

June 3, 2010
For immediate release

Rail-Trail dedication set for June 5

The first 3.5-mile section of the Georgia Coast Rail-Trail officially opens Saturday, June 5, with a 10 a.m. dedication ceremony at the White Oak Post Office just north of Woodbine on Hwy. 17.

To celebrate the opening, Camden County and Coastal Georgia Rails to Trails are inviting trail lovers of all ages to come out and explore the trail, on foot or bicycle. Bicycles will be available free of charge, courtesy of Camden Bicycle Center of St. Marys and Monkeywrench Bicycles of St. Simons Island, or you can bring your own.

The dedication is an approved event of National Trails Day, sponsored by the American Hiking Society. Children ages 5-12 will have the opportunity to enter the National Trails Day coloring contest for a chance to win an outdoor prize pack from The North Face and have their artwork featured in American Hiker magazine.

Trail mix and bottled water will be provided free to attendees.

This initial section of the Georgia Coast Rail-Trail extends both north and south from White Oak. It is the first part of a planned 68-mile trail to be built on an abandoned CSX railroad bed running from Kingsland to Riceboro. The trail will run across marshes, maritime forests, and 43 rivers and creeks in Camden, Glynn, McIntosh, and Liberty counties. In Camden County, the Rail-Trail, the East Coast Greenway and the Coastal Georgia Greenway share the same route. The 1.5-mile Woodbine trail is also a part of these trails.

The trail is 10-feet wide with a hard-packed surface. On this section, the trail was constructed with finely crushed concrete reclaimed from I-95. The surface accommodates walkers, runners, and bikers – everything except skates, road bikes, or motorized vehicles. Equestrians can ride on the grassy area alongside the trail.

Amenities along the White Oak stretch include a picnic shelter, benches, and restroom facilities. At the trailhead in front of the post office, parking has been improved to accommodate more visitors.

The cost of building the White Oak segment is being split three ways among the Atlanta-based PATH Foundation, Coastal Georgia Rails to Trails Inc., and Camden County, owner of the White Oak segment, which provided in-kind construction assistance. In addition, the Camden Community Alliance and Resources (CCAR) organization represents the Camden County biking community and its volunteers, including Safe Routes to Schools; a National initiative. CCAR volunteers drive County and local initiatives to provide bike paths and related amenities throughout Camden County.

Visitors to the dedication will be able to join Coastal Georgia Rails to Trails. To track progress on the trail and learn of other planned activities, go to www.georgiacoastrailtrail.org.

Contact: Walt Natzic, 912.882.2710 / 912.322.9322
Rails – Trails Board of Directors, Trails Publicity
CCAR Board of Directors, Trails Publicity

Georgia Coast Rail-Trail Dedication
White Oak, Georgia
June 5, 2010
10:00 am

WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS	David Rainer, Chairman, Board of County Commissioners Steve L. Howard, Camden County Administrator
RECOGNITION OF PARTNERS	Fred Freyer, Chairman, Coastal Georgia Rails to Trails
HISTORICAL CONTEXT	Burford Clark, Bryan Lang Historical Library Board
TRAIL ADVOCACY	Norm White, Trek Corporation
BLESSING OF THE TRAIL	Rev. Jack McCollough Jr.
RIBBON CUTTING & INAUGURAL RIDE	

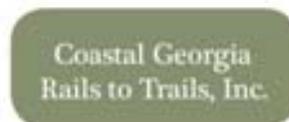
Enjoy the trail. Trail mix and bottled water will be provided free to attendees.

Today's dedication is a registered event of National Trails Day, sponsored by the American Hiking Society. Children ages 5-12 will have the opportunity to enter the National Trails Day coloring contest for a chance to win an outdoor prize pack from The North Face and have their artwork featured in American Hiker magazine.

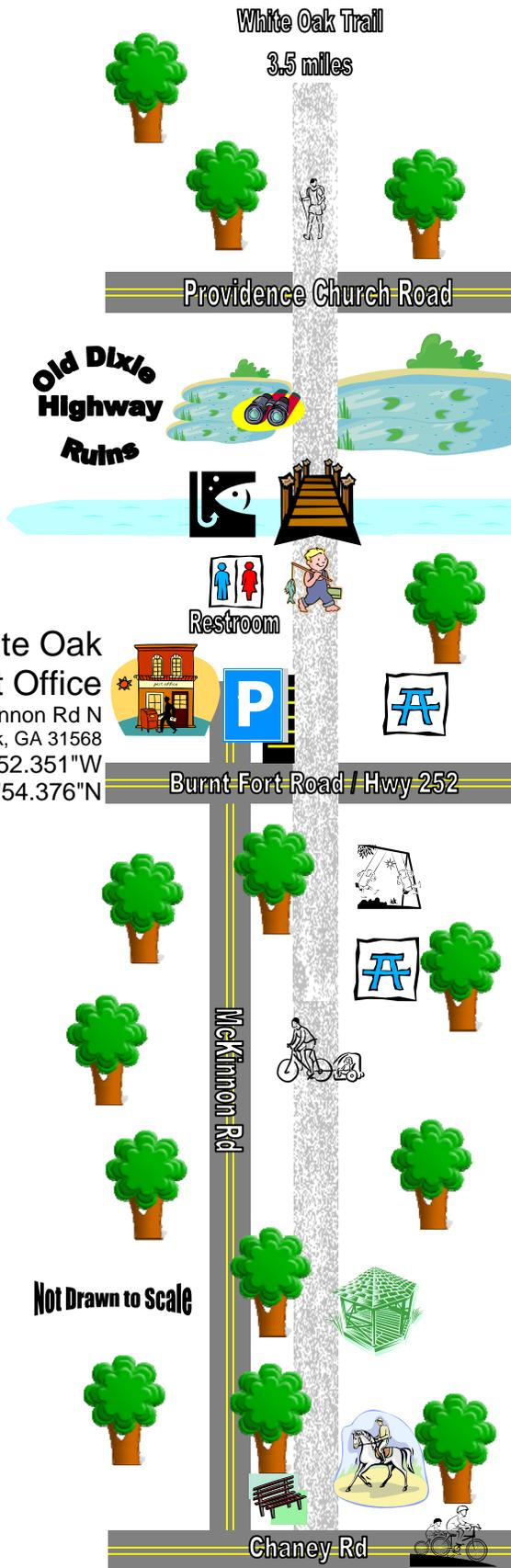
Thanks to the following for sponsoring today's event:

Camden Bicycle Center of St. Marys
Coastal Regional Commission
Camden Community Alliance & Resources
Monkeywrench Bicycles of St. Simons Island
Southeast Georgia Health Systems
Coca-Cola

Special thanks to the following for building and maintaining the trail:



Georgia Coast Rail-Trail White Oak, GA



US Hwy 17 / 195 Alt Bike Route



White Oak Creek

The Georgia Coast Rail-Trail will be a 68-mile trail stretching from Kingsland north to Riceboro winding through lush green marshes, longleaf pines, and saw grass. It will cross 43 beautiful tidal rivers and creeks and no trail in the nation can match it. The White Oak Trail is the first segment open to the public.

- Dawn until Dusk
- Walking
- Running
- Bicycling
- Fishing
- Picnicking
- Horseback riding on trail shoulder
- No motorized vehicles

To Historic Woodbine, Greenway, Waterfront Park, and Bird Sanctuary
2.5 miles



Brought to you by Camden County, the PATH Foundation, and Coastal Georgia Rails to Trails, Inc. and maintained by the Public Service Authority.