

# GLOSSARY

## Trail Types and Definitions

Depending on the season, a Trail section can be classified under more than one definition (e.g. a Trail used for cycling in the summer and snowmobiling in the winter). Other or more detailed Trail types and definitions may be used by local Trail groups, organizations and provincial/territorial associations. Trans Canada Trail uses the most common terminology in use across the country.

### MAJOR CATEGORY: TRAILS AND PATHS

#### PRIMARY TYPE: GREENWAYS

SUBTYPE	DEFINITION
	A non-motorized path or a trail physically separated from motorized traffic by an open space or barrier that is either within the road right-of-way or within an independent right-of-way. Those trails are used by a diverse set of users representing different travel modes, using different types of equipment and travelling at different speeds.
	Multi-use trails may also be referred to as multi-use paths (MUP), non-motorized shared-use trails, bike paths, bike lanes or hiker/biker trails, footpath.
	Multi-use trails can be used by pedestrians, cyclists and other non-motorized users. In some areas, multi-use trails are designed and managed to accommodate equestrians, cross-country skiers, mountain bikers and other specialized recreational activities. Those trails serve a wide variety of purposes including commuting, exercising, observing nature, and seeking recreation and enjoyment of the outdoors; people of all ages and abilities use multi-use trails.
Multi-use (non-motorized)	During winter, certain sections of greenways on The Trans Canada Trail are use by snowmobiles.
	Multi-use trails do not allow motorized vehicles, however, there are important exceptions to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access for emergency vehicles, police and maintenance vehicles</li> <li>• Use of electric wheelchairs or other mobility devices (e.g.: Cowichan Valley Trail, BC)</li> </ul> <p><b>Trans Canada Trail position on E-Bike/E-device:</b>  <i>Trans Canada Trail wants to maximize greenway and does not believe the definition of "motorized vehicles" should be so broadly construed as to automatically prohibit the use of bicycles or other devices equipped with electronic assistance. Decisions as to which classes of e-device should be permitted on the Trail are best made by provincial/territorial and local organizations, since Trail conditions, facilities and uses vary. Central considerations should be: user's safety, user's experience, and the compatibility of Trail uses—including e- devices—to ensure that user expectations are met.</i></p>
Undesignated	Considered and registered as greenway by Trans Canada Trail, these Trail sections are often located on Crown land, and are often managed by a provincial/territorial department. They are undesignated because there are no provincial/territorial regulations or local restrictions associated with trail usage, allowing any type of non-motorized and motorized usage without any restrictions (with the possible exception of on-road vehicles).  (e.g.: Kettle Valley Rail Trail, BC)
Expedition Route	Trail sections that are typically in remote areas with minimal signage and facilities, and limited access to emergency assistance. Use of these Trail sections implies a certain level of risk and danger; and should only be attempted by those who are trained and prepared for extreme conditions.  (e.g.: Itijjagiq Trail, NU)

#### PRIMARY TYPE: MIXED-USE TRAIL

SUBTYPE	DEFINITION
Designated / Official	When a combination of non-motorized use (single or multi-use), and motorized use is permitted on the same Trail. Permissions respect community decisions, local bylaws and provincial/territorial regulations in place.  (e.g.: Short Line Railroad Trail, NS)

### MAJOR CATEGORY: WATER

#### PRIMARY TYPE: WATER ROUTES

SUBTYPE	DEFINITION
Paddling Trail	Also referred to as blueways, marked routes on navigable waterways such as rivers, lakes, canals and coastlines, for people using small non-motorized boats such as kayaks, canoes, paddleboards or rowboats.  These routes may require portaging between bodies of water. Some sections of paddling trails may also be used by motorized boats.  (e.g.: Path of the Paddle, ON)
Expedition Route	Specific water routes that involve an element of danger and risk, provide minimal to no signage or facilities, and limited access to emergency services. People attempting these expedition routes should be trained and prepared for extreme conditions.  (e.g.: Mackenzie River Trail, NWT)
Ferry	Land connection by ferry.  (e.g. Traverse Rivière-du-Loup— Saint-Siméon, QC)

### MAJOR CATEGORY: ROADS

#### PRIMARY TYPE: ROADWAYS

SUBTYPE	DEFINITION
Shared	A roadway that can serve pedestrians, cyclists and motor vehicle traffic in the same slow-speed travel area. In urban areas, when necessary, markings identify proper positioning within the roadway to alert all users to the presence of non-motorized users. In rural areas, gravel roads are considered shared roadway when traffic volume is low. This category also includes forestroads.  (e.g.: Northern Trails of Saskatchewan, SK)
Shoulder	Shoulders on the edge of roadways (preferably paved) that serve as functional spaces for cyclists and pedestrians to travel in the absence of other facilities with more separation. Motorists may only enter the shoulder in case of emergency.  (e.g.: Voyageur Cycling Route, ON)
Sidewalk and Walkway	Sidewalks and walkways provide a dedicated space for pedestrians. Sidewalks are comfortable, accessible to all and are physically separated from the roadway by a curb or unpaved buffer. This also includes alleys, pedestrian streets and plazas.  (e.g. David Foster Pathway, BC)
Connector	A route with high volume, high-speed motor vehicle traffic where motorized users are prioritized. Trans Canada Trail recommends travelling on these sections using extreme caution, only during daylight hours and under appropriate weather conditions. Users should use or investigate alternate routes to connect from these points.  (e.g. Navette halte sentier des Pointes à Saint-Urbain à La Traversée de Charlevoix, QC)