

# Share the TRAIL



## Trail Etiquette and Safety Guidelines

Dallas  
Park and  
Recreation  
Department



## Trail Etiquette and Safety Guidelines

*Trails for non-motorized use have become very popular. A consequence of their success is congestion. With this, safety becomes a major issue. Whether you cycle, walk, jog or skate, your experience will be safer and more enjoyable if you follow the guidelines listed below.*

**BE COURTEOUS** to other trail users at all times.

**BE AWARE** of your surroundings at all times, especially of other trail users travelling at a different rate of speed. Be careful when entering the trail, changing direction, or passing.

**KEEP TO THE RIGHT**, except when passing.

**ALWAYS PASS ON THE LEFT** and give a clear, audible warning, such as, "Passing on your left," when passing slower traffic.

**SLOW DOWN** to a safe and reasonable speed and always yield to pedestrians and slower moving traffic.

**CROSS CAREFULLY.** Always look both ways and yield to "through" traffic. Pedestrians have the right-of-way and should exercise caution and be aware of the stopping limitations of cyclists and skaters.

**AVOID STANDING STILL** on the trail to prevent blocking other users and avoid collisions. If necessary, step off to the side of the trail to congregate or wait for others.

**CYCLISTS SHOULD ALWAYS RIDE SINGLE-FILE** and at a safe speed. Never ride on paths intended exclusively for walking or jogging. Slow down and form a single line in congested conditions and in areas with reduced visibility or where other hazardous conditions exist.



**AVOID** walking more than two abreast to allow other users to pass safely. Form a single line in congested areas or when other users are trying to pass.

**TEACH YOUR CHILDREN TRAIL ETIQUETTE.** Prevent youngsters from being in the path of faster-moving trail traffic, especially cyclists who may not be able to slow down.

**ALWAYS LOOK BOTH WAYS** and stop before crossing a roadway (it's the law even when a stop sign is not present). Obey all traffic signs and signals.



**DOG WALKERS** should keep pets on a short leash on the outside edge of the trail at all times. Remove pet waste from the trail.



**KEEP VOLUME LOW** on audio/telecommunications equipment such as iPods to increase awareness of approaching traffic. Instead of two, try using one earphone.

**WEAR REFLECTIVE CLOTHING** and use bicycle lights when using the trail after dark.

### CITY ORDINANCES

**Helmet Law** – City Code Chap. 8, Sec. 9.8  
**Bicyclists are required to follow traffic laws** –  
City Code Chap. 9

Call Dallas Park and Recreation Department at  
214.670.4100 for more information.

DALLAS **PARKS**.org

