trail rules

1. A current user pass is encouraged for all trail users age 12-64. Funds from user passes help maintain and develop the trail. Annual and Daily Passes can be purchased at the Drop Boxes located at several access points along the trail. Annual Passes can also be purchased online and at designated information centers listed inside. Daily Pass: $1.00, Annual Pass: $12.00.

2. Courtesy. The Wabash Trace is a multi-use recreational trail. Bike riders, please control your speed, ride on the right, pass on the left, give warning of your approach with a friendly greeting or bell. Cyclists should yield the right of way to pedestrians. In the section where horses are allowed on the parallel trail, all should yield to horses on bridges until the animal is off the bridge.

3. Leave No Marks. This trail's crushed limestone surface is vulnerable to damage during Iowa's seasonal freeze/thaw cycles. Please avoid using the trail if you can see impressions in the surface. Do not disturb livestock, wildlife, native plants, trees and wildlife habitat. Carry out all trash.

4. Stay On Trails. Respect trail and road closures, as well as private property adjacent to the trail. Exercise caution when crossing roads and highways.

5. NO Unauthorized Motor Vehicles are allowed on any portion of the trail. This includes ATVs, snowmobiles and motorcycles.

6. Horseback Riding. An off-road trail for mt. bikes and equestrians runs parallel to the main trail in the section between Council Bluffs and Dunmire. Horses are allowed only on the off-route trail and at the discretion of SWINT.

7. Hunting, trapping, weapons, open fires and unleashed animals are not allowed.

8. Camping is not allowed on the trail itself. Camping areas near the trail are listed in another part of this brochure.

Trails History

Since 1988, two non-profit organizations (Southwest Iowa Nature Trails Project, Inc. and Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation) along with countless volunteers have worked to preserve, enhance and maintain the Wabash Trace Nature Trail for public use and enjoyment.

The Wabash Trace Nature Trail is a converted railroad right-of-way running 63 miles through scenic Iowa countryside. The corridor was installed in 1878 as part of the former rail line that is now the Wabash Trace. The Wabash Trace History Trail is a 3-mile self-guided trail which are now home to thriving downtown businesses supported by the trail. Many trail towns still found along the way, while others have been replaced. Trailside museums and historic markers are common, the unusual depth and extent of this formation are most prominent only here and in northern China.

You will travel through the picturesque Loess Hills, which run along the western edge of Iowa. The uncommon loess soils are windblown loess (pronounced “luss”), a fine and fertile soil, which built up over the years to heights of 200-300 feet. While loess soils are dwindled and disappeared, unable to withstand development, many visitors use either the Iowa West Trailhead Park in Council Bluffs (on the Loess Hills National Scenic Byway) or the Shenandoah Depot, located in Shenandoah, has been saved and was recently converted into a bunkhouse that is now a museum. The new depot features a variety of Historic Places and is located along the trail.

The Wabash Trace Nature Trail started in 1988 as part of the Iowa West Trailhead Park in Council Bluffs (on the Loess Hills National Scenic Byway) or the Shenandoah Depot, located in Shenandoah, has been saved and was recently converted into a bunkhouse that is now a museum. The new depot features a variety of Historic Places and is located along the trail.

Trail Guide

Southwest Iowa Nature Trails, Inc. (SWINT) is a private non-profit organization comprised of volunteers who are committed to recreational trail development. SWINT members organize all official activities on the Wabash Trace. They work closely with the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation and public partners to assure the continued existence of this great recreational resource.

Here’s what we do: trail maintenance, sign placement, special events planning, Adopt-a-Bridge/Bench/Mile, general fundraising, public relations, promotions, user pass sales & more. To join SWINT, volunteer, or schedule events on the trail, call any of the following Board members:

- Greg Losh (Council Bluffs) 712-326-8207
- Rebecca Castle (Imogene) 515-210-0269
- Bill Hillman (Shenandoah) 712-246-9589

Annual membership dues to SWINT include a $12 Trail Pass. Annual fees are $25 for Contributors, $50 for Supporters, $100 for Sustainers. Donations of any size are gratefully accepted. Donating your time to work on the trail is one of the best ways to help. The Wabash Trace depends on the efforts of the private citizens who built, maintain, and manage the trail.

Brochure publication made possible by:

Wabash Trace
SWINT
P.O. Box 581
Shenandoah, IA 51610

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**Mileage Between Towns Along The Wabash Trace**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mile Post #</th>
<th>Town to Town</th>
<th>Distance (mi.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>407.0</td>
<td>CB Trailhead to Mineola</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>397.4</td>
<td>Mineola to Silver City</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>393.1</td>
<td>Silver City to Malvern</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>385.3</td>
<td>Malvern to Imogene</td>
<td>13.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>371.5</td>
<td>Imogene to Shenandoah</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>362.6</td>
<td>Shenandoah to IKES</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>357.6</td>
<td>IKES to Coin</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>350.1</td>
<td>Coin to Blanchard</td>
<td>5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>344.7</td>
<td>Total Trail Distance</td>
<td>62.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Mileage is based on the Wabash Railroad timetable. The original trip by train from Blanchard to Council Bluffs took 2 hours 49 minutes.*

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**Trailheads:**

- **Council Bluffs & Mineola**
- **Silver City & Malvern**
- **Imogene & Shenandoah**
- **Coin & Blanchard**

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**WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT**

**Thank You & Enjoy The Trail**

[www.wabashtrace.org](http://www.wabashtrace.org)