



# United States Department of the Interior



## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Natchez Trace Parkway  
2680 Natchez Trace Parkway  
Tupelo, MS 38804

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L30:31(NATR)

Dear Friends of the Natchez Trace Parkway,

We are reaching out to city and county permit offices to ask for help in protecting the Natchez Trace Parkway (Parkway). If your office receives a permit request for a proposed driveway or new construction near the Parkway boundary, we would like to offer our assistance. Our Lands Resource Specialist, Tom Berryhill, can research our land records and GIS database to determine if the landowner has an existing legal right to cross Park lands. Tom can be reached by mail at [Thomas\\_Berryhill@nps.gov](mailto:Thomas_Berryhill@nps.gov) or phone at 662-255-9987.

The Parkway was created by Congress as a unit of the national park system in 1938 to commemorate the historic travel corridor known as the Natchez Trace. As one of the oldest transportation routes in North America, its human use dates back as far as 8000 BCE.

The modern Parkway stretches 444 miles through three states, 25 counties, and 20 communities with more than 3,000 commercial and private landowners immediately adjacent to the boundary. Residential and commercial construction near the Parkway has increased and as a result, we are experiencing more encroachments. One of the most common is illegally placed driveways from county roads located within our boundary. With over 2,000 miles of boundary, monitoring for illegal accesses is difficult.

We value our neighbors and partners and look forward to working with you. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

**LAURA  
PERDICES**

Laura Perdices  
Acting Superintendent

Digitally signed by LAURA  
PERDICES  
Date: 2021.03.11 12:05:08  
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Interior Region 2 • South Atlantic-Gulf

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North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, U.S. Virgin Islands