Greenway trails are places for many transportation alternatives, including walking, bicycling, and horseback riding. They also are opportunities for preservation of our region’s cultural heritage and environmental quality. The new PlanET Task "Greenway Guidelines for the East Tennessee Region: Recommendations for Water, Rail and Roadside Trails in Regional Landscapes” provides a brief introduction to greenway corridor design, illustrates trail, rail, and roadside corridor conditions typical in East Tennessee, and affirms before-and-after visions of greenways in urban, suburban and rural East Tennessee landscapes. The guide also provides easy-to-use visual indices to assist in the selection and design of trail crossings, surface materials, signage, fences, barriers, lighting, and trailside amenities.

The three-year PlanET process has included many projects to promote greenway trails. These Guidelines are intended to complement that work by giving trail advocates and greenway designers a tool to aid with the design of greenway trails. Space for the continuous corridors that greenways can typically be found in four locations: in open spaces and parks, and also alongside roads, railways and waterways. To meet the need for information (for trail designers) and inspiration (for trail advocates), examples and best practices were researched to create a publication to help inform planners and residents and help them visualize how greenway corridors might look in typical East Tennessee locations and landscapes.

**Surfacing Materials for Trails**

Trail projects from the previous Foundation Projects should include surfacing materials that provide guidance on selecting the best surfacing materials for specific trail types, and other key factors. Each visual index also guides the reader to reference materials with more information.

**Surface Materials for Trails**

Trail projects from the previous Foundation Projects should include surfacing materials that provide guidance on selecting the best surfacing materials for specific trail types, and other key factors. Each visual index also guides the reader to reference materials with more information.

**Regulations & References**

Multi-use Trail Surfacing Options

- **Asphalt**
  - Cost: $$$
  - Permeability: Moderate
  - Maintenance: Low
  - Durability: High
  - Suitable for pedestrian and equestrian trails.
  - Compacted Soil
    - Cost: $$$
    - Permeability: Low-Medium
    - Maintenance: Low
    - Durability: Medium-High
    - Suitable for pedestrian and equestrian trails.
  - Unit Pavers
    - Cost: $$$
    - Permeability: Low-Medium
    - Maintenance: Low
    - Durability: High
    - Suitable for amenity sites.
  - Rubberized Surfacing
    - Cost: $$$
    - Permeability: Low
    - Maintenance: Low
    - Durability: High
    - Suitable for trails where safety is a priority.
  - Wood Chips
    - Cost: $$
    - Permeability: Low
    - Maintenance: High
    - Durability: Low
    - Suitable for trails in remote areas.
  - Wood Fiber Mats
    - Cost: $$
    - Permeability: Low
    - Maintenance: High
    - Durability: Low
    - Suitable for trails in remote areas.
  - Compacted Gravel
    - Cost: $$
    - Permeability: Low
    - Maintenance: Low
    - Durability: Medium
    - Suitable for low-traffic trails.
  - Permeable Surfaces
    - Cost: $$
    - Permeability: High
    - Maintenance: Low
    - Durability: Medium
    - Suitable for permeable option for amenity sites.

**Buffers for Trails**

Buffers are some of the most important elements to a greenway project. The guidelines provide an introduction to the types of buffers that are appropriate for greenway projects. The guidelines also include examples of buffer design planning for pedestrian, bicycling, and equestrian trails. It can also be part of a larger buffer, such as the buffer along a river or between different types of land use.

**Accessories**

- **Safety/Security Stations**
  - Cost: $$$
  - Permeability: Low
  - Maintenance: Low
  - Durability: Low
  - Suitable for high-traffic trails.
  - Aluminum Bike Racks
    - Cost: $$
    - Permeability: Low
    - Maintenance: Low
    - Durability: High
    - Suitable for bike-friendly trails.
  - Barriers/safety/privacy
    - Cost: $$
    - Permeability: Low
    - Maintenance: Low
    - Durability: High
    - Suitable for trails where safety is a priority.

**Trail Crossings**

- **RAILS WITH TRAILS // CROSSING**
  - Cost: $$
  - Permeability: Low
  - Maintenance: Low
  - Durability: High
  - Suitable for pedestrian and equestrian trails.
  - SUITABLE TRAIL MATERIALS
    - Cost: $$
    - Permeability: Low
    - Maintenance: Low
    - Durability: High
    - Suitable for pedestrian and equestrian trails.
  - TRAIL CROSSING A RAILROAD TRACK
    - Cost: $$
    - Permeability: Low
    - Maintenance: Low
    - Durability: High
    - Suitable for pedestrian and equestrian trails.
  - TRAIL CROSSING A ROAD
    - Cost: $$
    - Permeability: Low
    - Maintenance: Low
    - Durability: High
    - Suitable for pedestrian and equestrian trails.
  - TRAIL CROSSING A RAILROAD TRACK
    - Cost: $$
    - Permeability: Low
    - Maintenance: Low
    - Durability: High
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