



Trail Maintenance Guidelines

- Trim back all brush, vines, limbs, etc. to leave trail at least 4 ft wide unless trees prevent this.
- Remove obstacles (large rocks, stumps, fallen trees, etc.).
- Roots should generally be left alone if they create a hazard route the trail around them and mark the reroute as needed
- Do not remove any live trees (**especially pine trees**). Do not put nails in trees that are 2 inches long or longer.
- Fill all holes and deep ruts
- Mark all dangerous areas with “Danger” signs
- Put up arrows to mark your trail, Club will furnish arrows
- If you have any questions or need help or advice, please contact your trail boss or ask GB and he will assist you
- Feel free to personalize your trail

Course Markings Guidelines

Red – Main loop and main trail

Blue – Easy path around a difficult section of the main trail

Yellow – Spur addition to main trail, possible more difficult

Green – Short cut off main trail

- Before you hang any marking, stop and think about its visibility and how well the rider can see it when coming down the trail.
- Hang them high. Markings should be attached at head level or a bit higher. This makes for more visibility and keeps them out of reach from wildlife trying to eat them.

- Hang on the right side of the trail where possible. This is for consistency and people are trained to look to the right for signage.
- Place turn arrows just before the turn where possible. If the turn is an intersection then place a second (confidence) arrow after the turn that can be seen from the trail intersection to give the rider confidence that this is the correct way to go.
- Don't hang too many arrows. If it is obvious where the trail goes then an arrow is not needed. Hanging an arrow every $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ mile is acceptable for an established trail. Use arrows to alert a rider of an upcoming tight turn or obstacle.
- Arrows should be hung straight up for straight trails and horizontal for turns. An arrow can be tilted if it is intended to alert the rider of the trail making a gradual turn.
- New trails should have ribbon marking the trail and arrows used sparingly. Ribbon is cheaper and easier to hang for interim breaking in of a new trail.
- Use a caution marker for difficult obstacles, a sharp elevation change or any other area that requires close attention to the trail.
- At trail intersections, hang all the arrows in the same place. Red should be on top with other colors below.
- Think before you hang an arrow. Does it make sense? Can it be confused? Is it visible? Is there a better place to hang it?

There will be a copy of this document posted near the sign in box at the park

The supplies for marking trails are stored in the cabin near the restrooms along with some hand tools and the club brush cutter. If you have never operated the brush cutter please get with a trail boss or another member

who is familiar with its operation before using. The brush cutter is to be used for cutting new trails and heavy ground clutter. It should not be used for normal trail maintenance. Each member should bring their own shovels, rakes trimmers etc. Arrows, danger markers, ribbons, paint, etc. are available in the cabin.

If you have any questions or need help or advice, please contact your trail boss.