



Rental of equipment for Brushing Snowden/ Falls Trails

The River City Cycle Club (RCCC) appreciates the help we get maintaining the trail networks both in the Snowden Forest and Elk Falls Park. Without the countless volunteer hours put into these trails it would not be possible to maintain them.

We recognize that one way to increase the amount of “brushing” out of the trails is to utilize a gas powered brush trimmer. The RCCC will cover the cost of the rental of a trimmer provided certain protocols are adhered to.

RCCC has a responsibility to ensure the safety of our members as well as ensure that trails are maintained to the standard we have agreed to with Rec Sites and Trails B.C. and BC Parks. For safety reasons the RCCC will only cover the rental of an oscillating brush trimmer and not the rental of a rotating blade “brush saw” machine.

When the RCCC is paying for the use/rental of this equipment and therefore liable for the activity, it is imperative that the club knows where and when the brushing is occurring, that safety protocols are in place and that standards are being met. The following process must be followed in order to achieve those objectives:

- 1) Please email trails@rivercitycycle.ca a week in advance and provide the dates brushing will be conducted, trails to be brushed and the members involved. All participants must be insured club members
- 2) It is mandatory that a minimum of two (2) RCCC insured members are participating. This is because:
 - a) a second person to rake/remove the trimmed brush from the trail is critical and
 - b) one person cannot run this equipment for hours on end safely, (i.e. being able to rotate between people will improve ergonomics and provide a rest period) and
 - c) should an injury or accident occur there is another person to assist
- 3) RCCC will arrange with C&L to have the brush trimmer ready for pickup on the arranged dates and billed to our account
- 4) Please ensure the trimmer is properly cleaned prior to returning to avoid an added fees
- 5) All safety personal protective equipment must be worn while running the trimmer. (safety glasses, fully enclosed footwear, hearing protection)
- 6) As stated in 2 above, it is critical all trimmings are raked off the trails, if not these trimming break down and become dirt (organic material) on the trail, and during heavy rain get washed into low spots forming mud and plugging drainage pathways.
- 7) Since any weekend rentals are for Saturday and Sunday, we would also appreciate it if you are only planning to use the equipment for one weekend day, that you ask your fellow members if anyone is available to utilize it the other day of the weekend. This will maximize the trail clearing per \$ spent
- 8) Brushing should be done per the ‘Operational Standards’ provided on page 2
- 9) A follow up email to let us know what was completed is greatly appreciated!
trails@rivercitycycle.ca

Thanks for your work. Sincerely

RCCC ‘Trail Committee’



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Operational Standards (as per Rec Sites and Trails B.C. and Park Agreements)

Deadfall

- Cut out windfall / deadfall on the trail
- Remove wood a minimum of 0.5 metre from the tread centre dispose downhill when possible

Brush / vegetation

- Remove all juvenile trees and woody brush for 0.5 metre on either side of tread centre and close to ground level
- Scatter the cut material out of sight of the trail
- Remove vegetation for viewpoint maintenance
- Inspect for hazard trees

Limbing

- Remove tree limbs to allow 2.5 metres of overhead clearance and 1.0 to 1.5 metre trail width
- Scatter cut limbs a minimum of 1 metre from the trail edge, out of sight where possible
- Cut limbs clean to avoid scarring main trunk of the tree