

## ... ABOUT LAKEWOOD PARKS

When Lakewood incorporated in 1969, there were eight parks within the city limits. Committed to serving the needs of the people, Lakewood's Community Resources Department now maintains 88 parks, and more are being planned.

With over 7,000 acres of parkland, half in its natural state, the City of Lakewood maintains more parks and facilities per capita than any other city of comparable size in Colorado.

In addition to parks, Lakewood's Community Resources Department operates recreation centers, swimming pools, a marina, a museum, and a senior citizens center. The Department of Community Resources also sponsors classes for adult and youth enrichment, special events, and many more activities.

Please take the opportunity to enjoy some of Lakewood's parks and facilities. For more information call the Department of Community Resources at (303) 987-7800.

## LAKEWOOD TRAIL SYSTEM

### **Bike Route**

A bike route is a street or highway that bicyclists share with cars and other traffic. These are marked with the "Bike Route" sign. Bike routes are often lightly-travelled neighborhood streets or roads that are wide enough to safely accommodate bicycles.

### **Bike Lane**

A bike lane is constructed as a part of a street or highway. The lane is marked with a white stripe, and signs are posted along the road. One type of bike lane is a widened highway shoulder. Stripes and signs tell the motorist that it is for the exclusive use of bicyclist or pedestrians. Another type of bike lane includes room for parking and bicycles have their own lane between the parked cars and traffic lane.

### **Bikeway**

The bikeway is a paved path separated from automobile traffic. Bikeways are often shared with walkers, joggers and in-line skate enthusiasts. At road crossings, watch for traffic and pedestrians.

### **Greenway**

The greenway is a paved path located well away from automobile traffic. Greenways often run through parks. They may be loop trails within parks or they may link to other types of trails in the system. Greenways are occasionally patrolled by motorcycle police.

### **Multi-Use Trail**

This is a dirt or gravel trail most often found in the foothills and undeveloped open space parks. Use caution when hiking or biking on steep terrain.

### **Horse Trail**

This is a dirt path developed for horseback riders. Look for the signs marked "Horse Trail". They are often adjacent to bikeways along main roads. There are also horse trails and loops within the parks.

**Horse Trails are intended for horseback riding (Other trails may be present.)**



## HIKING

**Stay on designated trails.** Marked trails often lead to points of interest and scenic views, and provide the safest route from point to point. This practice will also help protect delicate eco-systems.

**Be aware of rattlesnakes.** They have been sighted in most open-space parks. Avoid the rockpiles and deep grasses where they make their homes.

**Carry water when hiking,** especially in warm weather.

**Keep your dog on a leash.**  
**Clean up your dog's waste and dispose of properly.**



## HORSEBACK RIDING

**Stay on designated trails** and in designated riding areas for the safety of you, your horse, and others. Puncturing a sprinkler control box can cause a fall and injury to the rider or horse. Riding on sports fields leaves indentations which can cause injury to athletes. Do not ride on paved trails.

**Travel at a safe speed.** Walking, trotting, and slow cantering are proper etiquette on horse trails. Put the horse in a walk on any paved surface.

**Choose your trail route wisely.** Consider the rider's age and the horse's tractibility. Use side streets as much as possible.

**Watch for approaching cyclists, hikers, and joggers** when sharing the path. Move to the right, slow to a walk, turn the horse's head slightly to the left, and allow them to pass. Resume pace after 100 feet.

**When passing another rider,** slow your gait within 100 feet and pass to the left. Travel only slightly faster than the horse being passed. Resume pace after 100 feet.

**When riding on streets,** ride a straight path facing traffic 4 feet from parked cars. Watch for opening car doors or cars entering the street.

**Wear reflectors.** For late evening and night time riding, wear reflectors on both legs, below the knees.

**Leave your dog at home.** The dog and horse can easily become entangled with any length leash.



## BICYCLING

**Stay on the designated trails** and maintain traction. Riding off trails or skidding down slopes damages park resources, creates erosion, and threatens other park users and wildlife.

**When riding on streets,** obey all traffic signs and signals. Always yield to pedestrians.

**Ride defensively.** Signal turns and ride in a straight line.

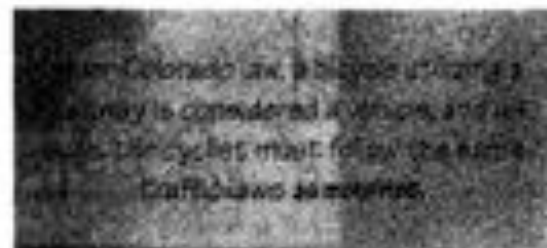
**Wear a helmet.**

**During dark hours;** use lights, reflectors, and wear light-colored clothing for early morning, late-evening and night-time riding. **Always ride with the flow of traffic.** Never ride against the flow of traffic, even if in a bike lane. This practice is extremely dangerous and is the cause of many accidents.

**Always stop and look** both ways before entering a street from a driveway, alley, or bikeway.

**Ride in a straight predictable course** about four feet from parked cars. Don't weave in and out of parked cars. Watch for other hazards such as storm grates. Watch for opening car doors or cars entering the street.

**Leave your dog at home.**



Under Colorado law, a bicycle utilizing a motor is considered a vehicle, and as such, the cyclist must follow the same traffic laws as motorist.

## BICYCLE AND TRAILS INFORMATION

### Colorado Dept. of Highways

Bike Route Info. 303 757-9982

### Colorado Div. of Parks and Outdoor Recreation

State Trails Coord. 303 866-3435

### West Metro Fire Rescue

Non Emergency 303 989-4300

Emergency 911

### Lakewood Police Department

Non Emergency 303 987-7111

Emergency 911

Desk Reports 303 987-7150

### Lakewood Street/Bikeway

Maintenance 303 987-7950

Lakewood Dept. of

Community Resources 303 987-7800

# Share the Trail!

Lakewood maintains nearly 75 miles of trails, many open for multiple use. Whether you are biking, walking, jogging, or horseback riding, following these established rules will make everyone's trip safer and more enjoyable.

**Guidelines for multi-use trails:**

**Be Courteous.**

All trail users should be respectful of other users regardless of their mode of travel, speed, or level of skill.

**Be Predictable.**

Travel in a consistent manner. Look behind you before changing position on the trail.

**Don't Block the Trail.**

When in a group, including pets, use no more than half the trail. Don't block the flow of traffic.

**Keep Right.**

Stay to the right on the trail except when passing.

**Pass on the Left.**

Look ahead and behind you to make sure the lane is clear before you pass. Don't move back to the right **until safely pass.**

**Signal when Passing.**

Before you pass, give a clear warning signal by voice, bell, or horn.

**Yield to Slower Traffic.**

Faster traffic is responsible for yielding to slower and on-coming traffic.

**Yield when Entering or Crossing Trails.**

Yield to traffic on the trail when entering a crossing at an uncontrolled point.

**HELP KEEP THE TRAIL CLEAN!**