



Lakewood Ave. Bridge, Durham County

Welcome to the American Tobacco Trail!

The 23-mile American Tobacco Trail (ATT) will eventually traverse urban, suburban, and rural landscapes in a route from downtown Durham to New Hill Road in western Wake County. The first 3.2 miles of the ATT, from the Morehead Avenue trailhead near the Durham Bulls Athletic Park (DBAP) south to Cornwallis Road, will open in June 2000. Construction is underway to continue the trail to NC 54 by Fall 2000. The ATT brings together many of Durham's older neighborhoods and the rapidly developing neighborhoods of southern Durham.

This user map shows only the sections scheduled for completion by Fall 2000. The trail shown on this map is a 10-foot wide, paved trail for pedestrians and bicyclists.

What is a Rail-Trail?

A rail-trail is a linear park developed on a corridor that is either no longer used by a railroad, or is shared with a railroad. Protecting these corridors as multi-use trails enhances their community value by providing recreation and transportation alternatives. In addition to hiking, walking, bicycling, and, in some places, equestrian use, rail-trails often support historic preservation, nature study, and beautification

History of the ATT:

Durham, North Carolina, was established in the 1850's as a small railhead town that provided a regional point for local growers to bring their tobacco crops each year for sale and transport to factories. As Durham grew into an important textile and tobacco industrial center, 6 rail lines passed into the city. The American Tobacco Corporation built major processing plants in Durham, and was served by the last of these rail lines, built in 1905-06. In the 1970's, when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers built of Jordan Lake, a long section of the rail line in Chatham County was moved a few miles east. The American Tobacco Corp. moved out of Durham in 1987, and the railroad company removed tracks from the right-of-way.



Hiker on ATT, Downtown Durham in Background

Future Plans

Plans call for a 10-foot wide, paved trail in from the Durham Bulls Athletic Park south to Scott King Road, in Durham County. The remaining Durham section and all of the Chatham and Wake sections

are planned as natural surface trail. The paved sections of the trail will be open to pedestrians and bicyclists, and the unpaved sections will be open to equestrians, as well. Planning in Chatham is underway, but little construction is anticipated until 2001. The Wake County Commissioners have approved the Master Plan for the Wake County portion, some of which may open as soon as 2001. Future user maps are planned as new sections of the ATT are completed.



Past and Future Bridge in Chatham County.

Other ATT Spurs in Durham not represented on this map include Eagle Spur and Riddle Road Spur. The Eagle Spur can be accessed from Stagecoach Rd. 200 yards West of NC 751. The trail is a natural surface trail and continues south to Lake Jordan. The Riddle Rd Spur splits from the ATT at Cornwallis Road. The Riddle Rd. Spur will be complete in Fall 2000 as a 10' wide paved trail. The cities of Durham, Cary and Apex plan to connect several other local greenways to the American Tobacco Trail.

Rules

- Please do not park on roadsides. Use designated trailheads.
- Please be considerate of private landowners next to the trail. Do not trespass on their property.
- Please do not litter. Deposit trash in receptacles provided at trailheads.
- No motorized vehicles allowed on trail.
- Firearms and fireworks are prohibited on City of Durham trails.
- The trail is open from sunrise to sunset.
- Keep pets on a leash.
- Respect wildlife - Do not harass any wild animals or remove plants from the trail area.
- Stay on the trail - Respect the property of the landowners adjacent to trail

boundaries and the vegetation that grows there.

Trail Etiquette

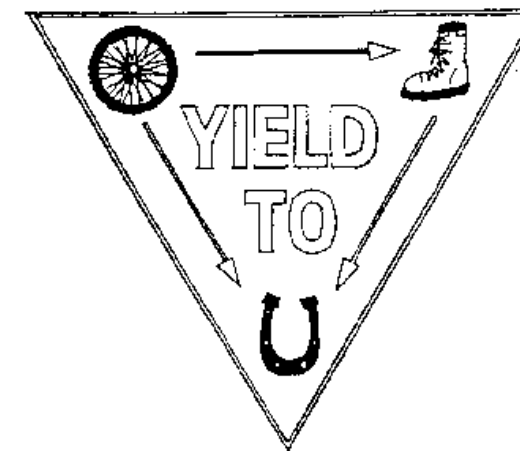
- Yield to other trail users when entering and crossing the trail.
- Stay to the right except when passing.
- Pass slower traffic on their left; yield to oncoming traffic when passing.
- Give a clear warning signal when passing; for example, call out, "passing on your left."
- Always look ahead and behind when passing.
- Travel at a reasonable speed.
- Move off the trail surface when stopped to allow others to pass.

Avoiding Conflicts Between Different Types of Trail Users.

By design, rail-trails accommodate a variety of trail users. While this is generally one of the many benefits of rail-trails, it also can lead to occasional conflicts among trail users. Everyone should take responsibility to ensure trail safety by following a few simple trail etiquette guidelines.

"Wheels Yield to Heels"

The figure below indicates the correct protocol for yielding right-of-way. Bicyclists (and in-line skaters) yield to other users; pedestrians yield to equestrians.



You should warn users (to whom you are yielding) of your presence. If, as a bicyclist, you fail to warn a walker that you are about to pass, the walker could step in front of you, causing an accident that could have been prevented. Similarly, it is best to slow down and warn an equestrian of your presence. A horse can be startled by a bicycle, so make verbal contact with the rider and be sure it is safe to pass.

Triangle Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

Founded in 1989, the Triangle Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, Inc. (TRTC) is a state chartered non-profit, organization. Its purpose is to work with local and state government officials to preserve local abandoned railroad corridors for future transportation and other interim uses such as recreational trails. The TRTC works within the Triangle J Council of Governments Service area of Durham, Orange, Wake, Chatham, Johnston, and Lee counties. Further information on TRTC is available on the group's web site at: <http://www.ncrail-trails.org/trtc>

For Your Safety

- The Durham Police Department advises that users do not use the trail alone.
- Do not leave valuables in parked vehicles.
- Bicyclists – Please wear a well-fitting helmet.

Contacts

In an emergency, call the Durham Police Department at 911.

City of Durham, Parks and Recreation <http://www.ci.durham.nc.us/recreation/parksandrec> or call (919) 560-4355.

Triangle Rails-to-Trails Conservancy <http://www.ncrail-trails.org/trtc>



Triangle J Council of Governments

Funded by: the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Recreation Adopt-A-Trail Program; the