

Purpose of this Map

From its earliest days, Greenbelt was created with a reverence for non-motorized modes of transportation. The inner walkway system was created as a means for people to walk to almost any destination without having to cross a street at grade. Street underpasses allowed pedestrians to avoid interaction with automobiles.

As the city has grown to areas east of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and west of the Capital Beltway, some of the planning features which were built into old Greenbelt have been lost. The Capital Beltway and Baltimore-Washington Parkway have served to divide the city in thirds and have limited the opportunities for getting from one area to another. In an effort to unite Greenbelt's disparate sections and rekindle the spirit of free non-motorized movement throughout the city, the Greenbelt City Council has worked with its advisory boards and interested citizens to develop a comprehensive city-wide master trails map for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Walking or bicycling for transportation or recreation enhances the quality of life for Greenbelt residents by reducing pollution and congestion, enhancing health and fitness, and promoting a sense of community.

The purpose of the Trails Map is to promote the existing trails network as a transportation and recreation resource, and to provide guidance for the planning, design and construction of additions to the trails system and related support facilities.

It is intended to provide direct and safe routes between and among all parts of the city, with particular emphasis on providing access to public transportation, recreation, education, and commercial locations.

It is also intended to provide a scenic, safe and varied system of pedestrian and bicycle routes which provide a recreational experience for people of all ages and physical conditions, including persons with disabilities.

The American Discovery Trail

The American Discovery Trail (ADT) is a non-motorized, coast-to-coast, multi-use hiking trail. The trail passes through several metropolitan areas, including Washington, and incorporates not only hiking trails but also bicycle routes and equestrian trails. In Greenbelt, the ADT travels through Greenbelt Park, across Greenbelt Road to Buddy Attick Park, and on to the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC).

Greenbelt Park

Greenbelt Park is administered and maintained by the National Park Service. It features hiking, horse and nature trails, as well as camping and picnicking facilities. Bicycles are allowed on the roads in the park, but not on any of the unpaved trails. For more information, call the Park headquarters at (301) 344-3948.

Acknowledgments

The City of Greenbelt would like to extend its appreciation to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Council of Governments for their assistance in making this trail map possible.

LEGEND

- Historic Greenbelt Inner Walkway System
- Roadside Pedestrian Trail (Includes Sidewalks)
- Public Off-Road Pedestrian Trail
- Historic Greenbelt Inner Walkway Underpass
- Walking Tour
- American Discovery Trail
- School
- Caution (Busy Intersection)
- Public Facility
- Retail Center
- Campground
- Picnic Area
- City Limits



This map shows existing pedestrian and cycling routes within the City of Greenbelt. In no way is this Trails Map intended to restrict users to the routes suggested; nor is the designation of a trail or bicycle route intended to indicate that the route is free from the usual hazards that accompany bicycling or walking, especially in proximity to automobile traffic. The City of Greenbelt assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of this map or the safe condition of delineated routes. Users are solely responsible for any risks encountered and for their own safety.

City of Greenbelt Trails Map



BICYCLE LAWS



Wear a Helmet
Maryland law requires all bicyclists under the age of 16 to wear a bicycle helmet when riding on public property. This includes roadways, trails and sidewalks.



Obey Traffic Signs and Signals
Bicyclists must obey all the rules of the road.



One Person Per Bike
Riding double is only permitted when carrying a helmeted child in an approved carrier or on a tandem bike.



Ride Single File
Ride single file, especially on roads with heavy traffic. Where traffic is light, cyclists may ride two abreast as long as they are not impeding traffic.



Stay Off Sidewalks
Riding on sidewalks is illegal, can be dangerous, and is discourteous to pedestrians.

HIKER/BIKER TRAILS



Share the Pathways
Users should allow room for others to pass. Joggers should avoid running in packs. Bicycling is not permitted on hiking trails or in nature areas.



Keep to the Right
All pathway users must keep to the right except when passing. Yield to pedestrians; they have the right-of-way on hiker/biker trails.



Warn Others When Passing
When approaching pedestrians, sound your bell (or horn) or call out, then pass safely on the left.



Ride Slowly
Ride slowly down hills, under and across bridges, and where trails curve sharply. Reduce your speed when the trail is busy.



Be Alert
Watch for surface hazards like broken glass, gravel, and potholes. Cross railway tracks at a right angle to avoid getting your front wheel caught.

Bicycles are classified as vehicles in Maryland. Cyclists have the same privileges and responsibilities as motorists.

LEGEND

- Cross-City Bicycle Route
- In-Road Bike Lane
- On-Road Bicycle Routes
- Hiker-Biker Trail
- American Discovery Trail
- School
- Caution (Busy Intersection)
- Public Facility
- Retail Center
- Campground
- Picnic Area
- City Limits

CYCLING IN TRAFFIC



Use Appropriate Lane
Avoid riding in a right-turn lane if you plan to proceed straight through. If the traffic is slow, consider using the whole lane.



Be Careful at Intersections
The majority of accidents occur at intersections. Use caution.



Be Wary of Parked Cars
Ride a minimum of 3 feet to the left of parked cars to avoid suddenly opened doors. Be particularly careful if you see a motorist in the car.



Be Courteous
Share the road. Motorists and cyclists get along much better when showing courtesy and consideration towards each other.



Ride Defensively
Prepare for the unexpected. Plan alternate maneuvers to avoid accidents. Check the road behind you. Never ride against the traffic flow.

ON-ROAD TRAILS



Use Hand Signals
Hand signals tell motorists and pedestrians what you intend to do. Give clear hand signals as a matter of law, courtesy, and self-protection.



Turning Left: 2 Options
1) As A VEHICLE: Signal, move to the left-turn lane and complete the turn when safe.
2) As A PEDESTRIAN: Ride to the far right of the intersection, dismount, & walk across.



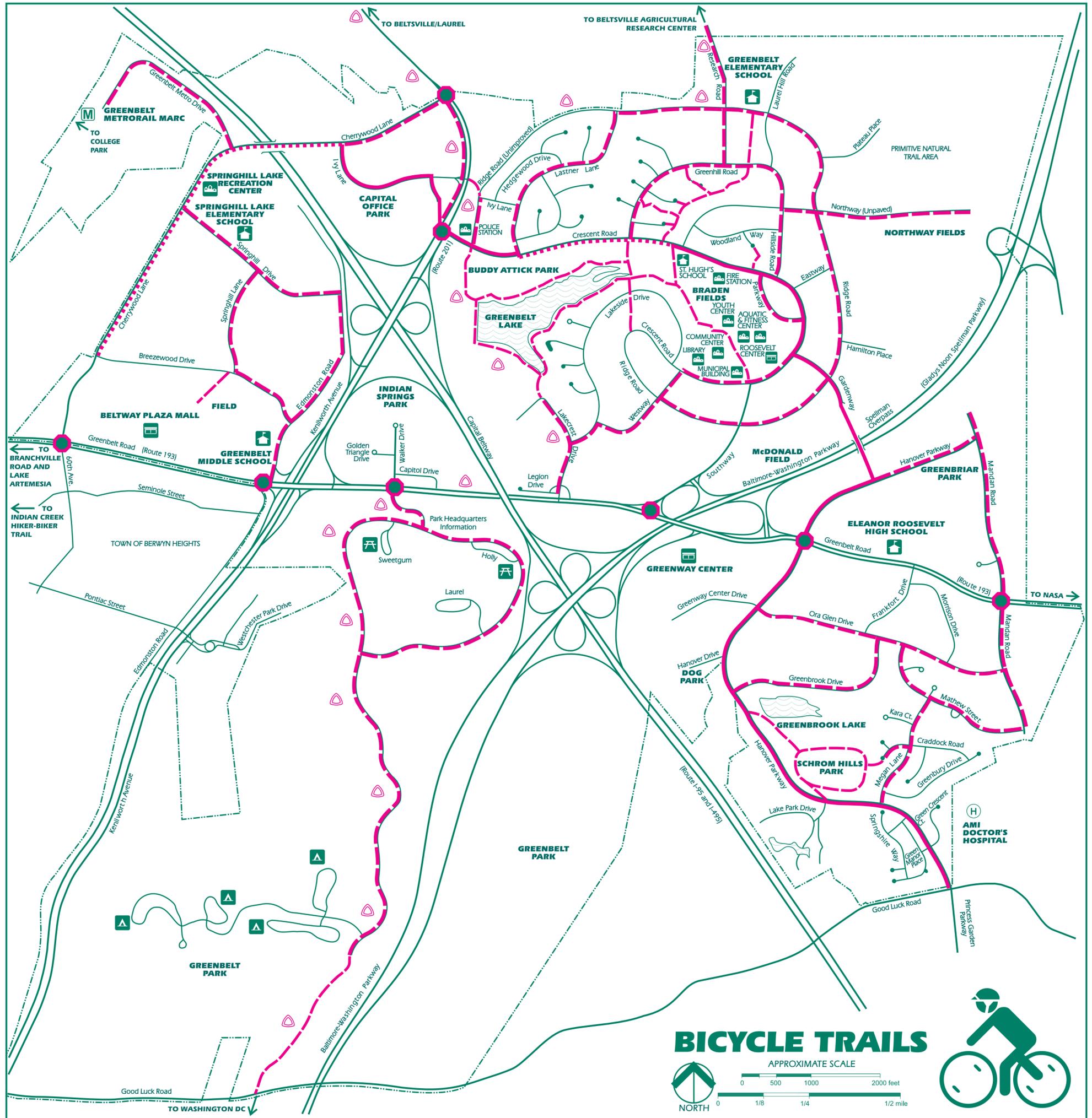
Ride in a Straight Line
Where possible, ride in a straight line far enough from parked cars to avoid any opening doors. Watch for cars leaving driveways.



Avoid Making Erratic Movements
Avoid dodging between parked cars. Motorists may not see you or may find it hard to predict erratic behavior.



Make Eye Contact
Confirm that you are seen. Establish eye contact with motorists to confirm your presence on the roadway.



BICYCLE TRAILS

