

TRAIL RULES

- *All litter must be disposed of properly.
- *Respect private property.
- *No camping is allowed on the trail.
- *Ground fires are prohibited on trail.
- *Bikes must stay on designated trail.
- *Unauthorized motorized vehicles are prohibited on trail.
- *Use caution when crossing roadways.
- *Bike riders must yield to hikers on the trail.
- *Leave no trace. Carry out at much as you carry in.
- *No horses allowed on trail.
- *No hunting allowed on trail.
- *Trail open during daylight hours only outside city limits of Ottawa, Garnett, & Iola.

Please check with the trail office for a complete list of rules and regulations.

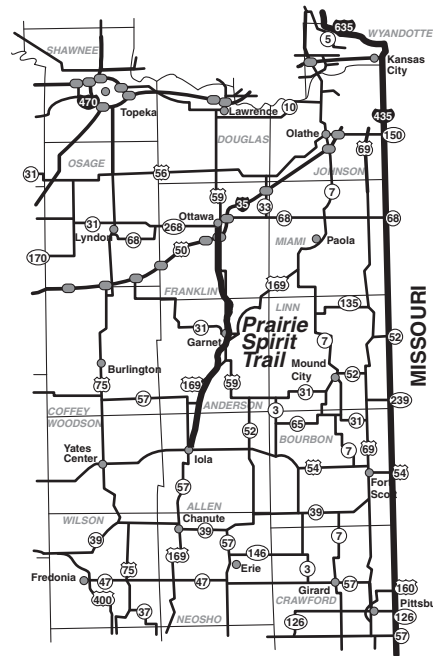
Ottawa Depot	Ottawa Kanza Park 13th St.	Ottawa Trailhead	Princeton Trailhead	Richmond Trailhead	Garnett - Lake Garnett PK	Garnett Depot	Garnett - Crystal Lake PK	Welda Trailhead	Colony Trailhead	Carlyle Trailhead	Iola Trailhead	PERMITS	Self Issue Permit Station
	X	X			X	X					X	LOGGING	Motel
			X	X		X						LOGGING	RV
					X							LOGGING	Tent
X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X		FOOD	Restuuant
X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X		FOOD	Store
X					X	X						FOOD	Building
		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	FOOD	Shelter
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	PICNIC	Table
		X			X	X	X					PICNIC	Grill
X			X	X	X							TOILET	Flush
		X				X	X	X	X			TOILET	Pit
			X	X	X					X		POTABLE WATER	Tap
		X	X	X			X	X				POTABLE WATER	Fountain
X					X							POTABLE WATER	Chilled Fountain

ENJOYING THE TRAIL

\$3.50 self-issue day permits are available at trailheads (shown on map with \$ symbol) for users 16 and older. Annual permits are available for \$12.15 where KDWP licenses and permits are sold, online, and from the following vendors:

On-line: kdwp.state.ks.us

- Franklin Co. Clerk, Courthouse, 315 S Main, Ottawa
- Orscheln Farm and Home, 2008 S Princeton, Ottawa
- Wal-Mart, 2101 Princeton Cir., Ottawa
- Country Mart, 2138 S Princeton Cir., Ottawa
- Anderson Co. Clerk, 100 E 4th Ave., Garnett
- Alco, 700 N Maple, Garnett
- Cedar Creek Outfitters, 317 S Maple, Garnett
- City of Colony, 339 Cherry St., Colony
- Orscheln Farm and Home, 1918 N State St., Iola
- Wal-Mart, 1918 N State St., Iola
- Allen County Clerk, 1 N Washington, Iola



General Area Map

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs described herein is available to all individuals without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, political affiliation, and military or veteran status. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to Office of the Secretary, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, 1020 S Kansas Ave., Topeka, KS 66612-1327. 05/09

Prairie Spirit Trail



Prairie Spirit Trail Office
130 E 9th St.,
Garnett, KS 66032
(785) 448-6767 (Area Office)
(785) 273-6740 (Regional Office)

e-mail:

PrairieSpiritRT@wp.state.ks.us
Department Website:
kdwp.state.ks.us

PRAIRIE SPIRIT

In 1858, the founders of the Leavenworth, Lawrence, and Fort Gibson (later Galveston) Railroad (LL&G) planned the first north-south rail line in Kansas from Leavenworth to Galveston, Texas. Investors and politicians hoped to move the economic base from Kansas City, Missouri, to Lawrence, bringing wealth and prestige to the state. Rail construction began in Lawrence in 1867, was operational to Ottawa in 1868, and arrived in Garnett in 1869, resulting in rapid growth for each of the towns. The line continued through Iola, Chanute and Coffeyville in 1871.

In the late 1870s, the LL&G went bankrupt. The line was purchased by the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad and began operating under their name in the early 1880s. The ATSF operated the line until the mid

1970s. In 1990, they sold to the Kansas City Terminal Railway Company (KCT). The same year the KCT filed for abandonment the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks filed for public use. Title was transferred to KDWP for development into a recreational rail-trail in 1992.

The 51-mile Prairie Spirit Trail was constructed between Ottawa and Iola in three phases. The 17-mile middle section, from Richmond through Garnett to Welda, was opened in 1996. The northern 16-mile section, from Ottawa through Princeton to Richmond, opened in 1998. The southern 18-mile section, from Welda through Colony to Iola, opened in 2008. Floods in summer 2007 washed away a span of the bridge over Pottawatomie Creek. Two and

one-half miles of the trail from Scipio Rd (2350 Rd) south to 2100 Road were closed for these repairs. The railbanked railroad corridor of the Kansas City Terminal Railway (KCT), formerly operated by ATSF, is now managed by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. The trail has a strong volunteer support base known as the Friends of the Prairie Spirit Trail.

The Friends hold monthly trail information meetings, sponsor trail events, and raise funds to provide amenities along the trail, such as benches, trash receptacles, picnic shelters, and tables. A monthly newsletter is mailed to members describing trail news and events, and new legislation that affects trails statewide.

INFORMATION

The trail is multi-use trail designed for non-motorized use. The trail surface is made of compacted crushed limestone screenings at least 8 feet wide to accommodate two-way foot or bicycle travel. Built within a historic rail corridor, the trail travels through three counties, providing visitors a variety of landscapes with excellent wildlife viewing opportunities. The trail has gentle grades and is ADA accessible.

The trail is open during daylight hours only, and a permit is required for those 16 years or older to travel on the trail outside the city limits of Ottawa, Garnett and Iola, or to use picnic, restroom, or parking areas located along the trail. Travel within the city limits of Ottawa, Garnett, and Iola does not require a permit, and visitors may use these sections of trail at night. Due to high-use, most of the trail within these communities has an asphalt surface to increase use options.

No unauthorized motorized vehicles may be operated on the trail or within the trail corridor, and horses may not be ridden on the trail. Hunting is prohibited within the trail corridor, and visitors are not allowed to have alcoholic beverages in their possession.

Parking areas, water fountains, restrooms, and picnic shelters are located 5-8 miles apart along the 51-mile trail. See mileage table and maps for locations. Restrooms and water are available from approximately April 15 to October 15, depending upon weather. The Garnett and Ottawa depots are open year-round with restrooms available.

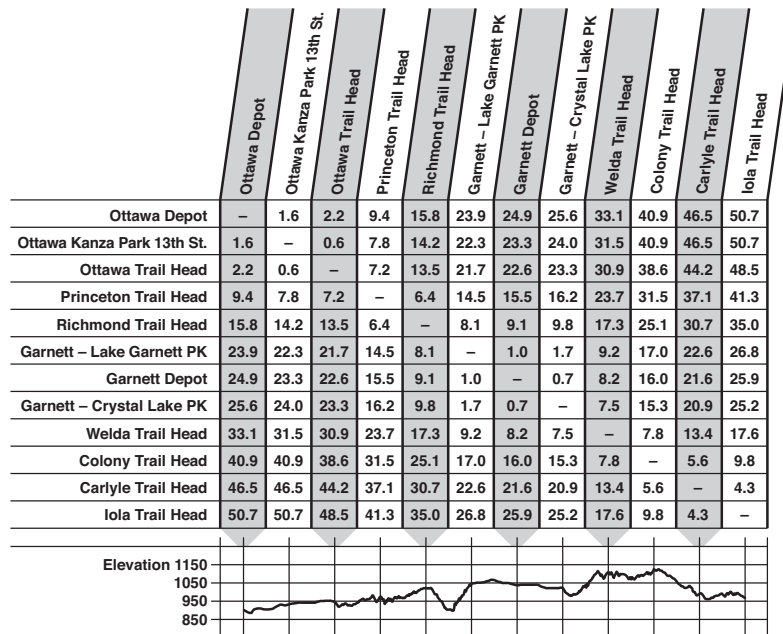
Visitors should be attentive to possible changing trail conditions or damage due to rain, wind, or other environmental conditions. Visitors should always stop at road crossings and be cautious of rough road crossings.

Common trail courtesies include staying to the right and passing on the left, gaining the attention of travelers before passing them from behind, and not passing trail maintenance equipment until you are motioned to do so. Cyclists and skaters are encouraged to wear helmets.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

Park lands are for everyone. Please familiarize yourself with regulations to ensure that all visitors have equal opportunity for a safe and enjoyable experience.


















You can help in developing, protecting, and maintaining the park's trails, facilities, and natural wonders by becoming a volunteer or a member of the friends group.



PRAIRIE SPIRIT TRAIL

Ottawa to Iowa

LEGEND

- Trail/Trailhead Hike-Bike 
- Private/City Property 
- Paved Roads 
- Gravel Roads 
- Parking Area 
- Self Issue Permits 
- Modern Toilet 
- Vault Toilet 
- Picnic Table 
- Picnic Shelter 
- Camping 
- Potable Water 
- Depot 
- Bench 
- Restaurant 
- Grocery 
- Lodging 
- Hospital 