



## GULF COAST HERITAGE TRAILS PARTNERSHIP

*Building a safe Coast-wide network of diverse trails that connect neighborhoods to businesses, schools, green & blue spaces where everyone can enjoy scenic, historic, educational & natural areas.*

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Trails Partnership, Boys & Girls Clubs Celebrate Trails Awareness Week with Bridge-to-Bridge Walk

*MS Gulf Coast* – The Gulf Coast Heritage Trails Partnership and the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast (BGCGC) will be walking bridge-to-bridge—Bay St. Louis to Ocean Springs—on Nov. 5 to promote National Trails Awareness Week and to encourage others to enjoy the scenic trails across the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The Trails Partnership and BGCGC encourage city and county representatives and Coast residents to walk along with them.

The walk will be broken up into sections along the beach by city lines. As the group walks, they will be holding items that represent our coastal trails, including a paddle, harness, sneakers, bike wheel, and when found a piece of Mississippi Driftwood. For more information about the walk and times to meet the group at your city, visit [www.GulfCoastTrails.org](http://www.GulfCoastTrails.org) or like Gulf Coast Heritage Trails Partnership on Facebook.

The Gulf Coast Heritage Trails Partnership has been working on developing a Junior Trails Partnership and the BGCGC have embraced this program and have helped coordinate this upcoming walk.

“At BGCGC, we are firmly committed through the Trip Play program to engaging our youth in physical activity,” said David Spinks, Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast. “Fortunately, living on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, we have a wide variety of outdoor activities available and we appreciate this opportunity to encourage all residents to take advantage of what nature has to offer.”

The GCHTP, as well as the Junior Trails Partnership, hopes to get kids outdoors walking on our trails, as well as continuing to build our trails network along the Gulf Coast.

“We would love to see people come from all over the world for our eco-tourism opportunities, as well as our walkable and bikeable cities,” said Katherine Sutton, GCHTP and JTP volunteer. “We invite everyone to come out and join this momentous walk on November 5.”

In 2010, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast had approximately 2800 registered members and served 1500 youth through Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast New Hope Program, which is a school based therapeutic behavioral facilitation program. Our mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. For more information please contact Michelle Wilson, 228-896-3770. [www.bgcgulfcoast.org](http://www.bgcgulfcoast.org).

The Gulf Coast Heritage Trails Partnership is a collaborative effort on the MS Gulf Coast whose vision is to build a safe, coast-wide network of diverse trails that connect neighborhoods to businesses, schools, and green and blue spaces where everyone can enjoy scenic, historic, educational, and natural areas. [www.GulfCoastTrails.org](http://www.GulfCoastTrails.org).