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## **BE SAFE, COURTEOUS ON MULTIPURPOSE TRAILS**

Spring is here, and Summit Metro Parks is asking users of the Bike & Hike, Freedom and Towpath trails to [watch a fun video](#) about trail use and follow these helpful guidelines:

**Be Courteous:** All trail users should be respectful of others regardless of speed, skill level or mode of travel (bicycle, wheelchair or on foot).

**Pass on the Left:** Pass other trail users on their left. Give an audible signal before passing, either by voice ("On your left!") or other means, such as ringing a bell. Pay special attention when passing children and pets.

**Stopping:** Move to the right when stopping. If possible, exit the trail. Be cautious of others approaching from behind and make sure they know you are pulling over.

**Be Predictable:** Travel in a consistent and predictable manner. Always look behind you before changing positions on the trail.

**Don't Block the Trail:** Use no more than half of the trail. Do not block the flow of other users.

**Obey All Traffic Signs and Signals:** Use extra caution where trails cross streets. Stop at all signals and intersections. When entering or crossing a trail, yield to other users.

In addition, on every trail and in open areas managed by Summit Metro Parks, dogs must be on leashes no more than 8 feet long. Mutt Mitts are provided in many high-usage areas to help visitors clean up after their pets. (Note: Dogs are permitted in every park except the F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm, which is

a special-use area that has been set aside for the study and enjoyment of nature, including the hand-feeding of chickadees.)

Summit Metro Parks manages the 34-mile Bike & Hike Trail, which travels southeast from Sagamore Hills into Munroe Falls and Stow; 22.4 miles of the north-to-south Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail in Summit County; and the 6.2-mile Freedom Trail, which travels west from Middlebury Road near the Portage County line to the N. Arlington trailhead in Akron.

For more information, call 330-867-5511 or visit [summitmetroparks.org](http://summitmetroparks.org).

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Summit Metro Parks manages more than 14,000 acres, including 16 parks, several conservation areas and more than 150 miles of trails, with 22.4 miles of the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail. Annual attendance averages 5 million visits. Visit us online at [summitmetroparks.org](http://summitmetroparks.org).



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