



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Celebrate National Trails Day and Earth Day April 22 on the Elizabeth River Trail!**

NORFOLK, Va. – (April 2023) – Join the Elizabeth River Trail Foundation, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy and trail lovers nationwide for National Celebrate Trails Day on April 22.

April 22 is also Earth Day! This year the Elizabeth River Trail Foundation is focused on service on the trail with the installation of a new pocket park, little library, a native wildflower garden, a major cleanup along the ERT and a beautification effort between Harbor Park and Norfolk State University.

"This year's Celebrate Trails Day is all about service," said ERT Executive Director Kindra Greene. "It's a time for people to get out on the trail to walk, bike or run, but to also honor Earth Day. We are committed to improving the east end of our trail and making an impact on all neighborhoods within a five minute walk of the ERT. Our beautification effort also celebrates the newly widened section of trail from the Water Street Open Space to Norfolk State."

Join the festivities at Park Ave. and Lovitt Ave. from 10 am - 1 pm on April 22. More than 20 volunteers have registered to create a pocket park in the adopted Right of Way with a free little library and a wildflower pollinator garden. The Girl Scouts of the Colonial Coast and the Rotary Club will be helping, and Tidewater Compost is donating the soil/compost for the pollinator garden.

Or help clean the trail. More than 50 people have already registered to participate in cleanups at five different sites along the trail. And, the ERT Foundation received a generous \$3,000 sponsorship from Lyon Shipyard to support the Celebrate Trails Day trail-wide cleanup efforts. More information can be found [here](#).

The Elizabeth River Trail Foundation's mission is to create an inclusive and resilient urban riverfront trail that connects and inspires people and businesses in the Hampton Roads region. The Elizabeth River Trail runs 10.5 miles through businesses, historic attractions and 28 neighborhoods within a five-minute walk. The multi-use trail is designed for walking, running and biking. It comprises 11 sections from Norfolk State University, through Downtown Norfolk and Old Dominion University to NIT Terminals along the Elizabeth River. The Foundation has completed multiple new unique and award-winning amenities, including a kayak launch, play sculpture and double turbo challenge course in Plum Point Park and most recently, The Glowline. Major sponsors include Sentara and the City of Norfolk.

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