

Bicycle Policy

Over many years, Wissahickon Trails has preserved and protected nearly 1,300 acres along the Wissahickon Creek and within the Wissahickon Valley to provide habitat for plants and wildlife and to act as stream buffers. These vegetative areas slow down the flow of stormwater and are proven to be one of the best ways to protect the health of the creek. Within these stream buffers, Wissahickon Trails built the Green Ribbon Trail (GRT), a 12.6-mile passive recreation trail that follows the Wissahickon Creek. Its trailhead is at Parkside Place in Upper Gwynedd Township, and continues to the Philadelphia city line, where it connects to Forbidden Drive in Fairmount Park. The GRT is a grassed floodplain trail that closely follows the Wissahickon Creek, a highly urbanized stream subject to regular and intense flooding.

While we appreciate and encourage the use of our preserves and trails to connect with nature and the beauty of our Wissahickon Valley, **the majority of our trails, including the GRT, are currently not open to biking.**

The trails were built with a basis of course gravel or muddy clay and are relatively narrow paths. They were designed to only handle foot traffic of people and equestrians.

The GRT itself consists of several creek crossings utilizing stepping-stones and ladders that were designed for foot traffic only.

Bike tires speed the erosion of our narrow dirt and grass trails at a rate faster than our small staff can maintain.

Do you have any trails nearby where biking is allowed?

Although the majority of our trails are not built for and do not allow bike riding, there are several suitable biking trails close by:

- [Ft. Washington State Park](#), part of the Montgomery County Parks system, maintains a 2-mile stretch of the GRT through that is paved and allows biking
- The [Crossways Trail](#) connection in Blue Bell is paved and allows biking
- Wissahickon Trails' **Dodsworth Run** has a short, paved loop trail accessible to bikes
- The [Forbidden Drive Trail](#) is a 7-mile, bike accessible trail along the Wissahickon; it also connects with other trails built specifically for mountain biking
- The [202 Parkway Trail](#) connects three towns – Montgomery, Warrington, and Doylestown – on its 8.4 mile route paralleling the scenic byway
- And if you want to really get out of town by bike, check out the [Circuit Trails](#), a 5 county, two state trail network in Greater Philadelphia.