

Hikers, Bikers and Hooves Restricted Trail Use

The Mercer County Park Commission is committed to ensuring all park users have access to trails that are made for the experience they want to have when visiting.

Whether you want to hoof it, hike, or bike; our parks have trail systems that accommodate these activities. Please take the time to read information kiosks at parks, consult our website, or contact the Park Commission if you have any questions about which activities are permitted on specific trails.

Environmental Impacts of Off-Trail Use

- Remaining on recognized trails reduces the trampling of vegetation, which damages plant communities resulting in lower habitat quality and biodiversity.
- Off-trail use and creation of unauthorized trails causes erosion. Soil erosion has a variety of negative impacts on our natural areas. Eroded soil can end up in waterways, contributing to low water quality and the development of algal blooms.
- Soil disturbance is a strong predictor of non-native invasive plant colonization. Soil loss and trampling transform critical characteristics of soils that result in conditions more favorable to non-native invasive plants.
- Unauthorized trail creation, off trail use, and noise create disturbance in natural areas, deterring the presence of wildlife.



Have a questions about a trail?

Call 609-303-0706

or email:

parksinfo@mercercounty.org

