

What's in a Name?

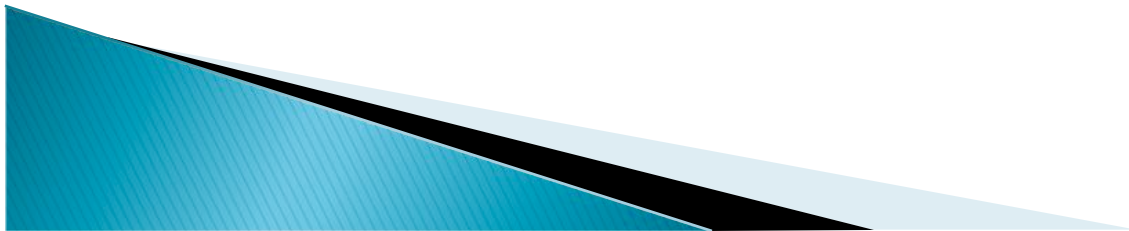
Does the name describe the trail?

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What is a Water Trail, Bluetrail or Blueway?

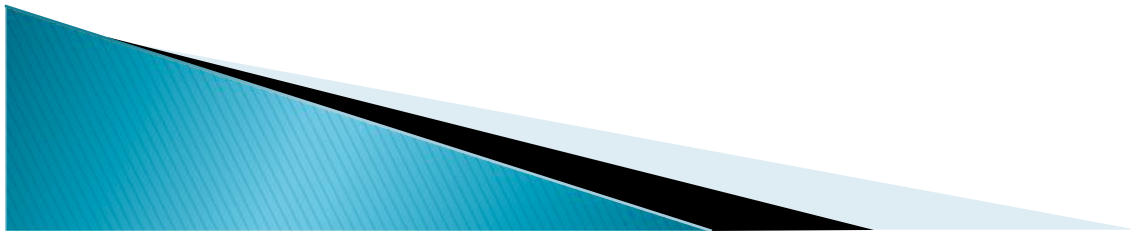
“...A recreational waterway on lake, river or ocean between specific points, containing access points and day use and/or camping sites for the boating public. . . . An important ingredient . . . is an ethic of low-impact use and personal stewardship of the lands and waters being used.”

David R. Getchell, Sr.
Modern Water Trails Guide, 1998



What A Water Trail, Blue Trail, or Blueway Can Do For You?

- ▶ Help conserve, protect and restore your water body.
- ▶ Reconnect people with your body of water.
- ▶ Grow a corps of volunteers.
- ▶ Help monitor and maintain.
- ▶ Build a constituency.
- ▶ Advocacy.



Components of a Water Trail, Blue Trail or Blueway...

- ▶ Contiguous/semi-contiguous waterway or series of waterways open to public recreational use by boaters.
- ▶ At least one public access point.
- ▶ Has a publicly available map, guide, sign or website of reasonable quality and detail.
- ▶ All maps, guides, signs or websites should communicate low-impact ethics to trail users.
- ▶ Water trail/blue trail/blueway to be sustainable through time should be supported and/or managed by one or more organizations.



Trail names, signs, maps and guides should serve users by answering some of these important questions:

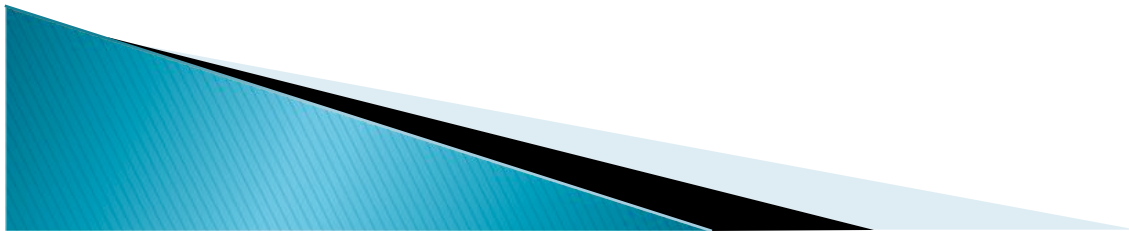
- ▶ Where should I go?
- ▶ What will I find when I get there?
- ▶ Water conditions, skills and equipment needed.
- ▶ Access facilities, services, wildlife viewing, *etc.*
- ▶ Safety regulations.
- ▶ Rules and regulations.
- ▶ Where can I go to get more information?





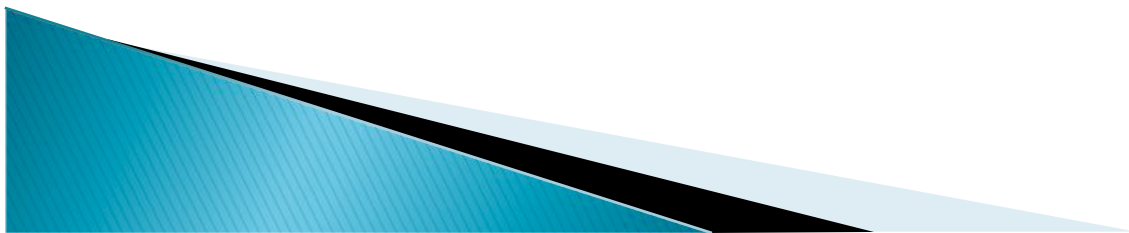
Some of the Names used for Water Trails, Blue Trails, or Blueways...

- ▶ Let's discuss a web search of our nation's water trail, blue trail, and blueway names:
 - Water Trail / Blueway/ Bluetrail
 - River Trail/ Bluetrail/ Blueway
 - Saltwater Trail or Island Water Trail
 - Bay Trail or Ocean Bay Trail or Maritime Trail
 - Urban Water Trail
 - Lake Trail or Lake Water Trail or Lake Bluetrail



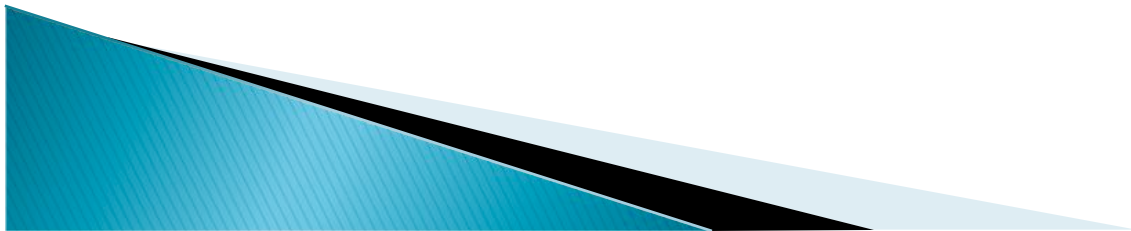
Some of the Names used for Water Trails, Blue Trails, or Blueways...

- Wilderness Waterway /Boundary Waters Trail
- Scenic River Trail
- Creek Trail or Creek Bluetrail or Blueway
- Swamp Trail or Blackwater Trail
- Heritage Water Trail
- Marsh Trail
- Bayou Water Trail or Bayou Bluetrail or Blueway
- Florida Keys Water Trail
- Canal Water Trail
- Whitewater Trail



Some of the Names used for Water Trails, Blue Trails, or Blueways...

- ▶ What if we add the type of craft to the trail name?
 - Paddle
 - Canoe
 - Kayak /sea kayak
 - Boating



Web sites to find trails and trail names:

- ▶ <http://www.watertrailslocator.com/>
- ▶ http://www.americancanoe.org/stewardship/arwt_all.lasso
- ▶ <http://www.trails.com/stateactivity.aspx?area=10683>
- ▶ http://www.outdoorcentral.com/outdoor_recreation/canoeing-kayaking
- ▶ <http://riverheritage.org/riverguide/index.html>
- ▶ <http://www.seakayak.ws/>
- ▶ <http://www.americantrails.org/nationalrecreationtrails>



Summary

- ▶ Waterways have been the “roads” or “trails” of America since she was founded. They have been travel corridors to get from one place to another; they have provided food and water to sustain a civilization; some are used to harness power to produce goods and services; and many are used for recreation and relaxation.
- ▶ The name of the water trail will have an impact on the public’s perception of the trail project and have an impact their community.



Waterways have and will continue to transform the American way of life.

