

George Snyder Scout, March 26 & 29, 2020

Observations while walking from the downstream starting point of proposed trail route at Draper Drive and Fairfax Boulevard to upstream end at Chain Bridge Road.

Wilcoxon Trail to Fairfax Boulevard bridge over Accotink Creek

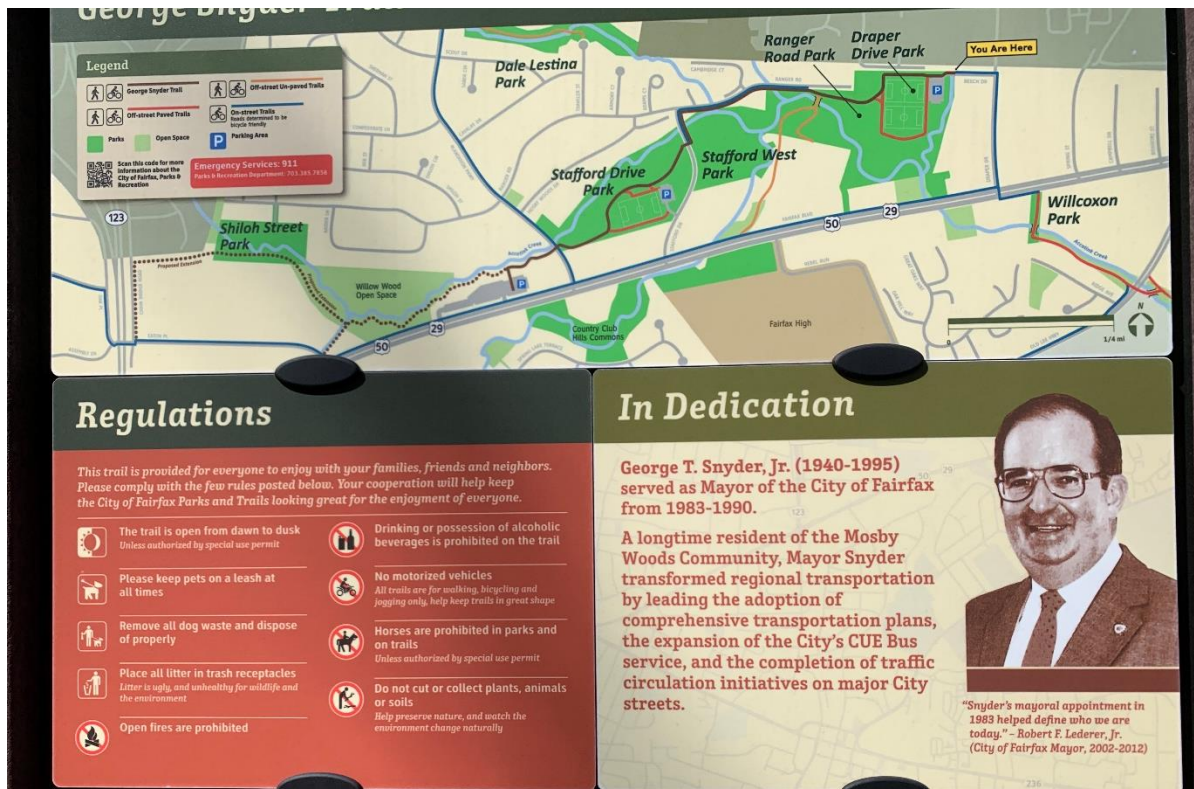
No crosswalk on east side of Draper Drive intersection

Discontinuous sidewalk along west side of Draper Drive

A map sign marks The George Snyder Trail trailhead in Draper Drive Park.

The plan puts the trail on the Fairfax Boulevard sidewalk from Wilcoxon to the bridge.

- Westside option (shown on City website)
 - Mowed area just west of bridge is wet. (And why bother to mow here, anyway?)
 - Mowed area just west of bridge almost connects with cleared sanitary sewer route.
- Eastside option (more likely,, shown on 30% plan)
 - Available corridor is very narrow between the stream and Capitol Glass parking area.
 - The trail would be right on the bank unless private parking area is taken.
 - There is much exotic Amur honeysuckle here.
 - After crossing the Draper Drive tributary, the ground is very wet.
 - The proposed trail route connects with the cleared sanitary sewer route.
 - The sanitary sewer lane is very wet, enduring puddles and pools.
 - The proposed trail route joins the existing gravel trail in Ranger Road Park



Trail map sign in Draper Drive Park

Bridge to Ranger Road Park Trail

Very narrow corridor available between stream and Town & County Animal Hospital

Lack of leaf litter here indicates frequent flooding

Failed stream restorations along the stream indicate a better objective for the funds.

Side channel needs a bridge, not a culvert

Outfall behind racquet club is a gully.

Narrow corridor available between stream and racquet club.

Outfall behind racquet club is collapsed

Patch of wetland is behind the racquet club

A natural surface path descends the hill from racquet club building to the floodplain, then continues to the playground.

A maintained gravel path from the racquet club to the playground is shown as “existing trail” on plans.

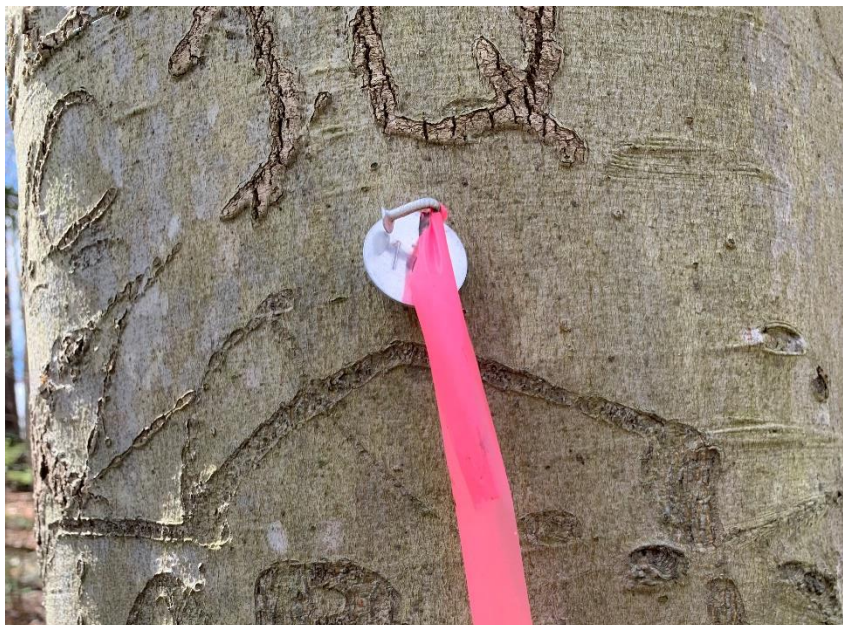
Trees marked by silver disks extend all along the proposed route of the trail, indicating they are in the danger zone.

Exotic Japanese knotweed is extensive. It could be targeted.

Exotic Lesser celandine forms continuous carpets. It could be targeted.



Collapsed outfall behind racquet club



Larger trees are numbered and marked to either remain or be removed

Ranger Road Park to Stafford West Park

The available corridor is wider here, but is all on the hillside.

A natural surface path begins alongside the stream, then climbs higher up the slope, including a loop to the top of the slope.

The natural surface path crosses Stafford Drive with no crosswalk, but with signage labeling it part of the George Snyder Trail.

Stafford Drive is labeled part of the “existing trail” on maps and plans.

The natural surface path goes up the slope to Stafford West Park parking area and also continues along the ridge to join the gravel loop trail from Stafford West Park playing field area.

Smaller natural surface paths lead down to the stream here.

Some areas along the stream seem worn down by foot traffic.



Trail marker at Stafford Drive crossing

Stafford West Park to Eaton Place

The gravel loop trail joins the paved trail from the playing field area.

The paved trail is bordered by manicured lawn and specimen trees.

The paved trail crosses Plantation Parkway with a crosswalk.

The paved trail continues, hugging the back of the “Boulevard Marketplace at Fairfax” retail area, bordered by mown areas.

An outfall behind the retail area looks like a half-hearted attempt at a stormwater control feature.

The paved trail terminates in the retail parking area, marked by a George Snyder Trail map sign.

The map sign shows the proposed trail in the woods behind the retail area, but online plans show the trail going along Fairfax Boulevard.

The possible route through the woods is on a slope in a wilderness of exotic Amur honeysuckle and Miller Lite cans. Amur honeysuckle could be targeted.

The possible route along Fairfax Boulevard continues to behind the parking lots on Eaton Place.

There is little space between Fairfax Boulevard and the stream, filled with exotic Amur honeysuckle.

Stream restorations seem to be holding along this stretch of the North Fork.

George Snyder Trail

Parks & Recreation
City of Fairfax

Legend

- George Snyder Trail
- Off-street Un-paved Trails
- Off-street Paved Trails
- Overstreet Trails
- Parks
- Open Space
- Parking Area

Scan this code for more information about the City of Fairfax, Parks & Recreation

Emergency Services: 911
Parks & Recreation Department: 703.441.7433

Regulations

This trail is provided for everyone to enjoy with your families, friends and neighbors. Please comply with the few rules posted below. Your cooperation will help keep the City of Fairfax Parks and Trails looking great for the enjoyment of everyone.

- The trail is open from dawn to dusk
Unless authorized by special use permit
- Please keep pets on a leash at all times
- Remove all dog waste and dispose of properly
- Place all litter in trash receptacles
Litter is ugly, and unhealthy for wildlife and the environment
- Open fires are prohibited
- Drinking or possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited on the trail
- No motorized vehicles
All trails are for walking, jogging and joggling only, help keep trails in great shape
- Horses are prohibited in parks and on trails
Unless authorized by special use permit
- Do not cut or collect plants, animals or soils
Help preserve nature, and watch the environment change naturally.

In Dedication

George T. Snyder, Jr. (1940-1995) served as Mayor of the City of Fairfax from 1983-1990.

A longtime resident of the Mosby Woods Community, Mayor Snyder transformed regional transportation by leading the adoption of comprehensive transportation plans, the expansion of the City's CUE Bus service, and the completion of traffic circulation initiatives on major City streets.

"Snyder's mayoral appointment in 1983 helped define who we are today." - Robert F. Lederer, Jr. (City of Fairfax Mayor, 2002-2012)

Trail map sign at “Boulevard Marketplace at Fairfax”

Legend



George Snyder Trail



Off-street Un-paved Trails



Off-street Paved Trails



On-street Trails
Roads determined to be bicycle friendly



Parks



Open Space



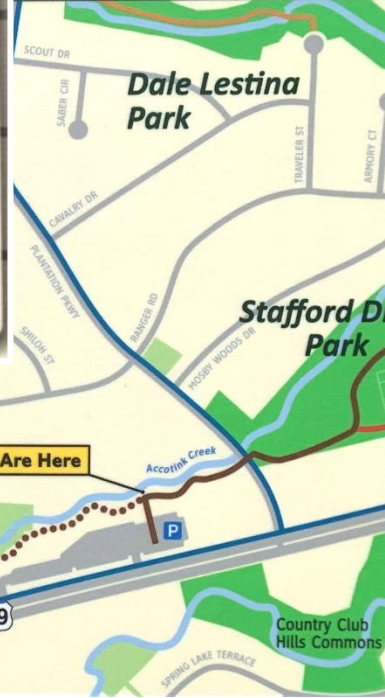
Parking Area



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Details from trail map sign at "Boulevard Marketplace at Fairfax"



Eaton Place to Chain Bridge Road

An informal natural surface path runs from the Intersection of Fairfax Boulevard and Eaton Place. The natural surface path crosses the North Fork and continues along the Mosby Woods tributary. The water of the North Fork is clear, but the Mosby Woods tributary is muddy, attributable to the I-66 construction upstream.

The corridor is somewhat adequate between the Eaton Place parking lots and the Mosby Woods tributary.

There is much exotic Amur honeysuckle here.

Wetland areas are indicated by Skunk cabbage stands.

The natural surface path branches to the park entrance at Shiloh Street.

There is little trace of the natural surface path beyond the branch to the park entrance.

It is hard to walk here for all the Trout lilies, a streamside species.

The small tributary channel here needs a bridge, not a culvert.

Wetlands indicated by Skunk cabbage stands extend from the parking lots to the Mosby Woods tributary.

There is an eroded channel from the parking area.

Informal natural surface paths resume from the west end of the office parking areas and lead into the Fairfax Village Apartments.

Informal natural surface paths also cross the Mosby Woods tributary to join informal paths along the sewer line on the opposite side.

Informal natural surface paths resume in the private lot north of the Moose Lodge.

The proposed trail route hugs the fence along the Moose Lodge.

Ranger Road to Apartments

The informal natural surface path connecting Ranger Road to the apartment complex is well used.

The same path also extends south across the Mosby Woods tributary and joins other paths to extend to parking lots on Eaton Place

The eastern branch of the Mosby Woods tributary is even more muddy, attributable to the I-66 construction



Muddy water from I-66 construction area meets clearer water from other areas