Authorized Mountain Bike Trails-Newport News Park

Harwood's Mill Mountain Bike Trail

- Located on Oriana Road in York County
- ■Sections of trail are marked according to level—novice, advanced, or expert
- ■Parking available at Harwood's Mill fishing area across from the trail entrance
- ■5.5 miles of single-track, natural surface trails
- ■Helmets are required

Bikeway Trail

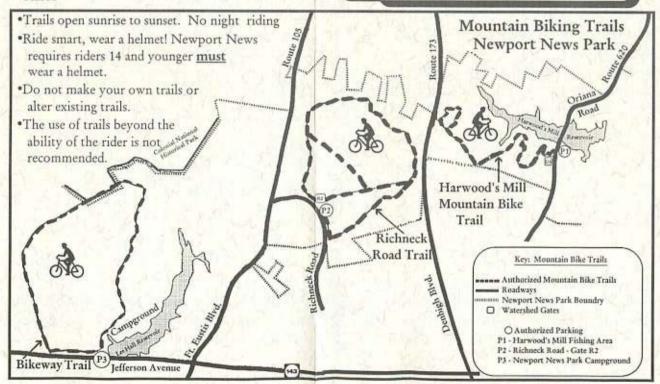
- ■Located on Jefferson Avenue at the Newport News Park Campground
- Parking available behind the campground office

5.3 miles of novice-level, gravel and natural surface roadway (closed to motor vehicles)

Richneck Road Trail

- Located on Richneck Road in York County
- ■Parking available at gate R-2
- ■Approximately 8 miles of novice-level, natural surface firetrails (closed to motor vehicles).

Call 888-3333 (or 911 in an emergency) to report illegal activities, accidents, or to contact a Park Ranger. If you would like more information, please call (757) 886-7912 or write: Newport News Park, 13560 Jefferson Avenue, Newport News, VA 23603



Newport News Park Mountain Biking



Guide to Trails, Rules and Safe Bicycle Riding in Newport News Park



Department of Parks and Recreation

Mountain Biking in

Newport News Park

ver 8,000 acres of reservoirs, streams and surrounding watershed (forests and fields) make up Newport News Park. Since 1896 these land and water resources have been managed in an effort to best protect the drinking water supply of Newport News and surrounding localities. Newport News Park was opened for recreational activities in 1966. The goal of this park is to provide quality recreational facilities for citizens and visitors of Newport News in a manner that will not harm the natural resources.

All bicyclists should review the important Rules of the Trail published by The International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) which are excerpted below. Information specific to Newport News Park is provided in italics.

For Your Safety and Resource Protection

Ride on open trails only. Respect trail and road closures, private property, and requirements for permits and authorization. Federal and state wilderness areas are closed to cycling, and some park and forest trails are also off limits. See map on reverse for authorized mountain bike trails and open fire trails. All other areas of the park are closed to bicycles. Call 888-3333 if you are unsure. Check before you ride!

Leave no trace. Do not ride when the ground will be marred, such as certain soils after a rain. Never ride off the trail, skid your tires, or discard any object. Strive to pack out more than you pack in. Pay special attention to wet areas (drainages, sink holes, temporary streams). Littering is prohibited. All plants are protected by law.



Control your bicycle. Inattention for even a second can cause disaster. Excessive speed frightens and injures people, gives mountain biking a bad name, and results in trail closures.



Always yield. Make your approach known well in advance. A friendly greeting is considerate and appreciated. Show your respect when meeting others on the trail by slowing to walking speed or even stopping, especially in the presence of horses. Anticipate that other trail users may be around corners or in blind spots. Newport News Park trails are multiple-use, so be constantly on the lookout for other trail users.



Never spook animals. Give them extra room and time to adjust to you. Running livestock and disturbing wild animals is a serious offense. Leave ranch and farm gates as you find them, or as marked. Park wildlife is protected by law. Do not disturb nests, roosts, or wildlife. If you observe injured or "orphaned" wildlife, do not approach; contact a Park Ranger.



Plan ahead. Know your equipment, your ability, and the area in which you are riding, and prepare accordingly. Be self-sufficient at all times, keep your bike in good repair, and carry necessary supplies for changes in weather. Keep trails open by setting an example of responsible cycling for all to see. If possible, ride with at least one other person. Do not attempt to ride beyond your abilities. All bicyclists should wear a helmet, gloves, and proper eye protection.