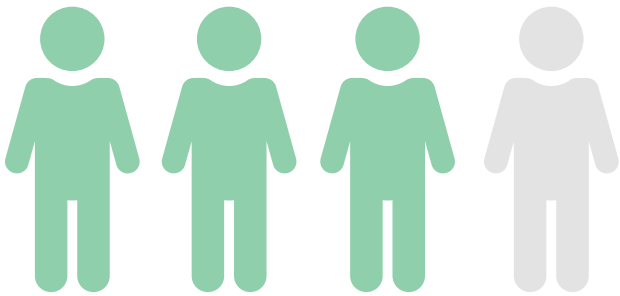


Healthy Palmetto has chosen to promote trail connectivity as one of six priority areas on which to focus our statewide efforts. As the state coalition that collectively addresses healthy eating and active living, Healthy Palmetto is working to unify and mobilize efforts to create equitable opportunities for all South Carolinians to achieve better health.

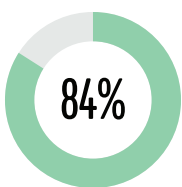
OUR PRIORITY

We support the development of the South Carolina Trails Coalition to increase trail connectivity in the state and promote the use of trails through increased knowledge and outreach.

WHY TRAILS?



3 in 4 U.S. adults say it's important—and nearly half say it's extremely or very important—that they have access to public walking, hiking or biking trails near their home.¹



of millennials say it's important they have access to public trails near their home.¹

South Carolina's network of walking, hiking, biking, and paddling trails promotes active living, fosters meaningful connections with nature, creates linkages between communities, enhances alternative modes of transportation, and generates economic growth for nearby towns and rural areas.

SC TRAILS COALITION

The SC Trails Coalition is newly formed and comprised of members of the Palmetto Conservation Foundation, SC Recreation and Parks Association, SC Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism (SCPRT), the Palmetto Cycling Coalition, and Kids in Parks.

The coalition is working to establish a statewide trails community and a framework for mapping all the existing trails in the state. The organization is also creating a plan for connecting and maintaining trails and building new ones; advocating for the increased use of trails through programming and public outreach; and breaking down barriers so trails are accessible to all South Carolinians.

Trails and greenways can be a powerful economic development tool for small towns and rural areas. Trails don't just go through woods; they go around ballparks and through towns and cities, making them more accessible to a larger demographic.



¹National Recreation and Park Association



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Funding continues to be a challenge in the development, sustainability, and linkage of local trails. The South Carolina Trails Coalition will work with community partners to leverage public and private dollars to support the maintenance and expansion of trails and advocate for expanded use of existing trails. The federal Great American Outdoors Act and the state Recreational Trails Program offer the prospect of funding for the coalition and its community partners. And the private sector is also beginning to recognize that trails enhance the livability and marketability of communities, as well as improving preventative health.

As the coalition is in its infancy, funding is needed to expand its membership to include public health professionals; complete a statewide study to assess current trail assets; host a state trails conference to showcase best practices; and hire employees and engage trail experts, community leaders, and diverse user groups to realize our vision of a connected trail network.



Do you have information about public or private grants or other sources of funding the South Carolina Trails Coalition could access to support its vision of a connected trail network and repository of information about trails in our state? Please contact Mary Roe or Jim Headley; emails below.

OTHER WAYS TO HELP



Do you know an organization in South Carolina that builds, maintains, promotes or funds trails? Encourage them to **become a member** of the SC Trails Coalition.



Do you know of a trail you'd like to see **connected to another trail or greenway**? Contact the coalition to see how you can help make it happen.



Would you like to see your favorite trail listed in the comprehensive, **statewide directory of trails** so others can get out and enjoy it? Let us hear from you! Connect with us at www.sctrails.net, and share the website with your networks.



Or, you can support our vision by simply **getting outdoors** and hiking, biking, walking or paddling one of the many scenic trails in our beautiful state!

CONTACT US



<https://youtu.be/5RUifMgyfKY>

WWW.SCTRAILS.NET

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