

Bridgenorth Trail

Trail Development and Maintenance Guidelines

1.0 Definition

The Bridgenorth Trail is designed to accommodate non-vehicular transportation and recreation needs.

Defined as a multi-use trail, it provides a pedestrian and bicycle route from Bridgenorth to the South portion of Smith Ward.

2.0 Permitted Uses

Permitted uses on the Bridgenorth Trail include walking, running, cycling, and cross country skiing.

Dogs on leashes are permitted.

Power assisted wheelchairs, accessibility scooters, electrically assisted bicycles, are permitted.

3.0 Restricted Uses

Motorized vehicles (except as noted above) are not permitted on the Bridgenorth Trail.

Trail entrances will have signage indicating that motorized vehicles are not permitted.

4.0 General Design Standards

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|------------------------|---|
| a) Direction of Travel | 2-way traffic permitted |
| b) Trail Surface Width | Minimum of 3m |
| c) Barrier Free Access | Designed to accessibility standards and with input from the Township of Smith-Ennismore-Lakefield Accessibility Committee |
| d) Cleared Width | Minimum of 7m (2m on each side of trail) in forested areas
Minimum of 9m (3m of each side of the trail) in open areas |
| e) Cleared Height | Vertical clearance of 3m will be maintained
Pruning where required to a height of 5m |
| f) Maximum Slope | Maximum of 1:6 ratio away from the trail |

- g) Longitudinal Grade 1 to 5% is desirable/ 10% maximum
Optional grades include: 5 to 6 % a distance of 240m
 7% a distance of 120m
 8% a distance of 90m
 9% a distance of 60m
 10% a distance of 30m
 11+% a distance of 15m
- h) Cross Grade 2% is desirable for drainage
Maximum of 3% for accessibility
Slope should be to one side rather than crowned in the middle
When adjacent to a hill, a ditch should be constructed on the uphill side to intercept the hillside drainage
Drains should carry water under the path
If required, grates should be located outside the travel path
- i) Sight Distance To provide cyclists with an opportunity to see and react to the unexpected, a shared use path should be designed with adequate stopping sight distances.
Refer to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities
- j) Landscaping Landscaping should be planned to allow for good site lines
Trail edges should be grass or a form of low vegetation
Plantings within 5m of the trail on either side should avoid coniferous trees or shrubs in an effort to improve safety, but does not apply to existing vegetation.
- k) Policies and Plans Trail design will reflect the consideration of open space policies and management plans and abide by planning, environmental assessment and other requirements as may be applicable
- 5.0 Trail Surfaces** Depending on soil conditions a minimum of 6" of compacted gravel and 2" of limestone screenings are required.
The trail should accommodate a half tonne pick-up truck without impacting the surface.
- 6.0 Trail Crossings** Trail crossing identification signs will be installed if required in the trail design

7.0 Signage

Sign schedules will be prepared by the Trail Development Committee and will include vehicle restrictions and dog stoop and scoop requirements at the entrances

Way finding or interpretive signs will be a minimum of 1.5m from the trail edge

Location signs for 911 calls will be posted

8.0 Amenities

Consideration should be given to the installation of benches and portable toilets to provide amenities for seniors.

9.0 Maintenance

A trail stewardship program will be developed to monitor the on going condition of the trail and organize clean-up maintenance.

Maintenance requirements beyond the scope or safety of volunteers will be managed by the Parks and Recreation Department.

10. Environmental Considerations

- a) Trail design and maintenance impacting natural areas and wetlands will comply with applicable regulations.
- b) The trail should be vegetated with native species and be designed to facilitate their role as wildlife corridors.
- c) Vegetation along the trail should reflect naturally occurring biodiversity.
- d) The trail should be recognized for its role in facilitating walking and cycling.
- e) The trail planning and maintenance should identify and avoid core, interior habitat and other ecologically sensitive areas.
- f) Construction and major maintenance in natural areas should avoid nesting and spawning seasons and other sensitive periods for wildlife.