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Naperville Park District Reminds Everyone to "Share the Trails" Follow trail etiquette to ensure safety and enjoyment for all

Warm, spring weather is finally here, and it is the perfect time to get outdoors and walk, run or bike on a trail. Naperville has over 70 miles of trails that connect and/or loop through individual parks throughout the community. These paved, mulched, mowed, dirt and concrete trails are used in a variety of ways, and Naperville Park District wants to remind everyone of simple practices to help provide a safe and enjoyable experience for all trail users.

Additionally, the Park District is emphasizing the need to "walk your wheels" on the Naperville Riverwalk. The Riverwalk only allows walkers, runners, strollers and wheelchairs. Bikes, skateboards, scooters and other wheeled transportation vehicles are **prohibited on the Riverwalk**; visit <u>www.napervilleparks.org/riverwalk</u> for additional information.

Most of the other trails across the park system are available for riders to enjoy. Class 1 and Class 2 electric bikes, electric skateboards and electric scooters are also allowed on asphalt and multi-use trails.

Along with the District's Share the Trails campaign, the Naperville Park District's Park Police will participate in a Regional Bike Safety Initiative. Throughout the spring and summer, the Park District will collaborate with several regional agencies to promote responsible bike riding on our trails and help ensure public safety. Coinciding with May's National Bike Month, this campaign will cover a wide array of aspects including safety, understanding e-bike classifications and sharing the trails.

From a safety perspective, trail users need to be aware of others and be ready to communicate with others as needed. For example, if a bicyclist approaches from behind, saying, "On your left," offer a wave or a

quick verbal acknowledgement that it's safe to pass. Also, be aware that faster trail users yield to slower users;

therefore, bicyclists yield to runners, who yield to walkers.

For trail users walking their dogs, remember to keep all dogs on a six-foot leash or shorter. Additionally,

people and their pets should keep a respectful and safe distance from wildlife and enjoy nature from afar. Pet

owners should always clean up after their pets as well.

To view a detailed summary of trail rules, along with regional trail maps, visit <u>napervilleparks.org/trails</u>.

Residents can also locate trails in specific parks by using the Parks and Facilities Search/Interactive Map feature

on the Park District's website. For more details on the variety of trails maintained by the Park District, read the

ParkTalk Blog on Five Main Types of Trails Throughout the Naperville Park District.

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About the Naperville Park District: Created in 1966, the Naperville Park District is an independent municipal agency serving the recreation needs of its residents. The District is one of only 1% of park districts across the country to be nationally accredited through the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) and the District's Park Police are the first park police in Illinois to be accredited through the Illinois Law Enforcement Accreditation Program (ILEAP). The Naperville Park District's mission is to provide recreation and park experiences that promote healthy lives, healthy minds and a healthy community. The District maintains and operates more than 2,400 acres with 138 parks and provides more than 7,500 recreational classes, teams, events and performances annually. Included within the District's operations are two championship golf courses, a multitude of playgrounds, trails, athletic courts and sports fields, Fort Hill Activity Center, Knoch Knolls Nature Center, two inline skating and skateboarding facilities, the Millennium Carillon, a paddle boat quarry, historic Centennial Beach, and the beautiful Riverwalk.



Pavement trail at Pioneer Park.