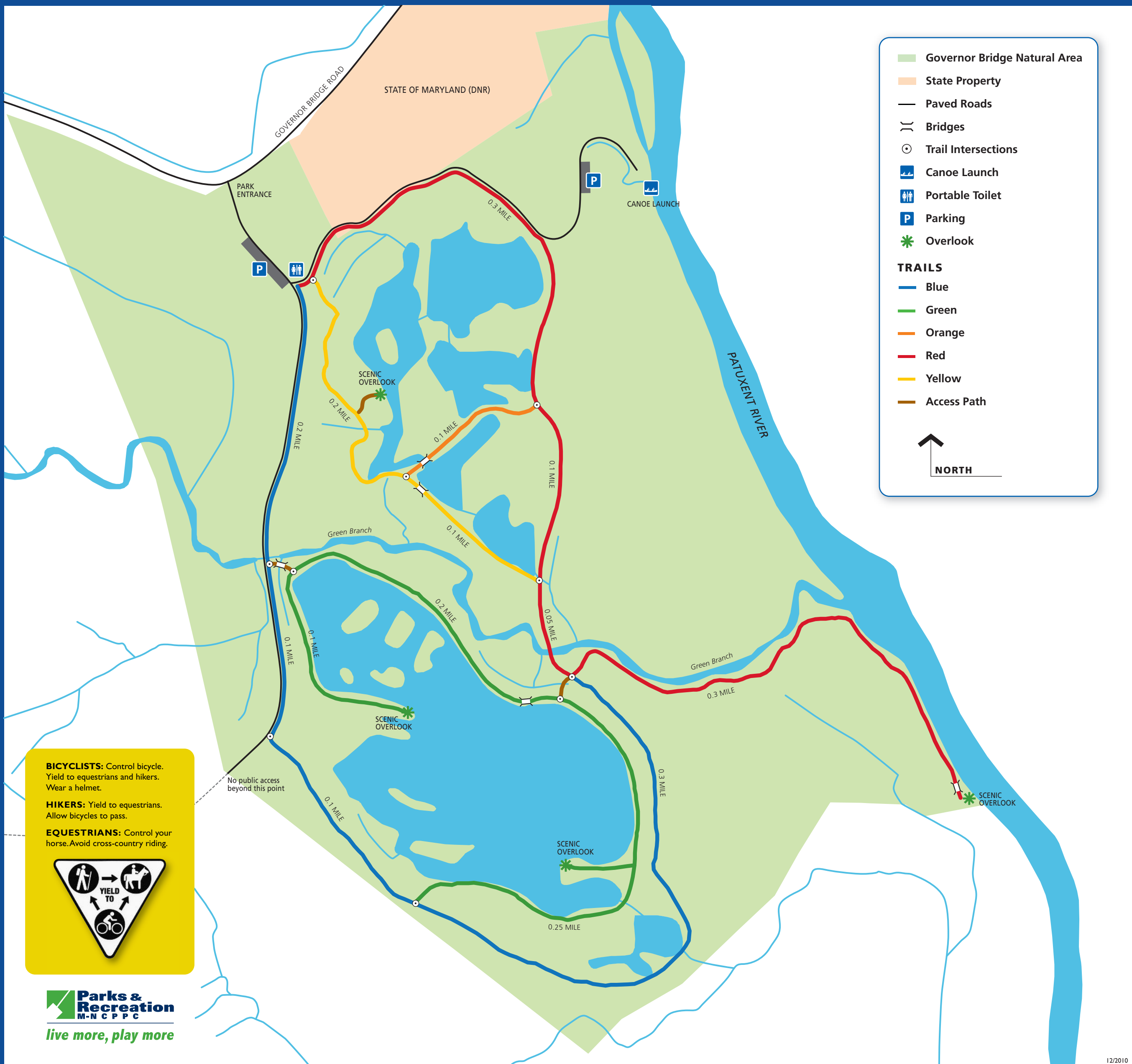


Patuxent River Park / Governor Bridge Natural Area



12/2010

T I P S F O R T R A I L S A F E T Y

SMART TRAIL USE includes adherence to some basic safety practices. Trails are shared recreation amenities and are accessed by a variety of users at the same time. Please be courteous to all users, and remember that pedestrians have the right-of-way. All trail users should stay to the right on the trail.

- Always follow posted regulations.
- Do not litter. Place trash in receptacles.
- Bicyclists should pull off the trail when stopping to avoid a potential accident.
- Bicyclists approaching pedestrians should make an advanced noise using voice, bell, or horn to avoid startling walkers.

- Carry a cell phone.
- Bicyclists should always wear helmets and ride at speeds that do not exceed 12 miles per hour.
- Horses should be kept on the grass shoulder, when possible.
- With the exception of motorized wheelchairs, motorized vehicles are not allowed on the trails.
- Pets should be kept on a short leash and people must clean up after their pets.
- Be sure to carry identification (which includes name, phone number, and pertinent medical information), and record your bicycle serial number.

- Never wear headsets.
- Wear reflective material and carry a whistle or noisemaker.
- Prior to using trails, familiarize yourself with the trail and plan your route.
- Tell friends or family the route you'll be taking and travel with a partner when possible.
- Avoid unfamiliar areas when on the trails alone.
- Stay alert, be observant about your surroundings and avoid areas where visibility is poor.
- Use discretion when acknowledging strangers, and follow your intuition about unfamiliar people and areas.

- When on roadways, remember to ride with traffic but walk and run against traffic.
- Carry tools for minor repairs, if possible. Have supplies to change a flat tire when biking.
- Trails are available for use from sunrise to sunset each day.

Park Police: 301-459-3232
TTY 301-459-3051