

# TRAIL TYPOLOGIES



lowa.gov

Trails are a great asset to connect scenic greenways, communities, and natural amenities for runners, walkers, cyclists and skaters.



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Increasing **road shoulder** width, whether paved or granular surface, is an important component for bike safety. These paths are typically used for recreation or destination activities, and many races such as RAGBRAI have been increasing activity on highways and rural roads.



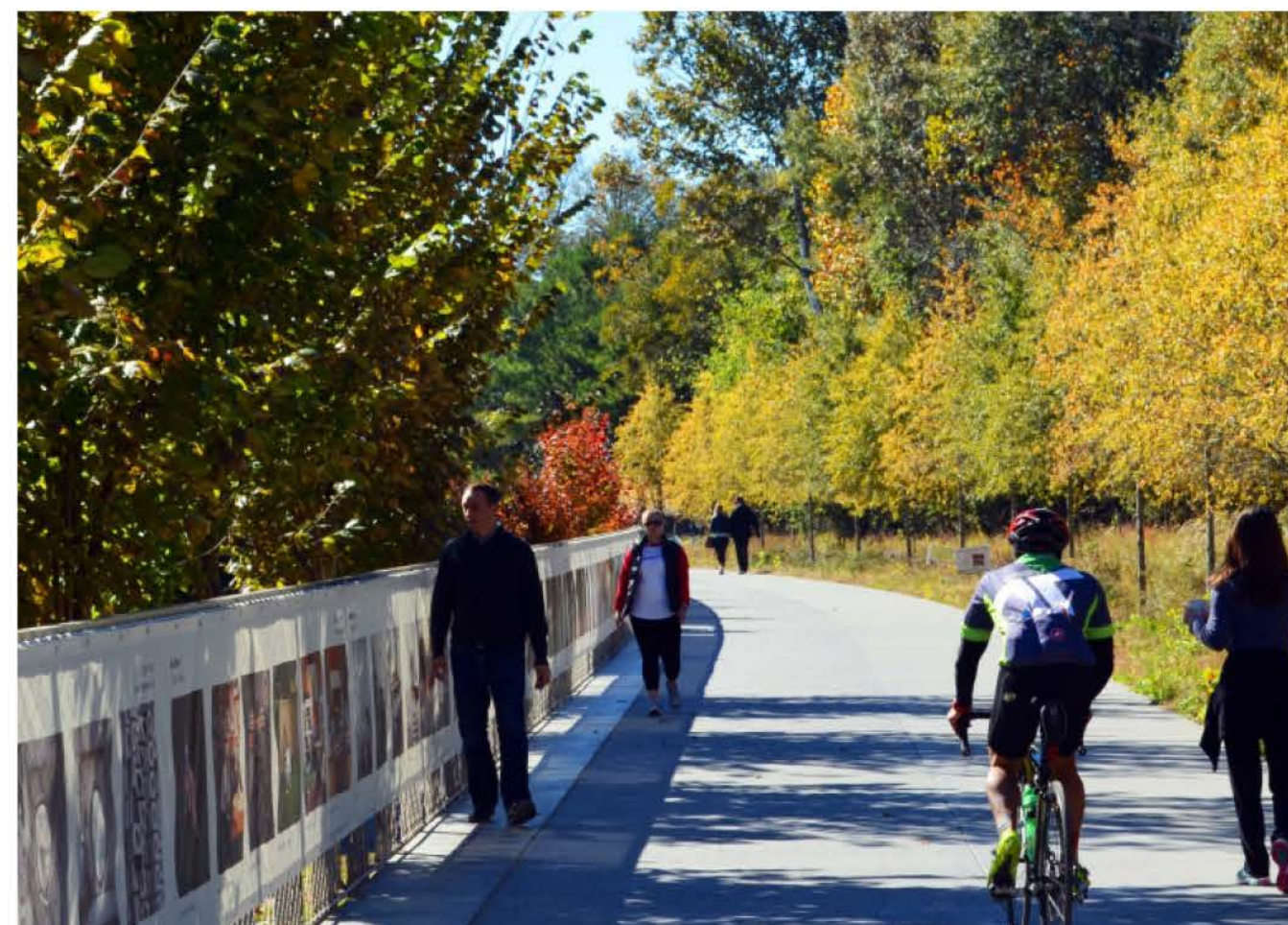
georgian-traveling

**Rails to Trails** works on creating a network of trails from former rail lines as connecting corridors. This is a potential resource looking at trail opportunities to link creative, historic, trail systems developed from our existing rail infrastructure.



citytrekby.com

**Sharrows** provide roads where motorized vehicles and bikes are given equal importance on the roadway. Markings on the pavement alert drivers that bikes may be present and let cyclists know that the road is a designated cycle route.



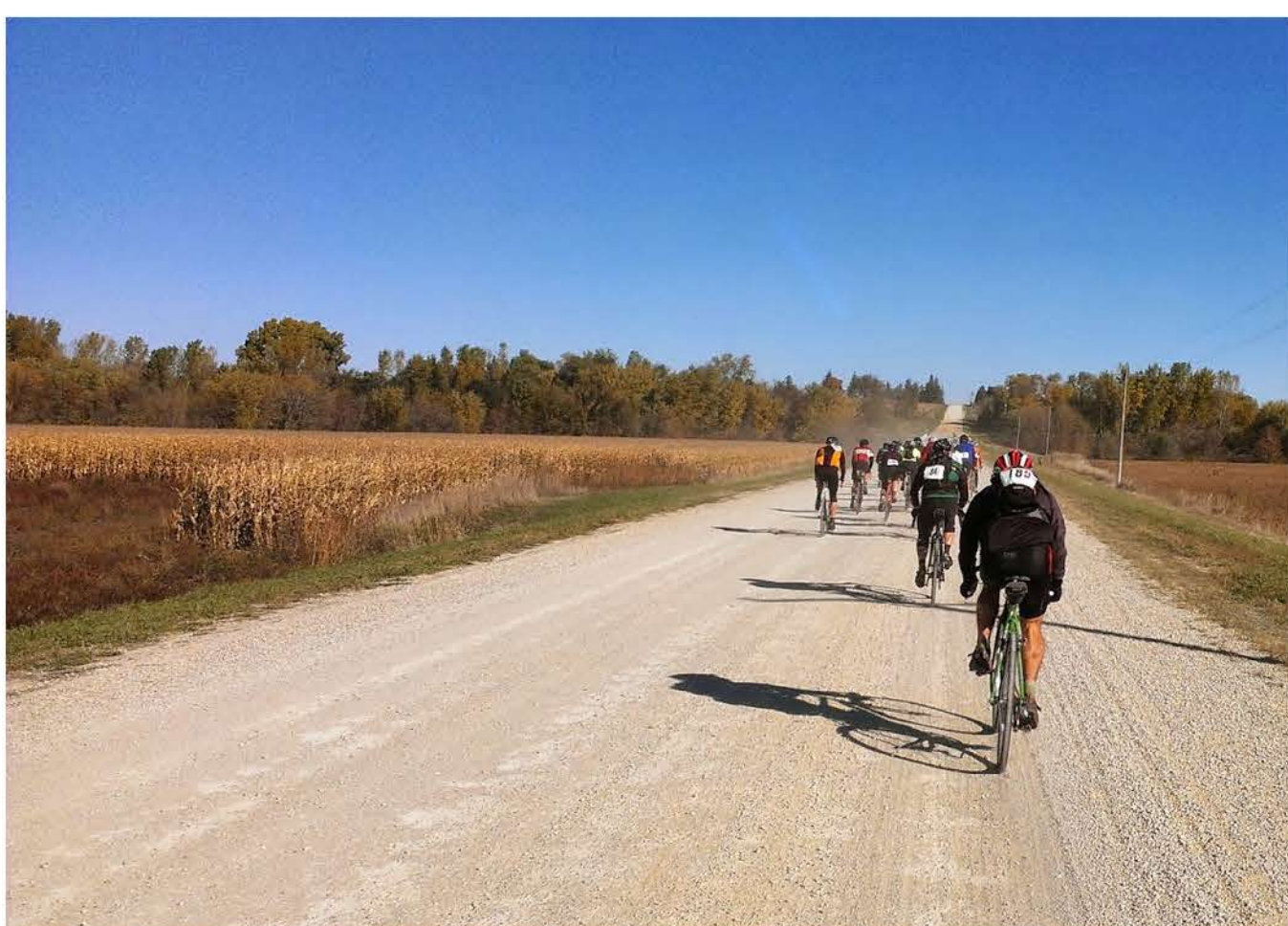
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**Shared use paths** in Iowa can occur in proximity to roadways, similar to a sidewalk, or be an independent right-of-way separate from roadways, primarily utilized for recreation and fitness. These trails offer routes with a comfortable width to accommodate cyclists and pedestrian traffic in both directions.



htrbike.com

**Bike Lanes** are dedicated routes within the street for cyclists. They utilize markings and/or painted surfaces to bring attention and importance to the cyclist area. They can also be protected from traffic through barriers and buffers between the bike lane and adjacent traffic.



midwesttrailmagazine.blogspot.com

**Rural roads** are popular because they are home to various bike sporting events and with varying terrain, minimum maintenance, they offer scenery with obstacles.



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Iowa has a state wide **water trail** development document for navigable waters. These trails play a significant role in our relationship with the land and ecosystem. Along with walking, running, cycling and skating on traditional trails, water trails also offer physical activity for all ages and offer various unique recreation options.