



<b>Title:</b> Designated Recreational Trails	<b>Policy No.:</b> 01-01
<b>Section:</b> 07	<b>Page No.:</b> 1 of 4

<b>Legislation Reference:</b>	Alberta Provincial Statutes
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<b>Purpose:</b>	To ensure the quality of and reduce hazards on trails.
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**Policy Statement and Guidelines:**

**1. STATEMENT:**

- 1.1 Smoky Lake County recognizes the benefits of trails within the municipality encourages physical activity and supports alternative ways to get around.
- 1.2 Enjoying the trails can enhance mental health and family bonding.
- 1.3 A trail network of multi-use trails linked to the Regional Iron Horse Trail is a highly valued recreational feature within our municipality and can contribute to economic development and environmental awareness within the County.
- 1.4 Trail systems also have ecological benefits by control access to habitat and allows more diverse wildlife and vegetation to flourish.

**2. DEFINITIONS:**

- 2.1 **Regional Trail:** Iron Horse Trail is a formation of North East Muni-Corr Ltd., a partnership of 10 municipalities that own and manage abandoned rail lines in the region.
- 2.2 **Multi-Use Trails:** Trails developed within the Smoky Lake County boundaries, as indicated below:

<b>Bonnie Lake</b>	RR 133 from Twp Rd 594 to Twp Rd 595.5 RR 132A from Twp Rd 595 to Twp Rd 595.5 Twp Rd 595 from RR 132A to RR 133
<b>Mons Lake</b>	RR 164 from Twp Rd 600 to Twp Rd 602
<b>Sandy Lane</b>	<i>See Mons Lake</i>
<b>Garner Lake</b>	Twp Rd 602 from RR 122 to RR 123 RR 122 from Twp Rd 595.5 to Twp Rd 602

- 2.3 **Facilities:** Staging areas in the Hamlets of Warspite, Bellis, and Spedden: Toilets, fire rings, tables, litter containers, signs and barriers.

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Policy Statement and Guidelines:	
<b>3. MANDATE:</b>	
3.1	Maintenance of recreation sites, trails and facilities involves cleaning, inspecting, repairing, replacing and removing structures and natural hazards.
3.2	Maintenance consists of inspections and any follow-up actions (further visits or services) that may be necessary to maintain safe, sanitary, socially acceptable and environmentally sound conditions in accordance with the type of environment and the level of use of the site, trail or facility.
3.3	The objectives of maintenance are to provide user safety, provide sanitary conditions, protect the environment, provide user access and convenience, and protect investment in infrastructure.
3.3.1	Safety considerations of the public shall always be the first priority.
3.3.2	Sanitary considerations will be inspected to correct potentially unhealthy conditions, (e.g. toilet facilities).
3.3.3	Environmental damage will be corrected and actions taken to prevent further damage.
3.3.4	User convenience will be considered.
3.4	Specific maintenance activities and frequency of service visits on the recreation trail or facility will depend on the types of structures, environmental conditions and level of use.
<b>4. PROCEDURES:</b>	
4.1	Semi-annual inspections will be completed on all trails by May 10 <sup>th</sup> and October 30 <sup>th</sup> by the Parks and Recreation Manager.
4.2	Inspections will be completed using the attached <b><i>Schedule "A": Trail System Maintenance and Safety Inspection Form.</i></b>
4.2.1	Maintenance of the multi-use trails will be the responsibility of the County.
4.3	The inspector will date and sign each inspection on the date of completion.

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4.4	All required follow-up repairs or maintenance will be noted under “ <i>Action Required</i> ” on the inspection form and will be the responsibility of the Parks and Recreation Manager.
4.5	Inspections will be reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Manager to attempt to identify any trends and areas of concern.

	Date	Resolution Number
Approved	<b>May 15, 2008</b>	<b># 492-08 - Page # 8675</b>
Amended		
Amended		



**SCHEDULE "A"**

**TRAIL SYSTEM MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY INSPECTION**

Trail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Inspection: \_\_\_\_\_ Time of Inspection: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trail Inspector: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>INSPECTION REPORT</b>			
	Check	Action Required	Action Confirmed
<b>INSPECTION: Items</b>			
<b>Trail Surface:</b> Is in good repair: free of any debris, glass discarded metal, or any other garbage of foreign objects.			
<b>Ditches:</b> Check for any foreign material.			
<b>Drainage:</b> Check to ensure standing water does not cover the trail.			
<b>Tripping hazards:</b> Check for exposed concrete footings, tree stumps, rocks, tree limbs and overhanging branches.			
<b>Elevated surfaces:</b> Make sure platforms and ramps have guardrails to prevent falls, <i>if applicable</i> .			
<b>Proper signage:</b> Is in good repair and visible.			
<b>Facility:</b> Check toilets, fire rings, tables, litter containers, signs, barriers are in place and properly maintained.			
<b>Vegetation Control:</b> Condition of mowing, noxious weeds.			

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**Parks and Recreation Manager: *Signature***