



Biking Policy

Wissahickon Trails recognizes that biking is an outdoor activity enjoyed by many and offers the opportunity to connect with nature and the beauty of the Wissahickon Valley. While biking is allowed at three of our preserves (listed below), **the majority of our trails are not open for such use, due to safety concerns and the trail's design.** As private landowners allowing public access, it is our responsibility to do what we can to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all trail users, as well as the habitats and trail systems under our care. For the following reasons, we ask that you only bike where it is allowed:

- Most of our trails were designed for foot traffic only, not for wheeled vehicles of any kind. **Where biking is not allowed, it is because many of the trails are narrow and have poor sightlines.**
- When bikers come around a corner suddenly and the trail is narrow, other trail users (including small children and dogs) are caught off guard and must quickly move off the trail. **This creates a stressful situation and the potential for accidents, as well as damage to trailside vegetation.**
- **Horseback riders use our trails and horses can be easily spooked by bikes, putting riders at risk of being thrown if their horses are surprised by the sudden appearance of a biker.** This is especially true on our narrow trails with many blind curves.
- Wheels can damage natural trails when the trails are muddy, which is the case much of the year in the Wissahickon. **Tires cause ruts and tracks that can make the trail surface more challenging for people on foot, as well as for our maintenance equipment.**

Please respect this policy and help us keep our trails safe and enjoyable for users.

Wissahickon Trails' Preserves where NON-MOTORIZED BIKING IS ALLOWED

We support biking as a form of recreation and it is allowed and encouraged at our *Dodsworth Run Preserve*, *Piszek Preserve*, and *portions of the Crossways Trail at Crossways Preserve*, where the trails (though short) are designed for mixed use.

There are also several alternatives close by that allow safe biking. Visit the "[Before You Go](#)" page on our website for a list of some nearby trails where you can bike safely.

Wissahickon Trails' Preserve where BIKING IS PROHIBITED

Green Ribbon Trail & Preserve, *Armentrout Preserve*, *Camp Woods Preserve*, *Four Mills Preserve*, *Willow Lake Preserve*, *Briar Hill Preserve*, parts of *Crossways Preserve*.