



COOK'S TRAIL

Trail Guide



COOK'S TRAIL

Cook's Trail is a 4.1 mile natural surface trail that follows scenic Sandy Creek between Sandy Creek Nature Center and Sandy Creek Park. The trail passes through over 500 acres of protected land along Sandy Creek, and features extensive wetlands including oxbow lake, a 60+ acre beaver swamp, and a marsh at Noketchee Creek. The trail incorporates a series of boardwalks to allow visitors to have a close-up experience with the natural surroundings along Sandy Creek. A short spur trail (0.9 miles) circles the Oxbow Lake. The trail is named in honor of Dr. Walter L. Cook, Jr., who was integral to the construction of the trail. Cook's Trail is an in and out trail: the round trip distance, not including the oxbow loop, is 8.2 miles in and out.

TIPS FOR THE TRAIL

Parking lots are open sunrise to sunset. Persons remaining in the park or cars remaining in the parking lots after hours may be ticketed and towed according to ACCUG Ordinances.

GENERAL RULES

-  No alcohol
-  No smoking
-  Motor vehicles must remain on paved roads and must park only in designated parking spaces
-  Swimming is not allowed
-  Fishing is allowed only in designated areas
-  No amplified sound, except by permit

USER INFORMATION

Hours of Operation

- Cook's Trail and parking lots are open to the public between sunrise and sunset year-round. However, Sandy Creek Park is closed on Mondays, so Cook's trail is a one way in and out with no entry to the park on Mondays.

Restrooms

- Restroom facilities are located at the Sandy Creek Nature Center and Sandy Creek Park.

General Information

- Please report any trail or amenity damage (trees, blocked paths, vandalism, etc.) to the Park Services Division.
- Enjoy the wildlife! The Cook's Trail corridor is home to many species of birds, small mammals, and native plants.

CONTACT US

Athens-Clarke County
Leisure Services Department
Park Services Division
706.613.3801

www.athensclarkecounty.com/sandycreekpark
parkmaintenance@athensclarkecounty.com

TRAIL RULES

- Trails are for designated use only.
- Stay on official marked trails.
- Trail users must stop at all road crossings.
- Stay right except to pass, leaving enough room for people to pass in either direction.
- Announce yourself by saying "on your left" when passing from behind.

-  No plant removal
-  Dogs must be on a 6' leash and under control at all times.
-  Pick up after pet
-  Pick up after yourself
-  Bikes must remain on paved trails
-  Do not feed wildlife

Trail Map

LEGEND

-  Restrooms
-  Parking
-  Park Office
-  Cook's Trail
-  Multi-Use Greenway
-  Oxbow Loop
-  Lakeside Trail
-  Boardwalk

