

THE OFFICIAL GUIDE

Accessibility and Universal Design



Park Etiquette

To protect sensitive ecosystems, please:

- stay on designated trails
- keep pets on the trail and under control
- pick up your dog's droppings
- carry out litter

The following are prohibited:

- alcohol
- camping and open fires
- removal or disturbance of plants and animals

Help protect your regional parks and trails.

What's Happening at CRD Parks?

Find out more about your regional parks and trails on the CRD Parks web site: www.crd.bc.ca/parks.

Accessibility and Universal Design in Regional Parks and Trails

CRD Parks is committed to ensuring that all visitors are able to experience the natural environment of regional parks and trails. **Accessibility** enables a person with a disability to make use of an area and its facilities without assistance. **Universal design** means taking into consideration the needs of as many people as possible, and incorporating those needs into facilities and services. While the focus of access projects is to enable people with disabilities to more fully experience regional parks and trails, the result is safer and more welcoming parkland for all visitors.

Guiding Principles

CRD Parks has adopted these guiding principles on accessibility and universal design:

- Provide opportunities for accessible outdoor experiences that promote a sense of dignity and independence for visitors.
- Promote universal design in representative natural landscapes throughout the regional parks and trails system.
- Acknowledge accessibility and universal design as a primary consideration in any new development or retrofitting project in regional parks and trails.

Universal Access Plan

In 2003, CRD Parks developed “**Everyone’s Parks and Trails: A Universal Access Plan.**” The plan provides an integrated approach to making regional parks and trails more accessible for all visitors.

The Universal Access Plan is available in PDF format on the CRD Parks web site at www.crd.bc.ca/parks.

Accessible Areas in Your Regional Parks and Trails

East Sooke Regional Park

Aylard Farm Picnic Area

Enjoy west coast wilderness scenery from a picnic shelter overlooking a sandy beach. The accessible trail connects the parking lot with the shelter and toilet facilities. A trail with a steeper grade provides access to the beach.

Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park

Beaver Beach

This popular swimming area features an accessible parking area, paved trails and accessible toilets.

Brookleigh Road Boat Launch

The boat launch provides visitors of all abilities with easy and safe access to their boats. The toilet facility is also accessible.

Elk Lake Float

Cast your line from this accessible ramp and fishing float. The parking area and toilet facility are also accessible.



Hamsterly Beach

The playground at Hamsterly Beach enables children in wheelchairs to move up a ramp into the centre of the playground structure to enjoy some of its options. Other accessible features include a drinking fountain, toilets and picnic tables.

10K Trail

The trail is mostly flat and level, with some narrow and uneven sections on the east side of Elk Lake.

Francis/King Regional Park

Elsie King Interpretive Trail

The Elsie King Trail offers a unique self-guiding interpretive experience through a forest environment. The trail is wide enough for visitors in wheelchairs or scooters to travel side by side. Most of the trail surface is hard-packed gravel, with boardwalk sections in areas of environmental sensitivity. Changes in trail surface material provide tactile information for visitors with visual impairments, letting them know when they are approaching rest areas. The Nature Centre and toilet facility are also accessible.



Galloping Goose and Lochside Regional Trails

These connected regional trails are mainly wide and level. Pavement in urban sections gives way to hard-packed gravel in rural areas.

Island View Beach Regional Park

Enjoy a group picnic shelter with ocean views and accessible toilet facilities.

