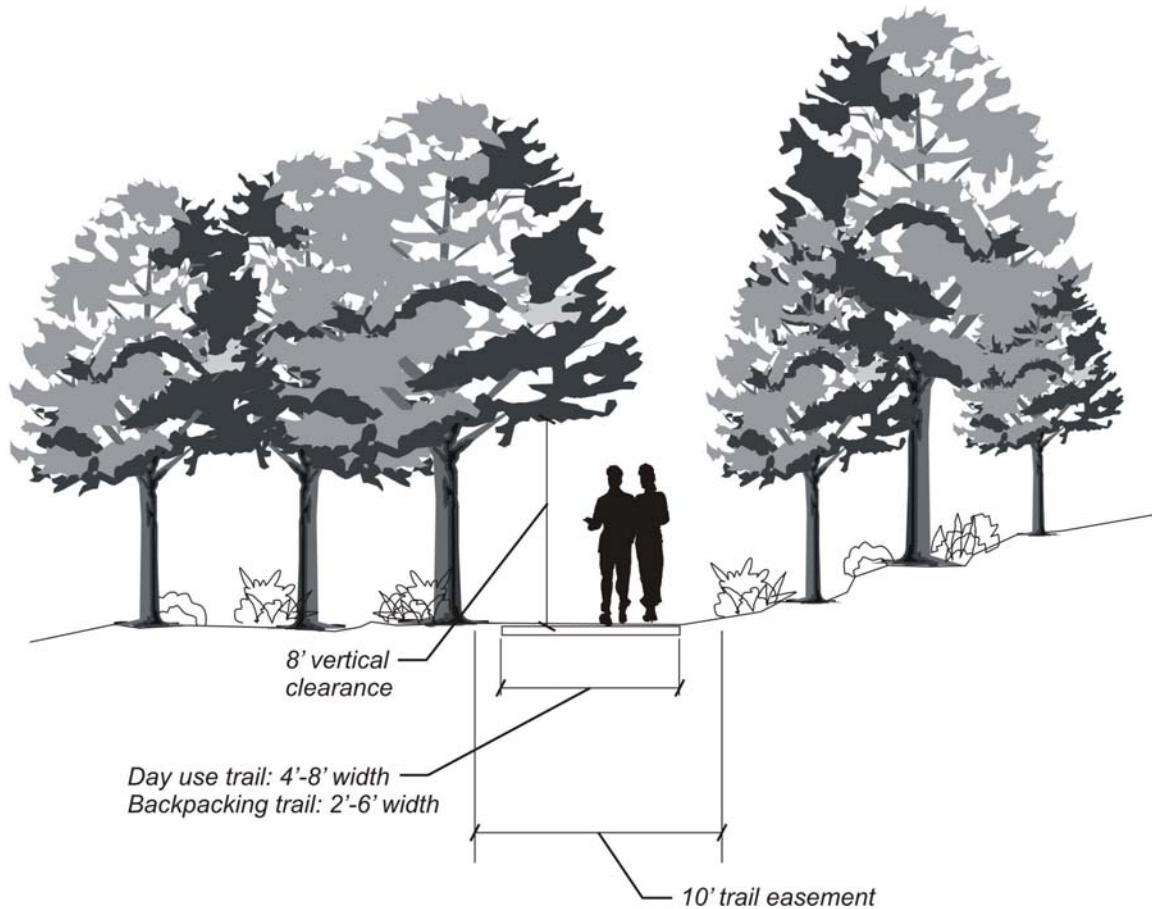


Appendix B Trail Standards

Pedestrian Trail Standards

A pedestrian trail is a route that is designed and designated for recreational pedestrian use or provided as a pedestrian alternative to vehicular routes. The hiking trail design should be developed for pedestrian use only, so that traffic along the trail does not conflict. The trail should be of sufficient width to screen out undesirable sights and sounds, and should offer a variety of scenery and terrain whenever possible.



Trail Standards

Trail Tread Width: Day Use: 4-8 feet
Backpacking: 2-6 feet
(Trail generally narrows on steep slopes)

Horizontal Clearance: None required; trail meanders within easement

Vertical Clearance: 8 feet

Gradient: Desirable Grade: 0-5%
Maximum Sustained Grades: 25%
Maximum Sustained Grades for less than 50 yards: 40%
NOTE: Steps, switchbacks, water bars, or tread armor may be needed on slopes over 25%, depending on soil types.

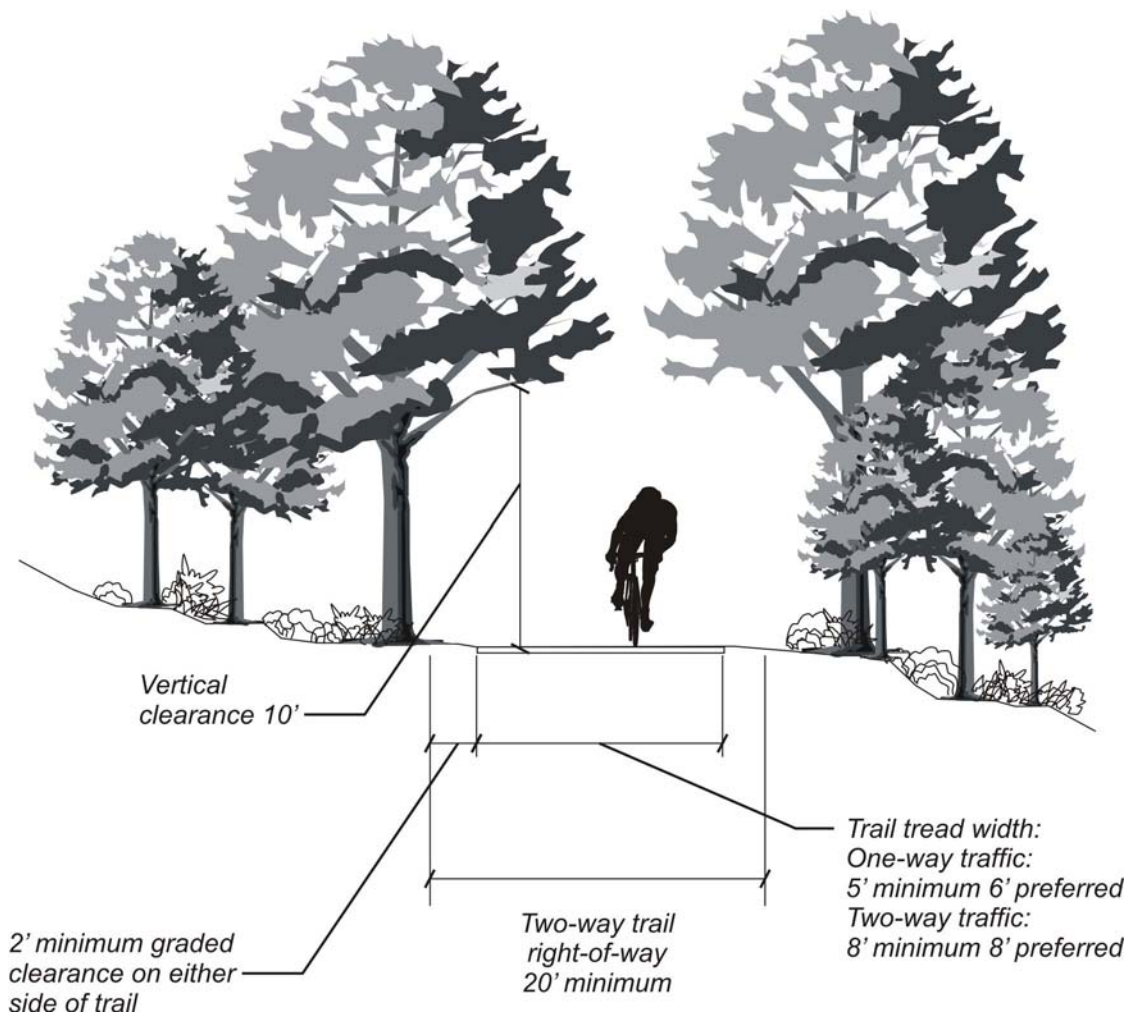
Bridges: Placement: above high water mark
Width: Day Use: 2 feet – 6 feet
Backpacking: 2 feet – 4 feet



Signage: A Hiking Trail Sign should be visibly posted 6' to 8' high along the trail, illustrating that the sign is for pedestrian use only.

Bike Trails Standards

Bike Trails should be physically separated from motorized vehicles by an open space barrier and made for exclusive use by bicycles or pedestrians with cross-flow minimized. To be successful, bicycle paths should be designed to avoid conflict points with streets and other obstacles. Careful attention should also be taken regarding overall safety when paths are located in dangerous terrain. If there is enough right-of-way, bicycle paths should be at least 10 feet wide and optimally up to 20 feet in width if pedestrian use is expected. Paved, two-way bike trails should be delineated with a painted centerline stripe. Bike trails adjacent to a highway need to allow a 5 foot minimum clearance between the trail itself and the roadway edge of shoulder.



Trail Standards

Trail Right-Of-Way: 20 feet preferred, 10 feet minimum

Trail Tread Width: One-Way traffic: 4 feet minimum, 6 feet preferred

Horizontal Clearance: 2 feet

Gradient: Ideal: 0-3%
Maximum Sustained Grades: 8-10%
Maximum Short Distance: 15%

Sight Distance: 5 feet minimum, 100 feet preferred

Bridges: Smooth planking, straight approaches
Width: 8 feet
Capacity: 5 tons or depends on size of maintenance equipment

Underpasses: 10 feet x 10 feet

Compatible Uses: Hiking

Potential Use Conflicts: Horseback riding

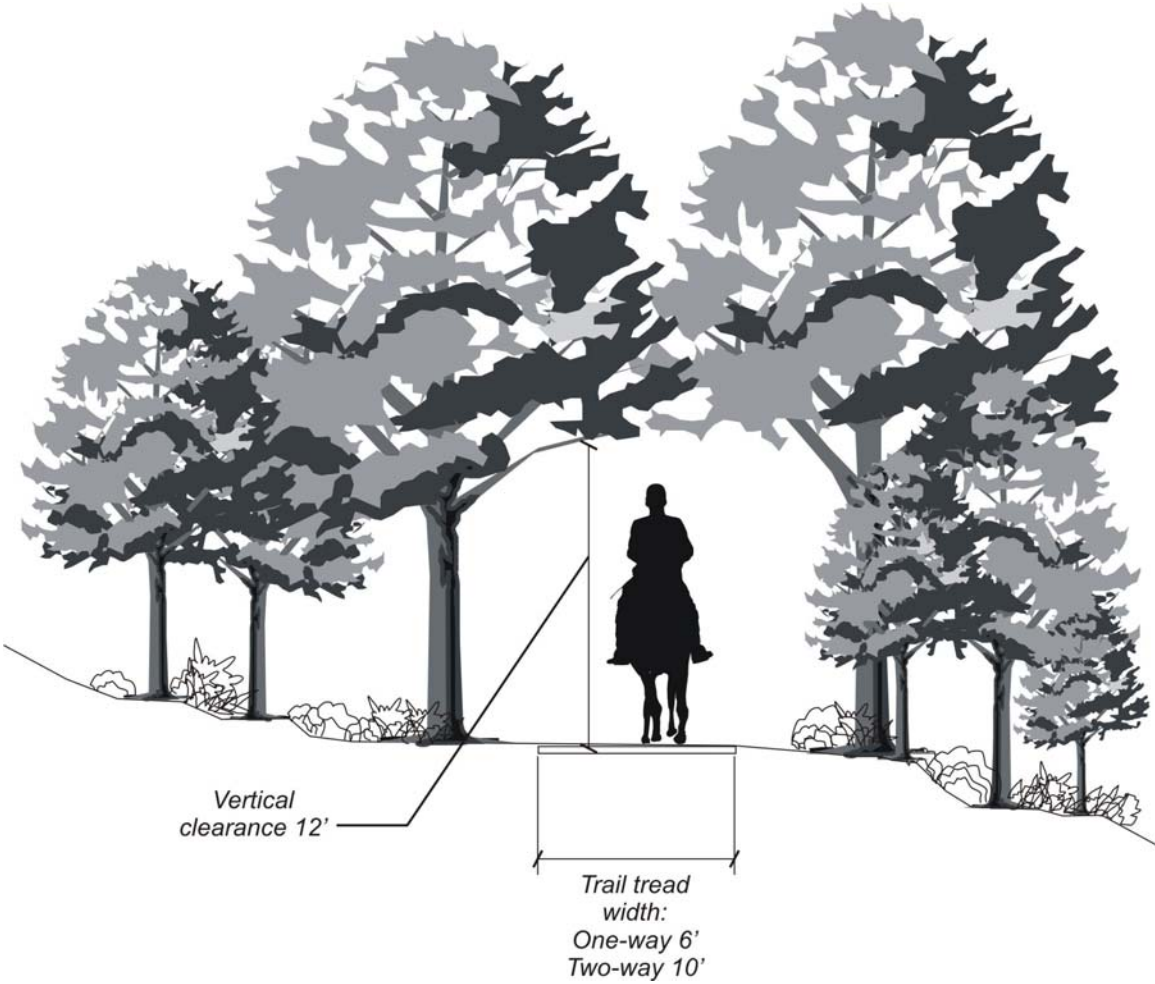
Surfacing: Asphalt, limestone, lignin, etc, depending on availability of materials



Signage. Bike Trail signs should have 2 feet minimum lateral clearance from the edge of the path. The bottom of signs should be at least 7 feet above the trail. The signs should demonstrate the separation between bicycle and pedestrian use, if applicable.

Horse Trails Standards

The horse trail should have a 12' vertical clearance to allow for mounted riders throughout the trail. On trails where the corridor is wide enough, a separate horse trail alongside the bike/pedestrian trail usually works well and should be encouraged, but the horse trail should always be wide enough for pedestrians and horses to share (Min. 6'). The trailhead facilities must include parking lots for cars with trailers, toilets, information board, hitching posts, and tether lines.



Trail Standards

Trail Tread Width: 6 – 10 feet

Horizontal Clearance: Trail width

Vertical Clearance: 12 feet

Gradient: Ideal: 1-10%
Max Sustained Grades: 10%
Max Sustained Grades for Less than 50 yards: 20%
Water bars and special surfacing may be necessary on slopes to prevent erosion.

Bridges: Placement: Above high water mark Width: 8 feet

Capacity: 5 ton, depends on maintenance equipment

Underpasses: 10 feet x10 feet culvert

Compatible Uses: Hiking (If not heavily used by horses)

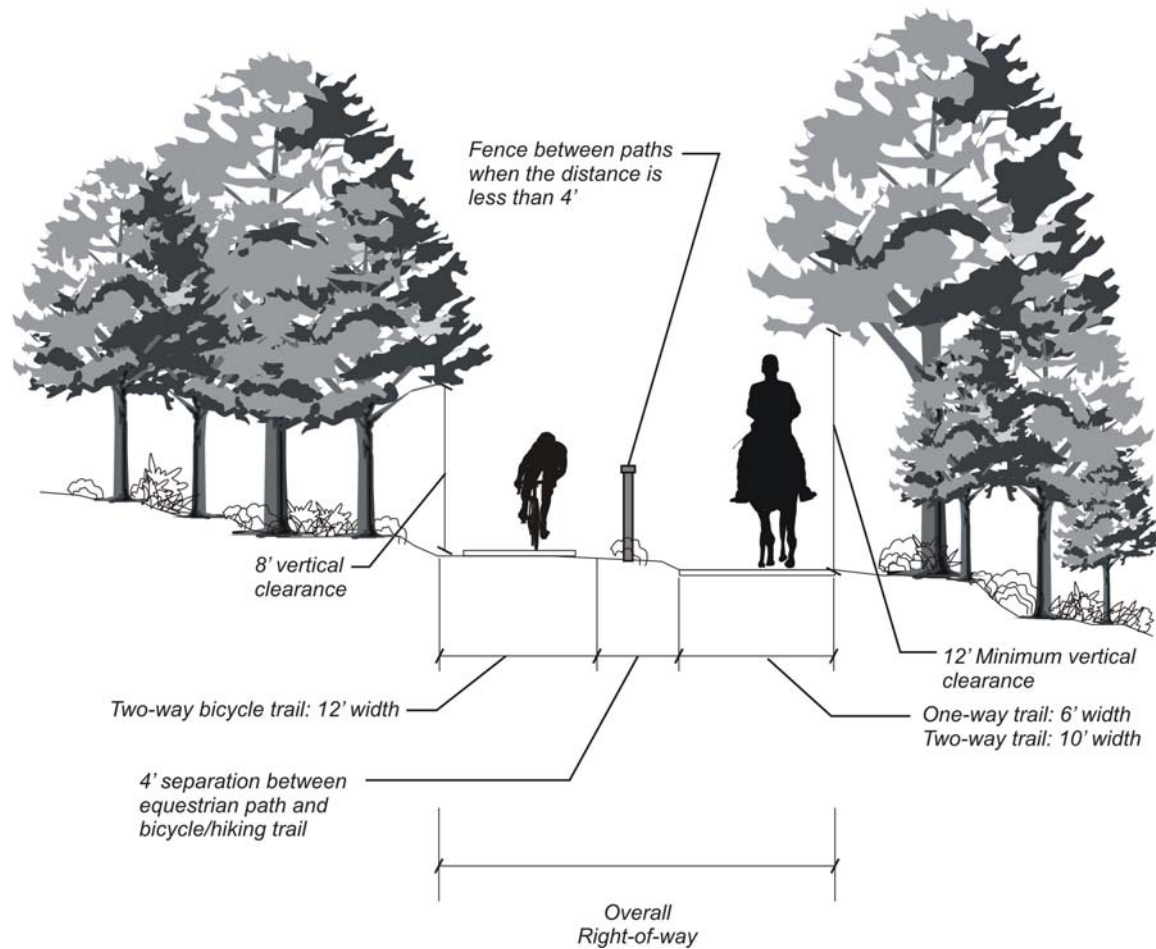
Potential Use Conflict: Bicycling
(If proper line of sight and width are not available.)



Trail Signage: The Horse Trail Sign should be clearly visible, unobtrusive and stand 6 feet – 8 feet high with the Horse Trail symbol. If pedestrians are allowed, the sign should demonstrate how to share the horse trail.

Multi Use Trail Standards

A multi use trail may have originally been designed to provide a facility for bicyclists separated from other traffic, but trails often see greater use by pedestrians, joggers, and sometimes even equestrians. The planning and design of multi-use paths should therefore take into account the various skills, experience and characteristics of these different users.



Trail Standards

Trail Tread Width: Pedestrian/Bicycle: to 6-12 feet
Horse: 6 feet to 10 feet

Overall Right of Way: 14 feet – 26 feet

Vertical Clearance: Pedestrian/cycling: 8 feet
Horse: 12 feet

Gradient: Ideal: 1-10%
Max Sustained Grades: 10%
Max Sustained Grades for Less than 50 yards: 20%
Water bars and special surfacing may be necessary on slopes to prevent erosion.

Buffer between pedestrian/bike path and horse trail: 4 feet

Fencing. A multi use trail should be divided with appropriate fencing. Two rail split rail fencing 3 feet high is recommended.



Two rail split rail fencing, 3 feet high