**Gary Shell Cross-City Trail**

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**Trail Rules and Etiquette**

The Gary Shell Cross-City Trail is enjoyed by many types of users, including bicyclists, walkers and joggers, wheelchair users, families with strollers, pets, and more. Proper etiquette is important to keep trails safe, accessible, and pleasant for all users. Please obey the following guidelines on the trail:

**YIELD.**
Pedestrians have the right of way. Yield to slower and oncoming trail users and remember that children and pets can be unpredictable.

**KEEP RIGHT, PASS ON THE LEFT.**
Always stay to the right side of the trail except when passing others on their left. Always look behind when changing position on the trail for others who may be passing you.

**DON’T LITTER.**
Do your part to keep the trail clean. Please pick up after yourself and pets.

**BE COURTEOUS.**
All trail users should be respectful of others regardless of their transportation mode, speed, or level of skill.

**ANNOUNCE YOURSELF BEFORE PASSING.**
Politely warn trail users as you approach from behind. Give a clear audible signal like “passing on your left” or ring a bell. Give the person you are passing time to respond. Don’t wear headphones on the trail so you can hear others passing you.

**DON’T BLOCK THE TRAIL.**
When in a group or with your pets, use no more than half the trail so you don’t block the flow of other users. Move off of or to the side of the trail when you stop.

**WATCH YOUR SPEED.**
Portions of the Cross-City Trail are routed through city parks. Pay special attention to your speed when traveling on the trail through a park.

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**Wear a helmet!**

If you don’t already have one, get a bicycle helmet* today! Wear one every time you ride. Today’s helmets look good, are very light, and let in those cooling breezes... all while protecting your head and brain!

Why? In a word: protection.
A good bike helmet can protect your brain. The Helmet Safety Institute says wearing a helmet can reduce the risk of severe brain injuries by 88 percent.

*According to North Carolina state law (§ 20-171.9) children under age 16 are required to wear a bicycle helmet.

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**For more trails...**

Visit wmpo.org for more information about bicycle and pedestrian trails and facilities in the Cape Fear region. The Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, or WMPO, provides regional transportation planning in the Wilmington area.

Go Coast is the WMPO’s program for promoting and supporting alternative transportation. Learn about bicycling, walking, transit, carpooling, and more at gocoastnc.org.

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**Along the Trail**

Facilities and amenities along the Gary Shell Cross-City Trail are noted on the map on the reverse side. Visit crosscitytrail.com for more information.

**PARKING.** Find parking at James E.L. Wade Park, Halyburton Park, Empie Park, and McCrary Park. Wave Transit bus service is available along the trail.

**RESTROOMS.** Restrooms are available at James E.L. Wade Park, Halyburton Park, and Empie Park.

**FIXIT STATIONS.** FIXIT Stations are located at some parks. These easy-to-use bike repair stands contain an air pump and basic tools to keep your bike rolling.

**CONNECTING TRAILS.** The Cross-City Trail connects to other trails such as the River to Sea Bikeway and the multi-use Military Cutoff Trail.

**CONNECTING PARKS.** Halyburton Park contains a 1.3-mile multi-use trail. James E.L. Wade Park has a 0.5-mile multi-use trail and Empie Park contains a 2-acre dog park.

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**Gary Shell Cross-City Trail**

For more information on safe biking, walking, and driving, visit gocoastnc.org/BeALooker

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**BE A LOOKER**

Watch for bikes and pedestrians

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**When Driving**

- Don’t drive distracted.
- Give bicyclists and pedestrians at least 4 feet of space when passing.
- Slow down!
- Look right before you turn right.
- Don’t block the crosswalk while stopped at an intersection.

**When Biking**

- Be predictable. Use hand signals and make eye contact with drivers.
- Ride in the same direction as traffic.
- Wear a helmet and use bicycle lights.
- Don’t bike with headphones.
- Obey the rules of the road. Stop at red lights and yield to pedestrians.

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