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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area Declares June “Try the Trail” Month

**Lithonia, GA (June 2014)** – Join the Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area (AMNHA) to celebrate the completion of more than 30-miles of the Arabia Mountain PATH trail! On **Saturday, June 14 at 8am**, we will officially open the most recently complete segment of the Arabia Mountain PATH, an interconnected system of hike/bike trails in DeKalb and Rockdale counties. The ribbon cutting ceremony will be at the Monastery of the Holy Spirit at 2625 Highway 212 SW, Conyers, GA 30094.

Following the ribbon cutting, the community is invited to celebrate the culmination of this 12-year project with engaging events and activities all along the trail – from the Monastery to the City of Lithonia! An inaugural 38-mile round-trip cycling ride will leave from the Monastery. Walkers, hikers and explorers of all ages are invited to join in activities at each of the trailheads and historic sites. “This is a wonderful time of year to explore the trail. Even if you have been here before, there are new sections just completed and discovery awaits around every twist and turn,” said Mera Cardenas, Executive Director for the Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance.

Activities on **June 14** include: scavenger hunts, nature identification games, free bike rentals and kayak rentals, [geocaching](#) – a high-tech scavenger hunt –, a bike repair workshop and a South River fish display. A full list of “Try the Trail” events can be found [here](http://arabiaalliance.org/news/trythetrail/) (<http://arabiaalliance.org/news/trythetrail/>).

In addition to a community celebration on **June 14**, “Try the Trail” has led to the development of several new programs in the AMNHA including: expansion of [geocaching](#), a new tour map of the AMP found at this [link](http://arabiaalliance.org/uncategorized/self-guided-bike-tour/) (<http://arabiaalliance.org/uncategorized/self-guided-bike-tour/>) and free exploration opportunities such as organized bike rides, free bike rentals and geocaching classes.

The 30+ mile Arabia Mountain PATH was constructed over the past 12 years by the [PATH Foundation](#) with a variety of public and private partners including: Georgia State Parks, the City of Lithonia, DeKalb County, Rockdale County, the Georgia Department of Transportation and the Monastery of the Holy Spirit.

“Try the Trail” events are made possible in part by a grant from the [National Park Foundation](#) through the generous support of Coca-Cola, the Coca-Cola Foundation, Disney, and the Scrooby Foundation.

**About us:** The Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance is a locally-run nonprofit dedicated to protecting, connecting and sharing the unique history, rich culture and engaging landscapes of the Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area for the benefit and enjoyment of all generations. The Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area is an affiliate of the National Park Service. [www.arabiaalliance.org](http://www.arabiaalliance.org)  
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