CITY OF GAHANNA

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

GAHANNA BIKE ROUTES

Gahanna bike routes utilize existing multi-use trails and low-speed, low-traffic streets to connect neighborhoods to schools, parks and commercial areas. The wayfinding signage utilizes federal guidelines for on-street route signs and Central Ohio Greenways guidelines for the Big Walnut Creek trail signs. Parent should be advised that some of the on-street routes may not be appropriate for young children to travel alone.

BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The bicycle advisory committee is composed of resident volunteers who advise the city on bikeway planning. The committee has been involved in planning for the Big Walnut Creek Trail and the on-street route system and also is involved in the Safe Routes to School program which encourages school children to walk and bike to school. The committee meets bi-monthly and meetings are open to the public.
www.sites.google.com/site/gahannabac

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Welcome to Gahanna and we hope you will enjoy the many scenic areas of our community that you can explore by bicycle. We encourage our residents to be attentive while driving and to share the road with cyclists and pedestrians to keep our community safe.

Becky Stinchcomb

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency 911
Gahanna Police 342-4240
Mifflin Township Fire Department 471-0542
Franklin County Sheriff 462-3333
Gahanna Streets & Utilities 342-4425
Gahanna Parks & Recreation 342-4260
Gahanna website www.gahanna.gov
Maintenance requests www.gahanna.gov/faqs.aspx
(under Parks & Recreation or Streets)

TRAIL RULES

- Abide by all signage.
- Yield to cross traffic at intersections.
- Keep right except to pass.
- Announce passing.
- Avoid blocking trail. Move off trail when stopped.
- Respect others and private property.
- Pets must be leashed. Obey scoop law.
- Unauthorized motorized vehicles prohibited.
- Users shall observe a fifteen (15) mile per hour speed limit on all Gahanna trails.

ABC Quick Check

A is for Air

- Inflate tires to rated pressure as listed on the sidewall of the tire
- Use a pressure gauge to ensure proper pressure
- Check for damage to tire tread and sidewall; replace if damaged

B is for Brakes

- Inspect pads for wear; replace if there is less than an 1/8" of pad left
- Check pad adjustment; make sure they do not rub tire or dive into spokes
- Check brake lever travel; at least 1" between bar and lever when applied

C is for Cranks, Chain & Cassette

- Make sure that your crank bolts are tight
- Check your chain for wear; 12 links should measure no more than 12 1/8"
- If your chain skips on your cassette, you might need an adjustment or a new chain

Q is for Quick releases

- Hubs need to be tight in the frame; your quick release should engage at 90 degrees
- Your hub quick release should point back to ensure nothing catches on it
- Inspect brake quick releases to ensure that they have been engaged

Check is for Check over

- Take a quick ride to check if derailleurs and brakes are working properly
- Inspect the bike for loose or broken parts; tighten, replace or fix them
- Pay extra attention to your bike during the first few miles of the ride

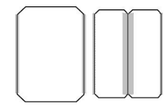
RULES FOR SAFE CYCLING

Wear a Helmet Correctly and avoid earphones

Helmets are not required by law in Ohio, but some municipalities in central Ohio require helmets for children. Everyone should wear a helmet and glasses to prevent head and eye injury. Your helmet should be level and snug. Do not wear earphones when cycling.

Traffic signals are for bicyclists too
Ride with traffic on the right side of the street. Obey all traffic signs and signals. Stop behind the stop line, so pedestrians can cross safely in the crosswalk.

Position bicycle to trigger signal detector

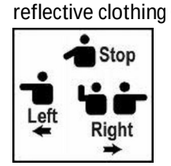


Many signal lights are triggered by wire loop detectors buried in the pavement. Position bicycle near inside edge of single loop or along center line of double loop ("sweet spots") to trigger signal lights.

Avoid the right hook
Avoid passing any moving or stopped vehicles on the right. Merge into line of cars waiting for stop signs or stop lights. Watch for right turning vehicles when traveling straight through an intersection.

Don't be invisible!

Ohio law requires a white headlight and red tail light visible from at least 500 ft when riding at night or low visibility weather. Side reflectors, pedal reflectors and bright, reflective clothing will also enhance safety.



Look and signal before turning
Always look behind you to see if it is clear before turning or changing lanes.

Left turns

Turn left as a vehicle by merging into the left turn lane or left side of single lane. Or, in heavy traffic, stay right and cross to opposite corner, turn bike left and cross again.

Watch for Potential Hazards
Ride at least 4 feet away from parked cars, even if there is a bike lane, or traffic trying to pass you. Watch for potholes, debris and storm grates.

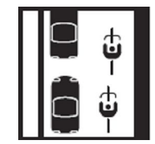
Yield to pedestrians

Stop for all pedestrians in crosswalks. Do not pass other vehicles stopped at crosswalks—there might be a pedestrian you can't see coming from the other side.

Don't swerve
Ride in a straight, predictable line. Car drivers may not be able to avoid hitting you if you suddenly move into their path.

Control the lane when necessary

If a lane is too narrow for sharing with a car, move into the center of the lane. Motorists may act impatient, but they aren't likely to pass unsafely.



Ride single file in Traffic
Cyclists may ride two abreast, but should ride single file when the lane is wide enough to allow traffic to safely pass. Notify other cyclists of overtaking cars by announcing "Car back".

Pass buses on left

Buses pull to the right to drop off passengers, so always pass on the left, or wait behind the bus until it starts moving again. Stop for school buses loading and unloading children.

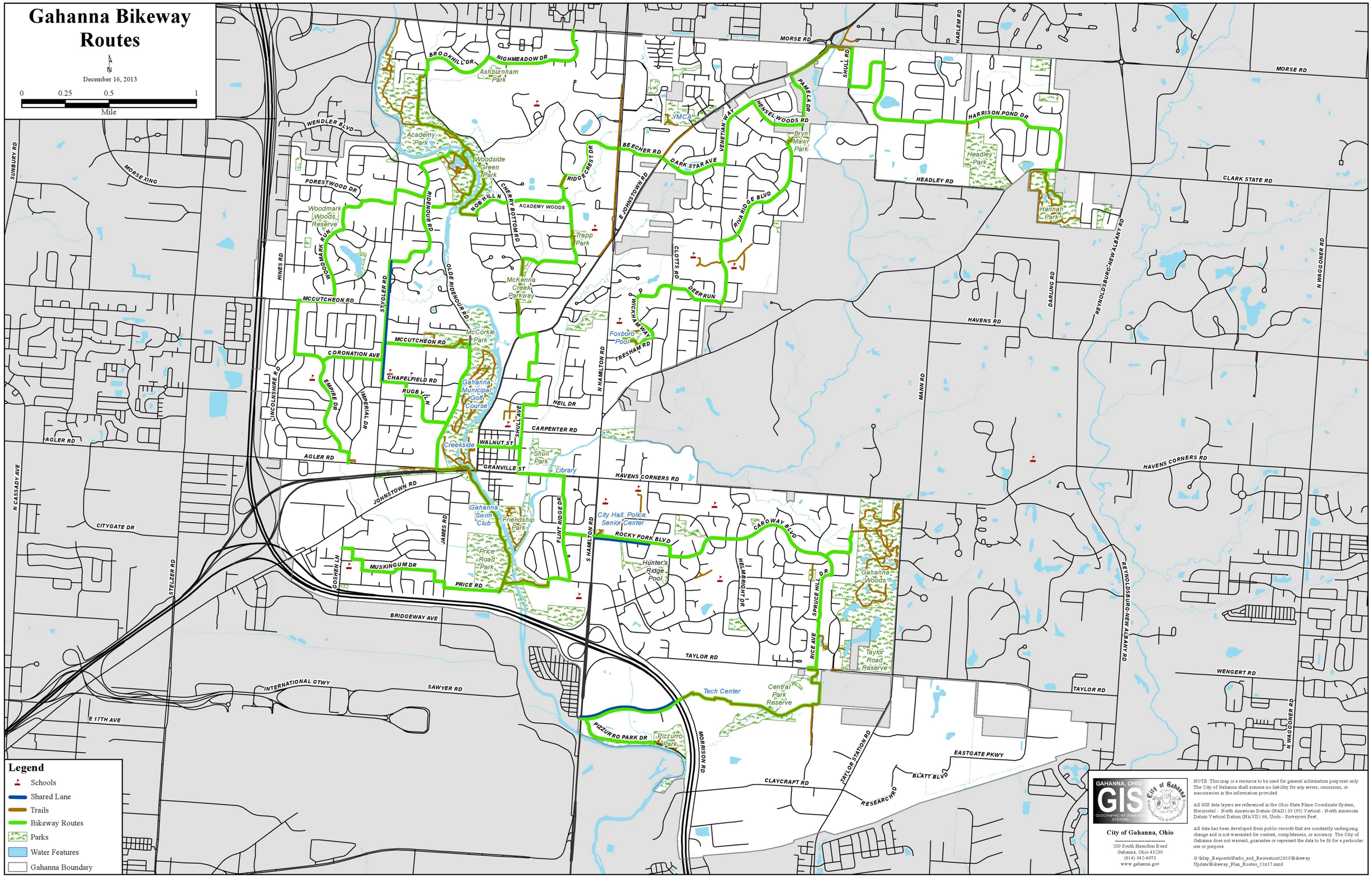
Sidewalks are for walking
In Gahanna, bicycle riding on sidewalks is prohibited in business districts, but residential sidewalks are OK to ride on at a slow pace. Yield to pedestrians on paths and sidewalks and announce your presence with a bell or friendly "Passing on your left".

Minimum Age for Riding on Gahanna Streets

Children under age 6 are not permitted to ride on 25 mph streets. Children under age 8 are not permitted to ride on 35 mph streets. Parents or guardians are responsible for their children.

See Gahanna bicycle laws at
www.conwaygreene.com/gahanna.htm
See Ohio bicycle laws at
www.ohiobike.org/bicycle-law-digest.html

Gahanna Bikeway Routes

December 16, 2013

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