

# Palmetto Trail coming to Walhalla



**The Palmetto Trail — a statewide series of 26 passages — is expanding in Walhalla to include the area around Stumphouse Tunnel and Issaqueena Falls. A formal announcement will be made Tuesday.**

FILE

## Formal announcement scheduled Tuesday at The Depot

**BY CARLOS GALARZA-VEVE**  
THE JOURNAL

WALHALLA — A network of trails that weave across some of the most beautiful and breathtaking sights found from the mountains to the coast of South Carolina will soon extend into downtown Walhalla.

Officials with the Palmetto Conservation Foundation will formally announce their plans to partner with the city to extend the Palmetto Trail — a patchwork of more than 350 trail miles for hiking and cycling. The foundation intends to add 16 miles to its Palmetto Trail by extending its presence at Oconee Station Historic Site to

encompass the mountain areas on S.C. Highway 28 into Stumphouse Tunnel Park and Issaqueena Falls, and also cross into the heart of downtown Walhalla to end at the renovated Kaufmann Square Park.

The Walhalla Chamber of Commerce will host the formal announcement between the Palmetto Conservation Foundation and the city on Tuesday. The event is scheduled for 5 p.m. at The Depot in Kaufmann Square Park.

The foundation is a statewide nonprofit organization that's been in existence for 26 years, and its mission is to conserve the state's natural and cultural resources,

preserve historical landmarks and promote active outdoor recreation.

The trail, which is built as 26 passages or segments, is free to residents and visitors of all ages and abilities for active outdoor recreation, including backpacking, camping, mountain biking, hiking, and, in some passages, street cycling and horseback riding.

Just this week, the General Assembly included \$300,000 in funding for the Palmetto Conservation Foundation by over-riding scores of vetoes made on budget items by Gov. Nikki Haley that totaled about \$30 million.