EVANSVILLE AREA TRAILS

TRAILS AND GREENWAYS

PADDLING SAFETY

Paddling is a great way to get outdoors and terrific fun for the whole family. Planning and safety are key elements in the success of any paddling outing. Follow these tips for a safe and enjoyable trip:

- Let someone at home know where you are going and when you plan to return.
- Only paddle waterways whose conditions meet your abilities. Avoid flooded or shallow waterways.
- Wear a properly fitted personal flotation device (life jacket) at all times during your trip. Life jackets are required by Indiana law and are common sense. The American Canoe Association reports that in 80% of paddling fatalities, the individual was not wearing a life jacket. 
- Dress for current weather conditions and expect to get wet. Wear layers of clothing made of synthetic fabrics that wick away moisture, such as neoprene or polyester fleece. Wear a wet suit if water temperatures are below 65 degrees. Secure fitting footwear and a hat, as well as sunscreen and insect repellent as needed. Be familiar with the early symptoms of hypothermia and heat exhaustion.
- In addition to a boat and two paddles you should carry the following equipment on your trip:
  - Oars or paddle - workable
  - First Aid Kit
  - Cell phone in a sealed bag
  - Map of your route or trail guide

- Do not paddle under the influence of alcohol.
- Respect private property. While access points are located on public property, most of the shoreline is privately owned. Obtain permission before entering on privately owned land.
- Keep your trash in your boat and dispose of it properly. Be considerate of others and avoid disturbing wildlife that you encounter. Positive behavior results in paddlers being well received and more paddling opportunities in Indiana.

A note about strippers. Strippers are the most likely hazard you may encounter on Pigeon Creek. Strippers occur when obstructions such as trees or branches allow water to flow, but block or “strip” people and boats. Overhanging branches, drowned trees, and log jams can all be potential strainers.

In addition, report any damage to the trail systems to the Trail Coalition at info@evansville-areatrailscoalition.org.

EVANSVILLE AREA TRAILS COALITION

WELCOME TO OUR TRAILS

The Evansville Area Trails Coalition is pleased to present this brochure of the newly expanded walking/bicycling trail system in our community. These greenways and pathways are free for all to enjoy, and we believe they are a great addition to our quality-of-life and quality-of-place.

They’re also a great way to improve your health, connect with friends, connect with nature, and ‘go green’ by driving less.

Trails and greenways help create a ‘built environment’ that promotes physical activity, which is ever important in this era of obesity and chronic diseases related to lack of exercise and poor diet. Experience has shown that if people have the opportunity to walk and ride bikes safely and in their community, they take advantage of it. That want that opportunity! Trails provide it.

Our goal is for a comprehensive network of trails and greenways throughout our community — a network of safe, scenic pathways connecting our neighborhoods with our schools, parks, workplaces and each other. We believe it would help make the Evansville area the absolute coolest place on the Ohio River to live, work and play!

ROBERTA HENNING, PRESIDENT
Evansville Trails Coalition, Inc.

CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE AT

http://www.evansville-areatrailscoalition.org

Join in our effort by mailing us at info@evansville-areatrailscoalition.org

WATERWAYS

ALWAYS WEAR A HELMET

Helms should be worn, not lifted back. A tilted helmet won’t protect you. You should be able to look up and see the edge of the helmet. The helmet should fit snugly and should not move around.

HAND SIGNALS

Be sure to use these hand signals while riding to let motorists know where you are going. Making eye contact and waving to alert drivers of your intentions is also helpful, especially at intersections.

BICYCLE SAFETY

Be careful when cycling, especially at intersections. Motorists know where you are going. Making eye contact and waving to alert drivers of your intentions is also helpful, especially at intersections.

Rain gear

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**Pigeon Creek Greenway**

From Sunrise Park in downtown Evansville north to Heidelbach Ave.
Open year round. Four routes create a combined 37 miles of bicycle trail southeast of Evansville. Riders on paved roads and some gravel share the road with motor vehicles. Bicycle riding.

**Burdette Park Discovery Trail**
Seminary Rd to Old Henderson Rd, Evansville
Open year round. Over 6.7 miles of paved trail showcases Pigeon Creek and the historic Ohio River as it connects neighborhoods and parks. Walking, running, biking, skating, and dog walking.

**Blue Grass Fish & Wildlife Area and Bluegrass Bicycle Routes**
Boonville New Harmony Rd., Elberfeld
Open year round, dawn to dusk. Blue Grass FWA covers approximately 2,532 acres and features about 28 pits and lakes (600 acres of water). Fishing, paddling, hunting, and wildlife viewing. Obey posted signs. Includes 36 miles of paved bicycle riding contained in four distinct routes of varying difficulty. Free hunting and fishing. Permits required. Great birding area.

**Newburgh Rivertown Trail**
Hwy. 662 at Yorkshire Rd., Newburgh
Open year round. Follow this paved 2 ½ mile-long trail through woods and along the historic Ohio River to the Newburgh Dam Park at Hwy. 66. Walking, running, bicycle riding, wildlife viewing and dog walking.

All inset maps not to scale.

*Note: Maps and data are approximate and may not be to scale.*