

Ridgefield Trail System - Design Specifications by Trail Classification

Engineering Standards Vol. 3 - Parks, Trails, and Recreation Design and Construction Requirements

Adopted 05/22/2025

Multi-Modal Trails		Recreational Trails	
Arterial Trail	Collector Trail	Hiking Trail	Semi-Primitive Trail
10-12 Feet Wide Asphalt Surface 5% Maximum Grade High-Capacity Transportation Focus	10-12 Feet Wide Asphalt Surface 5% Maximum Grade Medium-Capacity Transportation Focus	6-8 Feet Wide Asphalt Surface 5% Maximum Grade (Up to 12% with Exceptions) Medium-Capacity Recreation Focus	Other USFS Trails (i.e. Mountain Biking, etc.) Low-Capacity Recreation Focus
High-capacity, asphalt multi-use trails connecting major city destinations and forming the backbone of the trail network.	Mid-capacity, asphalt trails linking neighborhoods and local sites to Arterial Trails, enhancing system connectivity.	Fully developed, double-lane asphalt trails for hiker and pedestrian use.	Low-impact, soft-surface trails with flexible designs for specialized recreation like biking or equestrian use.
WSDOT Shared-Use Paths	WSDOT Shared-Use Paths	USFS Trail Design Parameters	USFS Trail Design Parameters
N/A	N/A	Hiker / Pedestrian	Varies
N/A	N/A	Class 5	Varies
60" beyond edge of pavement	60" beyond edge of pavement	48" beyond edge of pavement	
10' (12' preferred)	10' (12' preferred)	6' - 8'	
Asphalt (Concrete or other hard, non-slip surface permitted for bridges or other trail constructed features)	Asphalt (Concrete or other hard, non-slip surface permitted for bridges or other trail constructed features)	Asphalt (exempted from trail constructed features) with no protrusions or obstacles	
5% Maximum (When within road right of way, path slope may match road grade)	5% Maximum (When within road right of way, path slope may match road grade)	Target Grade of 2%-5%; Short Pitch Maximum no greater than 5%-12% with compliance with FSTAG Maximum Pitch Density of 0%-5%	
2% Maximum	2% Maximum	Target Cross Slope 2%-3% (or crowned) with Maximum Cross Slope of 3%	
8'-10' above trail surface; 60" beyond edge of pavement	8'-10' above trail surface; 60" beyond edge of pavement	8'-10' above trail surface; 60" beyond edge of pavement	
6'-8' Radius Minimum	6'-8' Radius Minimum	6'-8' Radius Minimum	
Hot Mix Asphalt (Exempt for trail constructed features)	Hot Mix Asphalt (Exempt for trail constructed features)	Hot Mix Asphalt (Exempt for trail constructed features)	
3" Minimum	3" Minimum	3" Minimum	
Crushed Aggregate	Crushed Aggregate	Crushed Aggregate	
3" Minimum	3" Minimum	3" Minimum	
Extends a minimum of 3' beyond edge of pavement	Extends a minimum of 3' beyond edge of pavement	Extends a minimum of 2' beyond edge of pavement	
Not applicable to asphalt surfaces	Not applicable to asphalt surfaces	Not applicable to asphalt surfaces	
Extends a minimum of 2' beyond edge of pavement at grade and gradually tapers off to native surface thereafter	Extends a minimum of 2' beyond edge of pavement at grade and gradually tapers off to native surface thereafter	Extends a minimum of 1' beyond edge of pavement at grade and gradually tapers off to native surface thereafter	

See USFS Trail Standards Based On
Designed Use and Trail Class