



BEFORE YOU GO

[Rules and Safety](#)[Getting to the GAP](#)[How To Prepare](#)[Where to Stay](#)[Camping](#)[TrailGuide](#)

Rules and Safety

Protect Yourself and Others

We recommend planning your trip in advance, preparing for various weather and trail conditions, and practicing common trail etiquette to create a safe and enjoyable trip. The Great Allegheny Passage is a beautiful outdoor space freely open for public enjoyment and the Great Allegheny Passage Conservancy cannot and does not guarantee your safety while you're traveling.

Hours

The Great Allegheny Passage is open from dawn to dusk. You may want a flashlight, headlamp, or bike light for tunnels, but you should plan on daylight travel only. While most of the Great Allegheny Passage is open year-round, the [Big Savage Tunnel](#) is completely closed from late November to early April. There is no detour.

Take extra caution and slow down when trail surface is slippery or when crowded. Give extra space to younger or older travelers.

By Pennsylvania state law, bicyclists under the age of 12 (and under age 15 in Maryland) must wear helmets, and we recommend them for everyone.

Stay on trail and please respect private property. Most land adjacent to the GAP is privately-owned.

Stop at all railroad and street crossings, and watch for bollards, vehicles and uneven trail surfaces. Take extra care along the short and infrequent sections of the GAP that follow shared roadways.

Wheelchairs

Wheelchairs and similar devices built specifically for mobility disabilities are allowed on the GAP.

E-Bikes

No vehicles powered by internal combustion are permitted on the GAP, except those authorized for maintenance and emergency purposes. Other power-driven mobility devices, not specifically designed for disabilities, may be used in Pennsylvania, provided:

- Motors on electric vehicles are 750 watts or less
- Devices weigh less than 100 lbs.
- Device are no more than 36" wide
- Devices have fully operating pedals

Camping and Fires

No fires or camping are allowed, except in designated [hiker-biker campgrounds](#).

Alcohol

No alcohol is permitted.

Animals

Please leash and control your pet, and remove pet waste. Pay special attention to other travelers, especially those approaching on bikes, to avoid injury. Horseback riding is permitted along designated sections of the GAP, and only adjacent to trail surface.

We encourage your group to spend money locally in trail towns rather than bringing in mobile food trailers. Keep in mind that most trail town lodging and restaurants appreciate advance notice or reservations for large groups, and that you may need to split up among several lodging partners or restaurants.

Emergencies

Call 911 in case of emergency, and always alert a friend to your intended plans.



The Great Allegheny Passage® offers 150 miles of spectacular biking and hiking from Cumberland, Md. to Pittsburgh, through Pennsylvania's Laurel Highlands.

[Privacy Policy](#)

About

[History](#)
[GAP Conservancy](#)
[Research and Resources](#)
[TrailGuide](#)

Contact Us

Great Allegheny Passage Conservancy
P.O. Box 228
Homestead, PA 15120
admin@gaptrail.org

Updates

[GAP Newsletter](#)
[Upcoming Events](#)
[News](#)

Support the GAP

[Advertise](#)
[Volunteer](#)
[Donate](#)
[Shop](#)
[Corporate Sponsorship](#)

