, sports drinks and food. There are Restrooms, of some type, at the Sag Stops.

As a club, we are hoping that there will be a lot of support for this worthwhile project sponsored by the Rails To Trails of the Withlacoochee. Wear your Rambler's Shirt!

Pre- Register REMINDER:

If you **pre-register on or before Sept. 11th**, the following applies:

- 1.Entry Fee is \$ 20.00 (\$25.00 after Sept 11th).
- 2.Riders who pre-register receive a T-Shirt.
- 3.Riders who pre-register are eligible for a Door Prize.

Entry Forms and more info are available online at:

<http://www.railstotrailsonline.com/images/rails.pdf>

Last year, a few started the ride in Citrus Springs and another group of Ramblers met in Inverness at 8:30. It would be nice if we could all meet up for lunch.

Those planning to go, please let me know if you plan to start in Citrus Springs or in Inverness.

Cathy Knox, cathyknox@hotmail.com

527-3441

The November Bike Ride will be on the J. B. Starkey Wilderness Park Bike Trail.

Date: Friday, November 5th

Time: Start Bike Ride at 9:30 AM

Meet: J. B. Starkey Wilderness Park at Parking Lot# 8.
There are Rest Rooms.

This is an easy ride that is approx. 14 Miles roundtrip.

Note to Hikers: This Park has several nice Hiking Trails.

Approx: Mileage / Time to J. B. Starkey Wilderness Park:

Crystal River... 55 Miles – 1 hr 20 Min.

Inverness..... 55 Miles – 1 hr 20 Min.

Beverly Hills... 60 Miles – 1 hr 30 Min.

Citrus Hills.... 60 Miles – 1 hr 30 Min.

Homosassa... 50 Miles – 1 hr 10 Min.

Directions:

1. Take Suncoast Parkway to Exit 27 – Rte 52 Dade City / New Port Richey.
2. Turn Right onto Rte 52.
3. Go 3.1 Miles on Rte 52 to second traffic light – Moon Lake Rd (Rte 587)
4. Turn Left onto Moon Lake Rd (Rte 587).
5. Go 6.9 Miles on Moon Lake Rd. which becomes De Cubelis Rd after several miles.
6. Turn Left at a traffic light onto Starkey Blvd.

Note: As you approach Starkey Blvd, there is a Brown Sign on the right side of the road with an arrow pointing left to J. B. Starkey Wilderness Park.

7. Go ½ Mile on Starkey Blvd.
 8. Take first Left onto Wilderness Rd.
 9. After 1 tenth mile, you will enter J.B. Starkey Wilderness Park.
 10. Stay on the Park Rd
 - .. Continue on by the Education Center on the Left
 - .. Continue on by the Information Center on the Right
 - .. The Park Road will make a 90 degree left turn at a wooden gate which is the entrance to the bike trail.
 - . Continue on the Park Road until you see a sign that says "Bike Trail Parking ->"
- Turn right
Go to **Parking Lot# 8** on the right side of the road.
Turn right into **Bike Trail Parking - Lot# 8**.

After the Ride:

There is a restaurant nearby.

Bring water and bug spray.

**If you plan to go, EMail us at jcschempf@bellsouth.net
Include in your EMail, a phone number we can reach you if there is any change in plans.**

John and Coreen Schempf

EMail: jcschempf@bellsouth.net

Home Phone: 489-2784

Cell Phone: 697-1003

Bike Ride on the Withlacoochee State Trail.

From: Central Ridge District Park, Beverly Hills

To: Inverness for Lunch and return

Date: Friday, December 3rd

Time: Start Bike Ride at 10:00 AM

Meet: Central Ridge District Park – The furthest left parking lot.

The park is located at 6905 N. Lecanto Highway (Rte 491).

There are Rest Rooms.

Directions : The Park is located ½ Mile West of US 41 on Rte 491.

As you approach the Park, from either direction, you will see a green sign, “Park Entrance 800 FT”.

Those traveling East on Rte 491 will make a right turn into the Park and those traveling West will make a Left.

Go to the furthest left Parking Lot and park near the furthest left building.

Lunch:

We will have Lunch at the McLeod House in Inverness, then return.

Please let me know if you plan to attend so I can make reservations:

Cathy Knox

cathyknox@hotmail.com

352-527-3441

The next Bike Ride will be on the Withlacoochee State Trail.

From: Inverness

To: Floral City - and back.

Date: Friday, January 14

Time: Start Bike Ride at 10:00 AM

Meet: Wallace Brooks Park Parking Area at 9:45..There are Rest Rooms.

Directions:...For those heading South on Main St. (Route 41 / 44)

1. Turn Left onto N. Seminole Ave (There is a Traffic Light at this turn).
2. Go straight thru the 4 Way Stop.
3. Turn Right onto Dampier St.
4. Go to the end of Dampier St.
5. Parking is on the Left.

This is an easy ride that is approx. 14 Miles roundtrip.
Join the group for lunch at Rustic Ranch in Inverness

Helmets encouraged.

Bring water and bug spray

Let us know if you plan to go.

Dean and Anita Dolbeck

adolbeck@tampabay.rr.com or call: 352-527-3327

Please RSVP to Dean and Anita Dolbeck if you plan to attend.

adolbeck@tampabay.rr.com or call: 352-527-3327

Bike Ride for February is from the southernmost end of the Withlacoochee State trail at Owensboro Junction Trailhead starting @ 1000.

Plan is to ride up to Ridge Manor Trail head (6 mi) and for those that want a little longer ride, Silver Lake (3 mi more). It's an easy ride. There are no restrooms at Owensboro but there are in Ridge Manor. Parking is available.

Lunch is tentatively planned for The Garden Café in downtown Dade City. There are many nice places to eat and antique shops to browse if you would like after the ride / lunch.

<http://dineinthegarden.com/>

Please RSVP me if you plan to attend.

Chris West at cwest67@tampabay.rr.com or 628-1714

Ramblers Bike Ride - March 4th

The next bike ride will be on the Withlacoochee Bay Trail along the south edge of The Florida Barge Canal, about 9 miles north of Crystal River on US 19.

We will meet on March 4th at 9:30 and depart at 10:00. Due to construction, enter on the west side of 19. There is a sign showing the entrance to the trail just south of the bridge

The trail is approximately 5 miles each way, and has a few small hills. There is a restroom part way down the trail.

We will eat lunch at Crackers in Crystal River. RSVP at lorenhk@gmail.com or call 352 563-1211.

Thanks Dottie Kane

The next Bike Ride will be on the [Gainesville – Hawthorne Trail](#)

From: Rochelle

To: Gainesville

Date: Friday, April 1ST

Time: Start Bike Ride at 10:00 AM

Meet: **Rochelle Trailhead Parking.** There is a porti-potty a short distance east of Parking Lot on the Trail.

Admission Fee: \$ 2.00 / Person for the planned walk. Exact Change needed since it is an envelope drop.

Directions:

1. Take I-75 North
2. Take Exit 374 (Rte 234 / Micanopy)
3. Turn Right onto CR-234 – Go 1.3 Miles
4. Turn Right onto US-441 - Go 0.7 Miles (7/10th of a Mile)
5. Turn Left onto CR-234 – Go 6.9 Miles until you get to a Stop Sign.
6. Turn Left into the Rochelle Trailhead Parking Lot.

This ride does have hills and grades.

Ride is approx. 14 Miles roundtrip.

Halfway thru the ride, we a planning a scenic walk in Paynes Prairie Preserve. Bring binoculars to view birds and other wild life. You may want to bring a Snack to eat while on the walk, since the walk will delay lunch time.

For those interested:

1. Lunch at the **Blue Highway a Pizzeria**, US-441 - Micanopy
Backtrack towards US-441. Just before US-441, turn left into a parking lot, Blue Highway will be the second building in the parking lot.

Blue Highway www.bluehighwaypizza.com

2. After, Lunch, tour Micanopy Antique Shops / Museum.

Approx: Mileage / Times:

Homosassa (Yule Dr. / Rte 19) – 74 Miles / 2 Hrs.

Inverness (Montgomery Ave / Rte 44) - 62 Miles / 1.5 Hrs

Citrus Hills (Essex Ave / Rte 486) - 60 Miles / 1.5 Hrs

Beverly Hills (Roosevelt Blvd/ Rte 491) - 60 Miles / 1.5 Hrs

Web Site:

http://www.dep.state.fl.us/gwt/guide/regions/north/trails/gainesville_hawth.htm

Helmets encouraged.

Bring water and bug spray..

Let us, John and Coreen Schempf, know if you plan to go.

E-Mail: jcschempf@bellsouth.net

Home Phone: 489-2784

Cell Phone: 697-1003

MAY RAMBLER BIKE RIDE

FRIDAY MAY 6TH

The May Rambler Bike Ride will be on the West Orange Trail in Winter Garden, Florida.

FROM: Winter Garden Station

TO: Apopka-Vineland Outpost and return to Winter Garden Station.

DISTANCE: 15-16 miles round trip

DATE: Friday May 6th TIME: Meet at 9:30am – ride starts at 10:00am

DIRECTIONS: Take 44 East ; right onto I-75 South
Move to left lane of I-75, bear Left onto Florida Turnpike South
Stay on FL Turnpike for approx. 35 miles
Exit right at Exit 272 for FL-50 Winter Garden/Clermont
(FL-50 is also W. Colonial Dr.)
Turn left onto FL-50
Stay on 50 approx. 5 miles to South Dillard St (rt. 537)
Make left onto S. Dillard to East Plant St. (1/2 mile)
Turn right onto E. Plant St. to Winter Garden Station on left.

For your GPS: WINTER GARDEN STATION

455 E. Plant St.

Winter Garden, FL 34787

FROM HOMOSASSA (my house)- 70 miles 1 1/2 hours

FROM INVERNESS (Court House) 56 miles 1 hour

Lunch/restaurants are within walking distance from the Winter Garden Station.

www.WinterGardenPizza.comwww.Bistro24wintergarden.com

Also in the area: The Heritage Museum

Central Florida Railroad Museum

Gardens at Chapin Station

Oakland Nature Preserve

Let me know if you plan to attend.

CHUCK SWENSON – HOME 352-382-7919 CELL 352-601-5061

coastalswede@tampabay.rr.com

Please include your first and last names; home phone #; cell #; and email.

Nature Coast Ramblers -- Bike Ride -- June 3

We will meet at the Dolbecks at 9:30, departing at 10:00 for a ride using mostly bike trails in the Citrus Hills neighborhood. You can choose to bring a sandwich, or we can place our orders at Cattle Dogs Coffee Roasters before we leave, picking them up on our way back and picnicing at Dean and Anita's. Beverages and desert will be provided.

Directions to the Dolbecks. 1631 N. Abalone Terrace, Hernando, FL 34442

From Crystal River--

Proceed east on 486 past the Terra Vista main entrance (Walgreens, CVS, Publix intersection--Forest Ridge Blvd) to the next signal light which is Essex Avenue. Turn right. Go to the top of the hill. You will pass the east gate of Terra Vista on the right. The next street is Albany. Turn right. You will see the Hampton Hills sign on the corner. Take the first left, which is Abalone Terrace. We are the first house after the corner one on the left, number 1631.

From Hernando –

Go west on 486 to Essex Avenue. (It is about 4 miles from Hwy 41 in Hernando.) Turn left. From here the directions are the same as above.

Please RSVP to Dean and Anita

adolbeck@tampabay.rr.com or phone 527-3250

Also call if you need further directions.