

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Nov. 20, 2015

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Rails-to-Trails Conservancy Announces 2016 Sojourn Series Covering Four States

WASHINGTON – Rail-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC) has launched its 2016 Sojourn Series, which includes four world-class biking events that highlight the best of rail-trails and greenways across the United States. The four multi-day events vary in length and difficulty and are suitable for skillsets ranging from casual trail user to seasoned professional:

- Feb. 29–March 3: Florida Rail-Trail Sojourn—*Miami-to-Everglades Tour*;
- May 6–8: Pennsylvania Rail-Trail Sojourn—*A Mother’s Day Excursion Along the Great Allegheny Passage*;
- June 19–22: West Virginia Rail-Trail Sojourn—*Wild and Wonderful North Bend Trail*; and
- Fall 2016: Ohio Rail-Trail Sojourn, *Cleveland to Columbus on the Ohio-to-Erie Trail* (final dates to come).

Thousands of trail enthusiasts have participated in RTC sojourns over the past decade. These events are a tangible way to demonstrate the benefits that trails provide to communities across the country, with a focus on tourism and economic development.

“The Sojourn Series is a real-world example that show how trails can provide an economic boon to local economies,” says Liz Thorstensen, vice president of trail development for RTC. “By providing these rides, we’re creating more opportunities for people to experience and advocate for these trail networks.”

RTC's 2015 Pennsylvania Rail-Trail Sojourn brought visitors from 35 states and had an economic impact of more than \$245,000.

For more information, visit railstotrails.org/sojourn.

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC), a nonprofit organization with more than 160,000 members and supporters, is the nation's largest trails organization dedicated to connecting people and communities by creating a nationwide network of public trails, many from former rail lines and connecting corridors. Founded in 1986, RTC's national office is located in Washington, D.C., with regional offices in California, Florida, Ohio and Pennsylvania. For more information, visit railstotrails.org.