



## News Release

**Contact: Mayor Gene McGee, 601-856-7113**

### **Trail Rangers Seek Volunteers**

(Ridgeland, MS – February 24, 2010) A new volunteer group has formed to patrol Ridgeland's Multi-Use Trail. Trail Rangers are cyclists, runners, walkers, bird watchers, photographers – any type of user of the trail. Rangers will wear identifying apparel such as a certain colored vest or bib with the Trail Rangers logo and they will carry a cell phone. If any suspicious persons or activity are seen on or near the trail, the Ranger will call the Ridgeland Police immediately.

It is anticipated that the work of Trail Rangers will greatly enhance the safety of the trail. Ridgeland Police provides bicycle patrol of the trail, but Rangers will provide more widespread coverage, especially as the trail is growing in miles. Rangers will call Ridgeland Police Dispatch when they enter and leave the trail. Dispatch will keep a record of Rangers' volunteer activity.

"This is a total volunteer group consisting of citizens. It is a neighborhood watch for the trail," says Alderman Chuck Gautier, Ward 2. He has been instrumental in getting the concept from the discussion stage to an organization.

Informational meetings are being planned for Saturdays, 3:00 p.m. at each of the following Trail Rangers Sponsor businesses: March 13 at The Club, 511 Lake Harbour Drive, March 20 at Fleet Feet, Trace Station Shopping Center, 500 Highway 51, and March 27 at Indian Cycle, 677 S. Pear Orchard Road. Applicant Trail Rangers will be required to undergo a background check with the Ridgeland Police Department.

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mailing address: p.o. box 217 • ridgeland, ms 39158  
street address: 304 highway 51 • ridgeland, ms 39157  
ph: 601.856.7113 • [www.ridgelandms.org](http://www.ridgelandms.org)

Gene F. McGee, cmo - mayor • David W. Overby, cpa - director of finance & administration, city clerk

board of aldermen: Gerald Steen - at - large • Ken Heard, cmo - ward 1 • Chuck Gautier - ward 2 • Kevin Holder - ward 3  
Brian P. Ramsey - ward 4 • Scott Jones, mayor pro tempore - ward 5 • Wesley Hamlin - ward 6