TRAIL ETIQUETTE GUIDELINES

RIDE OPEN TRAILS: Respect trail and road closures. Ask the property if you are uncertain about a trail’s status.

LEAVE NO TRACE: Be sensitive to the soil beneath you. Wet and muddy trails are vulnerable to damage. When the trail is soft, consider other riding options. Pack out at least as much as you pack in. Stay on Existing Trails: Don’t cut switchbacks or go around wet spots.

CONTROL YOUR BICYCLE: Inattention for even a moment can put you and others at risk. Obey speed regulations and ride within your limits.

YIELD APPROPRIATELY: Bicyclists should yield to other trail users unless the trail is clearly signed for bike-only travel. Let your fellow trail users know you are coming with a friendly greeting or bell. Anticipate other riders as you ride around corners. Bicyclists traveling downhill should yield to ones headed uphill unless the trail is clearly signed for one-day or downhill only traffic. Make each pass a safe and courteous one.

NEVER SCARE ANIMALS: You are in their habitat, and they may be easily startled by an unannounced approach, sudden movement or loud noise. Give animals enough room and time to adjust to you. When passing horses, use special care and follow directions from the riders (ask if uncertain.) Running cattle and disturbing wildlife are serious offenses.

PLAN AHEAD: Know your equipment, your ability and the area in which you are riding and plan accordingly. Keep your equipment in good repair, and carry supplies for changes in weather and other conditions. Always wear a helmet and appropriate safety gear.

PROPERTIES WITH MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS

1. Brown County State Park
2. Fort Harrison State Park
3. Harmonie State Park
4. O’Bannon Woods State Park
5. Potato Creek State Park
6. Spring Mill State Park
7. Versailles State Park
8. Salamonie Lake
9. Interlake SRA
10. Redbird SRA
11. Clark State Forest
12. Covered Bridge State Forest
13. Deam Lake SRA
14. Ferdinand State Forest
15. Jackson-Washington State Forest
16. Martin State Forest
17. Owen-Putman State Forest
18. Starve Hollow SRA

OFF-ROAD CYCLING PERMIT

The Off-Road Cycling permit is required for cyclists wishing to access and use mountain bike trails on state park, reservoir and state forest properties with trail ratings above beginner. Each rider must possess and be able to produce the permit while engaged in off-road cycling activities. It is not required for property roadways and paved biking trails.

WHAT IS THE COST? The cost of the annual ORC Permit is $20. A daily ORC may be purchased for $5.

ARE ALL BIKE RIDERS REQUIRED TO HAVE AN ORC PERMIT? Only off-road cyclists riding designated mountain bike trails that are rated as above beginner level will be required to possess an annual or daily permit. Cycling on property roadways, riding on paved bicycle paths and in other authorized riding areas will not require a permit.

WHEN AND WHERE MAY AN ORC BE PURCHASED? ORC permits will be available for sale beginning November 1, 2015. Trail riders must carry and be able to produce their permits beginning January 1, 2016. Permits may be purchased at all state park, reservoir and forestry property offices and or gate houses during regular business hours. You may also purchase online at Mother Nature’s Mercantile at www.innsgifts.com.

For more off-road cycling permit information, visit stateparks.IN.gov

For trail conditions, visit the Hoosier Mountain Bike Association at www.hmmba.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Write: Patoka Lake
3084 North Dillard Rd
Birdseye, IN 47513
Call: (812) 685-2464
Online: stateparks.IN.gov/2953.htm

Please carry out all trash you produce in order to keep your park clean and beautiful for others to enjoy!

For more info stateparks.IN.gov