

Trail Hub Trail Safety Guideline Policy

Effective Date: February 14th, 2024

Last Updated: April 15th, 2024

Welcome to Trail Hub, nestled in the Greater Toronto Area, your gateway to 240km of scenic trails for mountain biking, hiking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing. The safety of our guests is our top priority. This Trail Safety Guideline Policy aims to ensure that all visitors have a safe and enjoyable experience while exploring the natural beauty of our trails.

General Safety Guidelines

1. **Stay on Marked Trails:** To protect both the environment and your safety, always stay on the marked trails. Venturing off the designated paths can lead to hazardous terrain, exposure to deadfall, and damage to the ecosystem.
2. **Know Your Limits:** Choose trails that match your fitness level, experience, and current weather conditions. Consider your physical condition and any medical issues before embarking on a trail.
3. **Weather Awareness:** Check the weather forecast before your visit and prepare accordingly. Weather conditions can change rapidly, so it's essential to be well-prepared for any situation.
4. **Wildlife Encounters:** Our trails are home to diverse wildlife. If you encounter wildlife, keep your distance, do not feed the animals, and never approach or attempt to touch them.
5. **Leave No Trace:** Help us keep the trails clean and preserve their natural beauty. Carry out all trash and belongings, and do not leave any waste behind.

Equipment and Preparation

1. **Proper Gear:** Wear appropriate footwear including traction aids in the winter and clothing suitable for the trail conditions and weather. Always bring a hat, sunscreen, and insect repellent.
2. **Safety Equipment:** For specific activities like biking or skiing, use the recommended safety equipment, including helmets, gloves, and protective eyewear.
3. **Hydration and Nutrition:** Bring enough water and high-energy snacks for your trail adventure. Staying hydrated and energized is crucial for a safe outdoor experience.
4. **Navigation Tools:** Carry a map, compass, or GPS device. Although our trails are marked, having navigation tools can be invaluable if you become disoriented.

Trail Hub Dog Policy

At Trail Hub, we welcome our four-legged friends to enjoy the beauty of our trails alongside their owners. To ensure the safety and enjoyment of all visitors, we have established the following dog policy:

1. **Leash Requirement:** All dogs must be kept on a leash at all times while on the trails. This helps prevent conflicts with wildlife, other dogs, and ensures the safety of all trail users.
2. **Trail Pass Requirement:** Owners must obtain a Trail Pass for themselves and are encouraged to carry proof of this pass while walking their dogs. This helps maintain and improve the trails for everyone's use.
3. **Waste Disposal:** Owners are required to clean up after their dogs. Please carry disposable bags and dispose of waste in designated trash receptacles to keep the environment clean and enjoyable for everyone.
4. **Behavior:** Dogs should be well-behaved and not pose a threat or nuisance to other trail users or wildlife. Aggressive behavior from dogs will not be tolerated, and owners must ensure their dogs are under control at all times.
5. **Health and Safety:** All dogs should be up-to-date on vaccinations as recommended by a veterinarian. This helps protect the health of all animals and people at Trail Hub.

By adhering to these guidelines, we can ensure a safe and enjoyable environment for everyone visiting Trail Hub. Thank you for your cooperation and for helping to make our trails a welcoming place for all.

Emergency Procedures

1. **Emergency Contacts:** Have a list of emergency contacts, including Trail Hub's phone number [\(289\) 852-1008](tel:289-852-1008), local authorities, and medical facilities.
2. **First Aid:** Carry a basic first aid kit for minor injuries. Familiarize yourself with basic first aid procedures.
3. **Stay Calm and Stay Put:** If you get lost, stay calm, stay where you are, and call for help. Moving around can make it more difficult for rescuers to find you.

Respect Other Trail Users

1. **Right of Way:** Be courteous and share the trail with other users. Generally, bikers yield to hikers and skiers, and everyone yields to horseback riders.
2. **Control Speed:** If you're cycling or skiing, control your speed and be mindful of others on the trail.
3. **Noise Levels:** Keep noise levels down to respect the natural environment and other visitors' experiences.

Reporting Issues

If you encounter any hazards, damaged facilities, or emergencies on the trails, please report them to Trail Hub staff as soon as possible.

Modifications to This Policy

Trail Hub reserves the right to modify these guidelines at any time to ensure the ongoing safety of all trail users.

Contact Us

For more information or to report trail conditions, please contact us at:

- Email: info@thetrailhub.ca
- Phone: [\(289\) 852-1008](tel:(289)852-1008)
- Address: 722 Chalk Lake Rd, Uxbridge, ON L9P 1R4

Your cooperation and adherence to these guidelines are crucial to maintaining a safe and enjoyable environment for all visitors to Trail Hub. Thank you for helping us keep our trails safe and preserved for future generations.