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Elizabeth River Trail Foundation Announces Line Up of 2026 Programs, New Community Partnerships & ERT Trailside Headquarters Grand Opening

NORFOLK, Va. – The Elizabeth River Trail Foundation is kicking off 2026 with an expanded lineup of programs, new partnerships, and opportunities for the community to experience the 10.5 mile urban waterfront trail in new ways.

Each year, the Elizabeth River Trail (ERT) hosts more than 100 free and low-cost programs that connect residents and visitors to Norfolk’s riverfront through recreation, education, and community engagement. From guided historical tours and botanical walks to group bike rides and volunteer beautification days, the trail continues to serve as a vital connector across 28 neighborhoods.

New this year, the ERT is partnering with Rollbounce Rollout, an all-wheels skating community, to bring their popular Vibe N’ Roll event to the trail. Beginning in March, the free monthly event will take place on the third Tuesday of each month from 6:00-7:30 pm, welcoming skaters, rollerbladers, cyclists, and other wheel-based recreation enthusiasts. The Foundation is exploring opportunities to incorporate Spinclusion adaptive rides alongside these events, expanding accessibility and inclusion on the trail.

“The Elizabeth River Trail is more than a path - it’s a shared space where community happens,” said Kindra Greene, Executive Director of the Elizabeth River Trail Foundation. “We’re excited to continue building partnerships that invite more people to experience the trail in ways that are joyful, accessible, and meaningful.”

The 2026 ERT lineup includes returning favorites such as Tour de ORF group bike rides, African American History Tours, botanical tours led by Norfolk Master Gardeners, and community paddles along the Elizabeth River.

The Foundation also invites the community to save the date for Celebrate Trails Day on April 25, 2026, which will include volunteer opportunities, community activities, and the

Grand Opening of the ERT's first ever Trailside Headquarters in the Chelsea District of Norfolk.

ERT 2026 Tour Schedule

- ❖ February 28 African American History Tour of the Underground River led by Norfolk Tour Company
- ❖ March 1 Tour de ORF Group Bike Ride at Benchtop Brewing
- ❖ March 17 Vibe N' Roll All Wheels Rollout with Rollbounce Rollout at ERT HQ
- ❖ March 27 Trail Beautification Day led by the Norfolk Master Gardeners
- ❖ March 28 African American History Tour of the History and Architecture Living Along the Trail led by Norfolk Tour Company
- ❖ April 5 Tour de ORF Group Bike Ride at Afterglow Brewing
- ❖ April 11 African American History Tour of Fort Norfolk led by Norfolk Tour Company
- ❖ April 21 Vibe N' Roll All Wheels Rollout with Rollbounce Rollout at Fr8house Coffee
- ❖ April 24 Trail Beautification Day led by the Norfolk Master Gardeners
- ❖ April 25 Celebrate Trails Day at ERT HQ
- ❖ April 25 Botanical Walking Tour for Celebrate Trails Day at ERT HQ
- ❖ April 25 ERT Trailside Headquarters Grand Opening
- ❖ May 2 Truth Be Told Spring Launch Stories Under the Stars at Larchmont Library
- ❖ May 3 Tour de ORF Group Bike Ride at Benchtop Brewing
- ❖ May 5 Give Local 757 Day
- ❖ May 8 Bike Night at the Virginia Zoo
- ❖ May 9 Group Paddle at Plum Point Park led by Norfolk Kayak Rentals
- ❖ May 15 Bike to Work Day
- ❖ May 16 African American History Tour of Fort Norfolk led by Norfolk Tour Company
- ❖ May 19 Vibe N' Roll All Wheels Rollout with Rollbounce Rollout at ERT HQ
- ❖ May 22 Trail Beautification Day led by the Norfolk Master Gardeners
- ❖ May 23 Edible Botanical Bike Tour for Bike Month at ERT HQ
- ❖ June 6 African American History Tour of Fort Norfolk led by Norfolk Tour Company
- ❖ June 7 Tour de ORF Group Bike Ride at Afterglow Brewing
- ❖ June 13 Group Paddle at Plum Point Park led by Norfolk Kayak Rentals
- ❖ June 16 Vibe N' Roll All Wheels Rollout with Rollbounce Rollout at Fr8house Coffee
- ❖ June 19-21 Sail 250 - 6.5 miles of the ERT activated + programming at Nauticus
- ❖ June 26 Trail Beautification Day led by the Norfolk Master Gardeners
- ❖ July 5 Tour de ORF Group Bike Ride at Benchtop Brewing

- ❖ July 11 Group Paddle at Plum Point Park led by Norfolk Kayak Rentals
- ❖ July 21 Vibe N' Roll All Wheels Rollout with Rollbounce Rollout at ERT HQ
- ❖ July 24 Trail Beautification Day led by the Norfolk Master Gardeners
- ❖ July 25 Botanical Walking Tour at ODU
- ❖ August 2 Tour de ORF Group Bike Ride at Afterglow Brewing
- ❖ August 8 Group Paddle at Plum Point Park led by Norfolk Kayak Rentals
- ❖ August 18 Vibe N' Roll All Wheels Rollout with Rollbounce Rollout at Fr8house Coffee
- ❖ August 21 Trail Beautification Day led by the Norfolk Master Gardeners
- ❖ August 22 Botanical Walking Tour at Hermitage/Lochhaven
- ❖ September 6 Tour de ORF Group Bike Ride at Benchtop Brewing
- ❖ September 12 Group Paddle at Plum Point Park led by Norfolk Kayak Rentals
- ❖ September 15 Vibe N' Roll All Wheels Rollout with Rollbounce Rollout at ERT HQ
- ❖ September 19 International Coastal Cleanup
- ❖ September 25 Trail Beautification Day led by the Norfolk Master Gardeners
- ❖ September 26 Botanical Bike Tour in Ghent
- ❖ October 4 Tour de ORF Group Bike Ride at Afterglow Brewing
- ❖ October 20 Vibe N' Roll All Wheels Rollout with Rollbounce Rollout at Fr8house Coffee
- ❖ October 23 Trail Beautification Day led by the Norfolk Master Gardeners
- ❖ October 24 Botanical Walking Tour at Chesterfield Heights Wetlands
- ❖ November 1 Tour de ORF Group Bike Ride at Benchtop Brewing
- ❖ November 15 Elizabeth River Trail Foundation 10th Anniversary
- ❖ December 6 Tour de ORF Group Bike Ride at Afterglow Brewing

If you would like to host an event on the trail, partner with the Elizabeth River Trail Foundation, or sponsor an ERT program, please email hello@elizabethrivertrail.org.

The Elizabeth River Trail Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provides the planning, program, and advocacy for the Elizabeth River Trail connecting Naval Station Norfolk to the Virginia Beach Trail. The Elizabeth River Trail runs 10.5 miles through businesses, and historic attractions and is within a 5-minute walk of 28 neighborhoods. 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 kayak launches, play sculpture, and a double turbo challenge course in Plum Point Park, and most recently, the installation of the first ERT hydration station. Major sponsors include CHKD, Downtown Norfolk Council, PRA Group, and the City of Norfolk.

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