



**Parks, Recreation  
& Cultural Services**

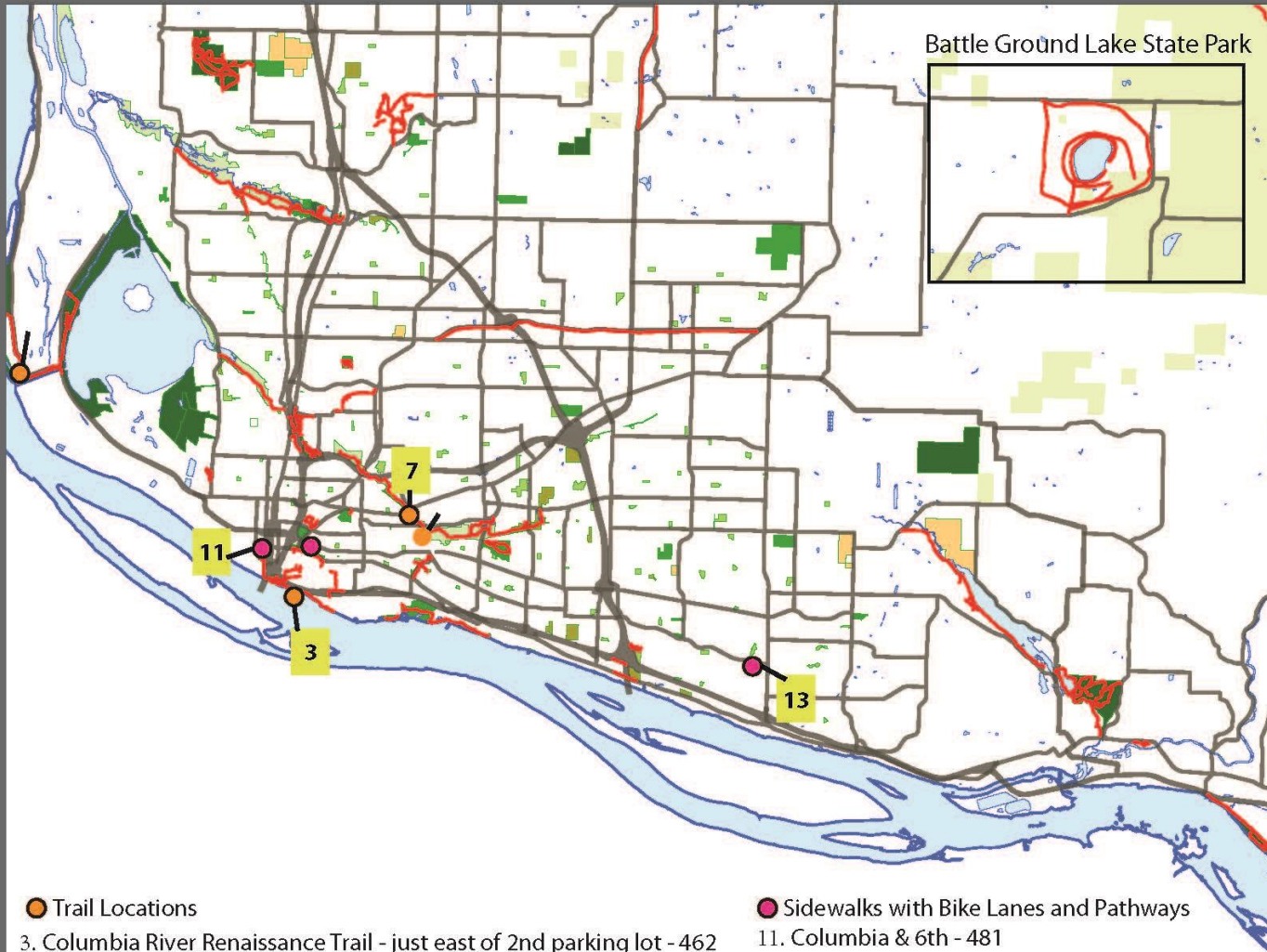
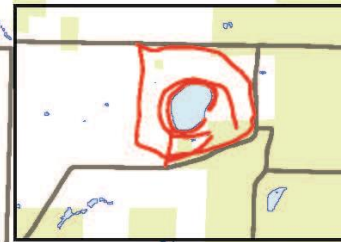
# Conducting Trail Counts



**2023 - 16<sup>th</sup> Annual**  
Sept. 12-14, 5-7 p.m.  
Sept. 16-17, 9-11 a.m.

**Pedestrian and Bicycle User Count Locations**

Battle Ground Lake State Park



**Trail Locations**

- 3. Columbia River Renaissance Trail - just east of 2nd parking lot - 462
- 7. Burnt Bridge Creek - at E Fourth Plain - 487

**Sidewalks with Bike Lanes and Pathways**

- 11. Columbia & 6th - 481
- 13. McGillivray & Village Loop - 483

KEY:

- Existing Trails
- Parks & Open Space
- Water Bodies
- Major Roads





# Why count?



- Better understand the needs of the regional trail network
- Understand how we can enhance the use of trails
- Secure grant funding to increase opportunities and improve conditions for trail users
- Support the National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project ([www.bikepeddocumentation.org/](http://www.bikepeddocumentation.org/))

# Past Trail Count Data

Year: 2021

Trail/Pathway	Est. Monthly Visits/Trips	Est. Annual Visits/Trips	Notes
Burnt Bridge Creek Trail at Fourth Plain	16,685	208,563	
Columbia & 6th	66,843	835,537	
Columbia River Renaissance Trail	80,315	1,003,940	
McGillivray & SE Village Loop	14,601	182,516	
2021 Total	178,445	2,230,557	

# Items to Bring



- Packet with Count forms
- Pen and/or pencil and hard surface to write on (clipboard)
- Watch, timer or cell phone so you can record 15-minute intervals
- For questions day of contact Hailey Heath, cell (360) 771-0638
  
- Optional: hat, sunscreen, jacket, water bottle, folding chair, orange vest, snack, volunteer name tag

# Transportation, Safety and Comfort

Things to consider:

- How counter can access locations?
  - See count form or training map
  - Volunteer Coordinator
  - Google it
- Will counter be safe at the locations?
  - Let someone know where you are going and when you will be back. Take a cell phone, be aware of surroundings.
- Will the counter be comfortable?
  - Be prepared for all weather, this is a rain or shine event.
  - A chair is nice to have



# This is a count form

### STANDARDIZED TRAIL COUNT FORM

Site ID: **434** Trail Name: **Padden Parkway Trail** Location: **94th Ave**

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Time Period (circle one):  Weekday 5-7 PM;  Weekend 9-11 AM

Name of Data Collector: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather (circle one):

Good (50-90°, dry)  Fair (light rain, <50°, 90-95°)  Extreme (heavy rain, snow, freezing, >95°)



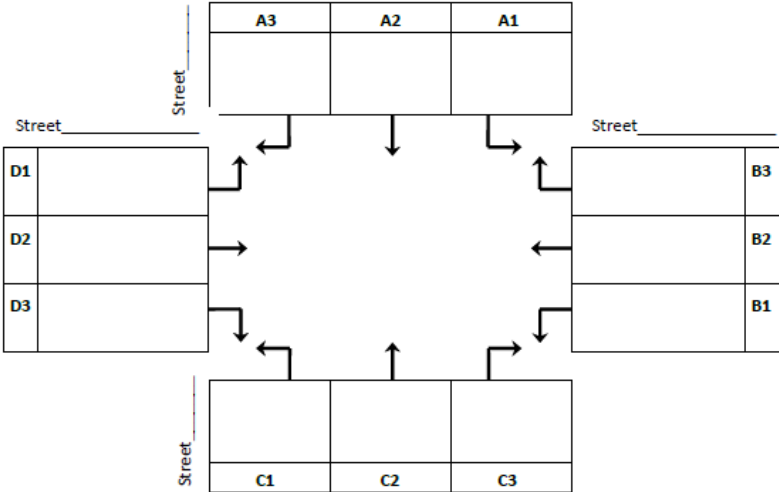
	Bicyclists		Pedestrians		Wheelchairs		Others (skateboards, rollerblades, scooters, etc.)	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
9:00-9:15 or 5:00-5:15								
9:15-9:30 or 5:15-5:30								
9:30-9:45 or 5:30-5:45								
9:45-10:00 or 5:45-6:00								
10:00-10:15 or 6:00-6:15								
10:15-10:30 or 6:15-6:30								
10:30-10:45 or 6:30-6:45								
10:45-11:00 or 6:45-7:00								
<b>Total</b>								



### STANDARDIZED BIKE/PED COUNT FORM

Site ID: 485 Street Name: Fort Vancouver Way Location: McLoughlin Blvd  
 To be completed by Data Collector: Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Weather: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Data Collector: \_\_\_\_\_ Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

	Bicycles		Pedestrians		Wheelchairs		Others	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
:00-:15								
:15-:30								
:30-:45								
:45-1:00								
1:00-1:15								
1:15-1:30								
1:30-1:45								
1:45-2:00								
<b>Total</b>								





Site #483 McGillivray Blvd @ SE Village Loop



Site #418 Salmon Creek Trail @ VGSA Trailhead





Trail Screen line - you will count all the people who cross this imaginary line. Shown on each count form.



■ ■ ■ ■ ■ Screenline  
Count everyone who passes

# Street Screenline Count



■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ Screenline

Count everyone who passes





# Count Form

## STANDARDIZED TRAIL COUNT FORM

Site ID: **447** Trail Name: **Burnt Bridge Creek Trail** Location: **Devine Trailhead across from railroad**

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Time Period (circle one): Weekday 5-7 PM; Weekend 9-11 AM

Name of Data Collector: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather (circle one):

Good (50-90°, dry)

Fair (light rain, <50°, 90-95°)

Extreme (heavy rain, snow, freezing, >95°)







Arrive at your site at least 5 minutes early and complete the top section of your form:

- Date
- Time Period you are counting (circle one)
- Your Name
- Weather

❖ **Make sure you are counting in the correct location!**

# How to use the count form

	Bicyclists	
	Female	Male
9:00-9:15 or 5:00-5:15	 <b>8</b>	 <b>5</b>
9:15-9:30 or 5:15-5:30	 <b>6</b>	 <b>3</b>
9:30-9:45 or 5:30-5:45		
9:45-10:00 or 5:45-6:00		

Record each trail user with a tick mark under the appropriate column.

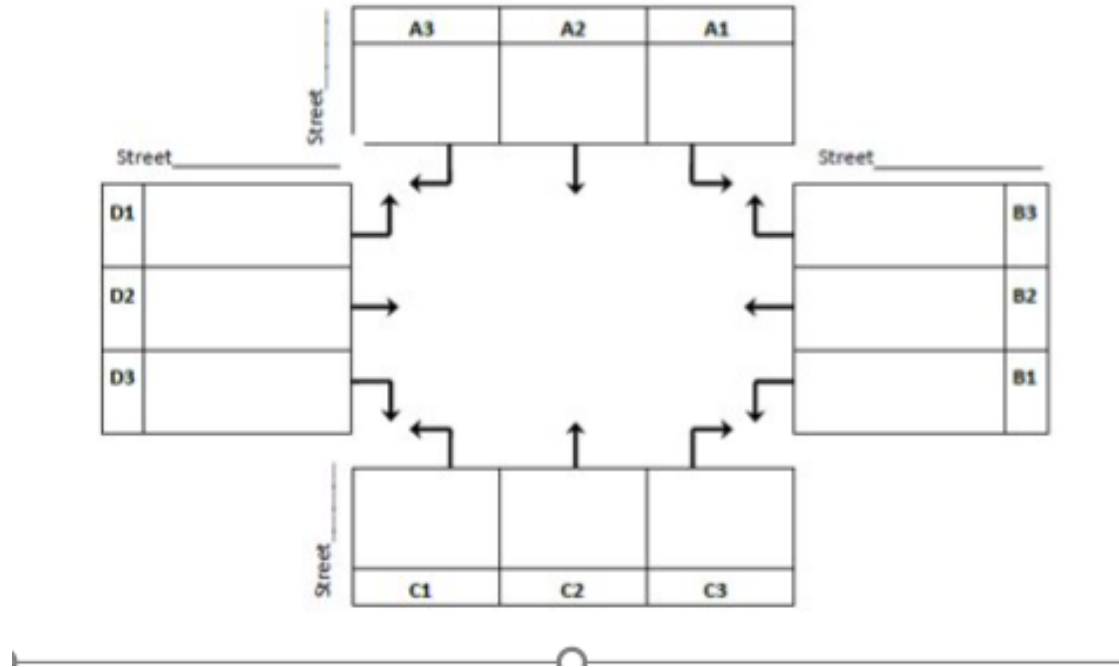
Make a crosshatch for five counts.

Write the total for each cell.

Write totals for each column at the bottom of the form.

	Bicyclists		Pedestrians		Wheelchairs		Others (skateboards, rollerblades, scooters, etc.)	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
10:45-11:00 or 6:45-7:00								
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>

This section of the form is no longer used, please disregard





# Who to count?

- **Bicycles**

Count the number of people on the bike, not the number of bikes

Bicycle trailer passengers are counted as bicyclists

Count bicyclists who ride on the sidewalk (if your screenline crosses a sidewalk)

- **Pedestrians**

People walking. Children in strollers

- **Wheelchairs**

People in wheelchairs, motorized carts, or other mobility devices

- **Others**

Any person that is not on a bicycle, walking/running, or using a wheelchair would be counted as an “other.” This includes scooters (electric or otherwise), skateboarding, rollerblading and using a segway or hoverboard or any other transportation device. Do not count dogs; only count humans.



# How do you count this?



5 bicycles

# How do you count this?



2 bicycles



# How do you count this?



4 bicycles

# How do you count this?



1 Other

# How do you count this?



3 wheelchairs

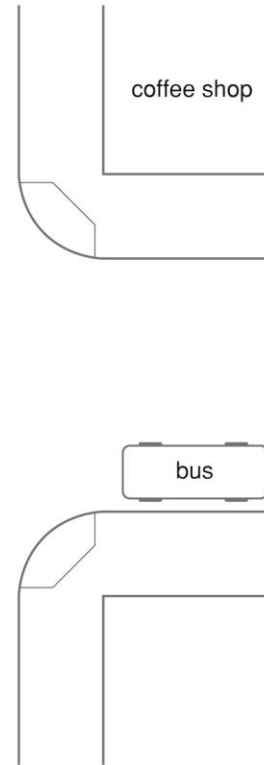
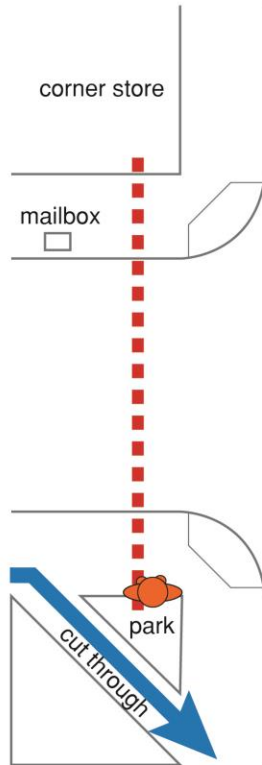


# How do you count this?



4 Pedestrians

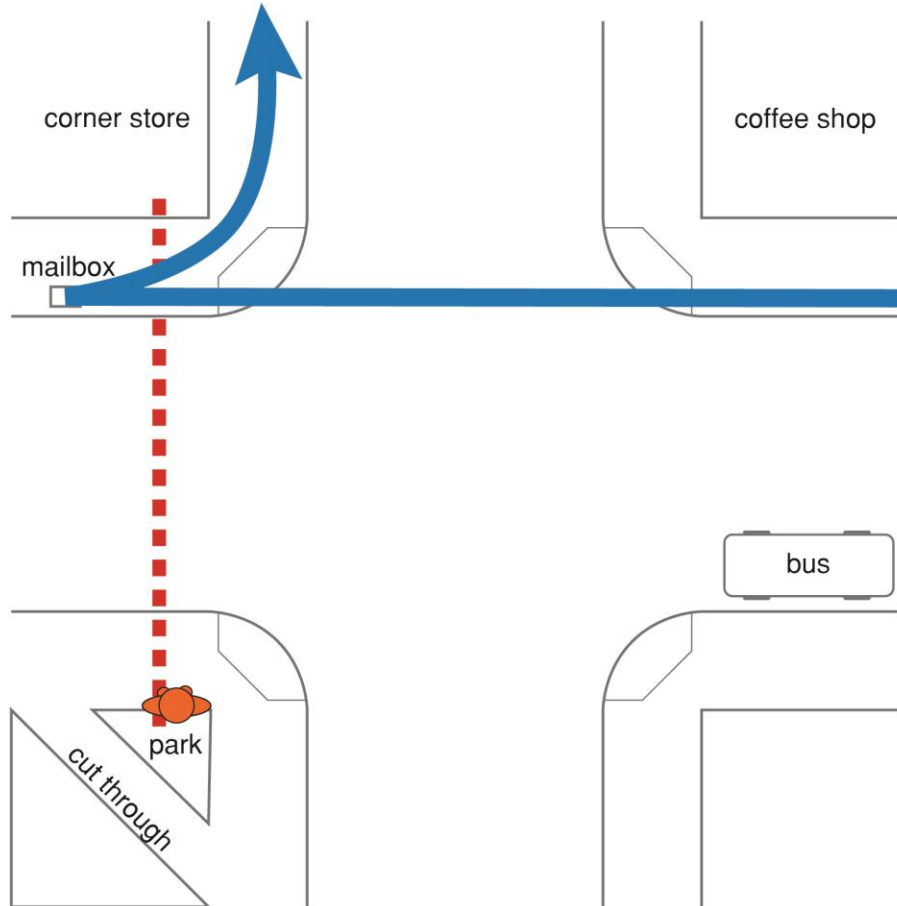
# How do you count this?



0

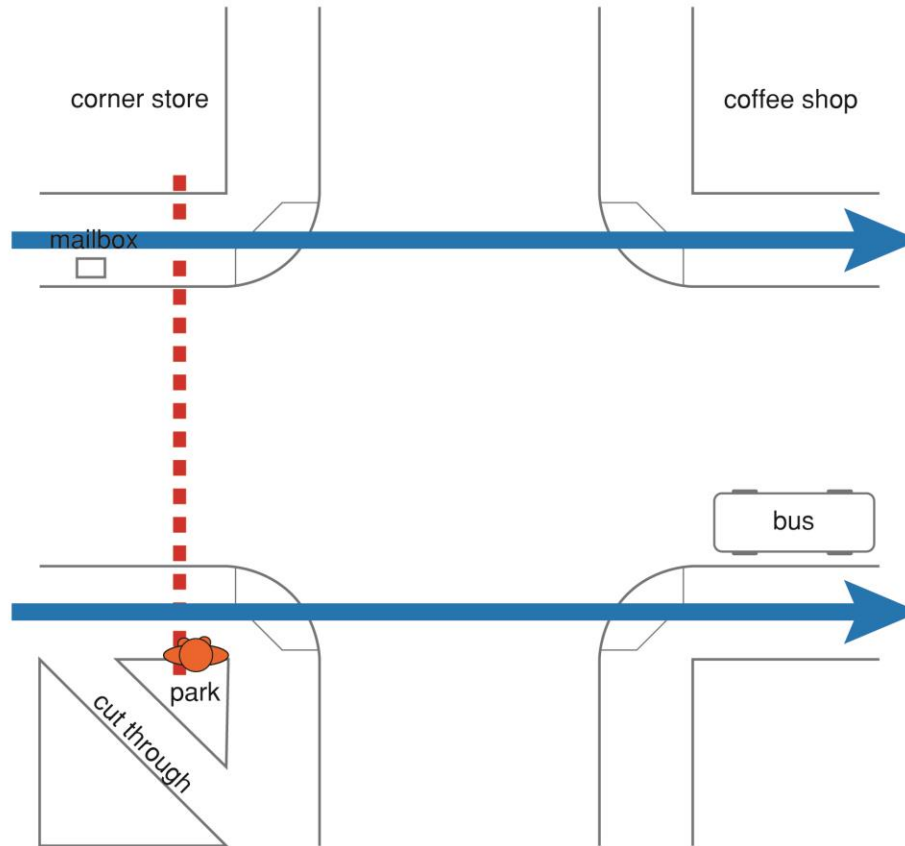
They  
bypassed  
the red  
screenline

# How do you count this?



2

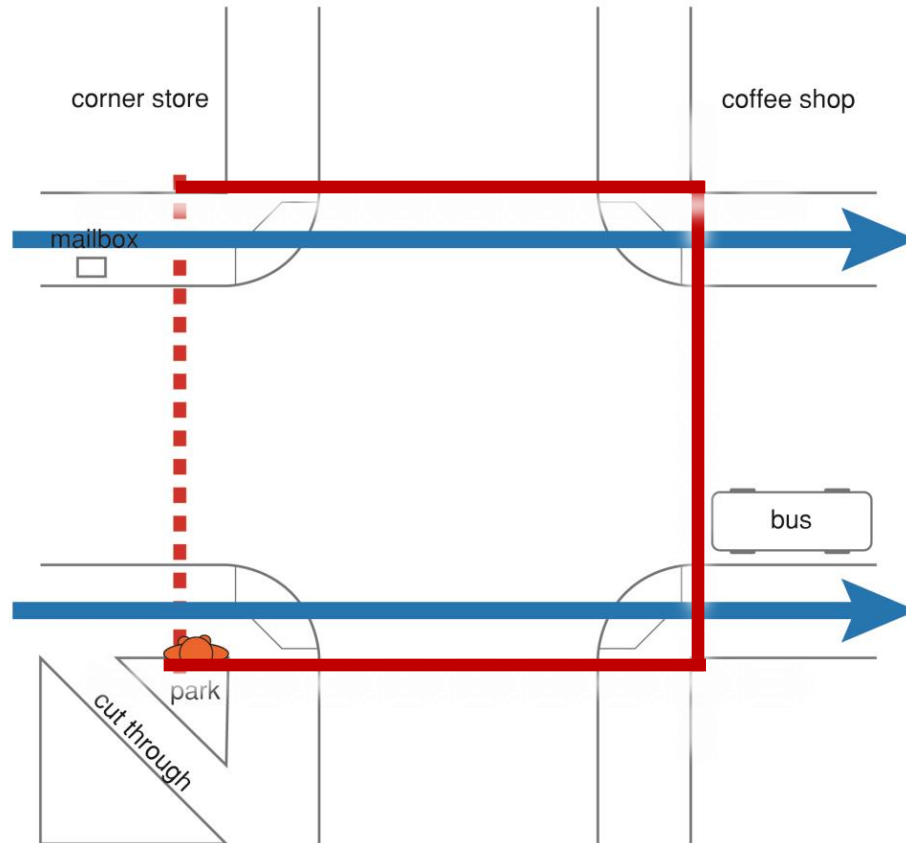
# How do you count this?



2



# How do you count this?



4

# Frequently Asked Questions

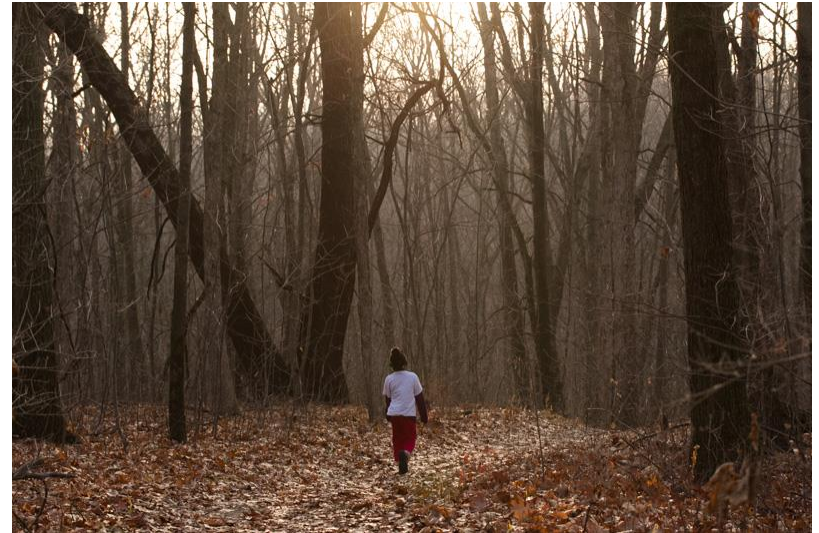
- Do I count people going in all directions in an intersection. YES
- Can I sit in my car while counting. Yes if you can still see your screenline
- How do I count a pregnant women. 1
- My trail runs along a road and bikers use the road, should I count them. NO only people using that trail.
- A sports teams uses the trail for practice and they crossed numerous times. Count them only twice.
- What if I am late. Just adjust and stay the amount of time that you were late, though try and be timely for consistency.
- Rationale for Dates. The National Count Date in mid-September was selected because it represents a peak period for walking and bicycling, both work- and school-related. Weather conditions across the country are generally conducive, schools have been underway for several weeks, and people have returned from vacations and are back at work.
- Why care about men vs. women? Make trails accessible for all and make guesses about why a gender uses a trail more than another e.g. safety of trail

# End of Counts and Surveys

When you have completed all of your count sessions, total all count forms. **Return your forms by September 30** by mail or via email (preferred)

Attention: Volunteer Coordinator  
City Hall  
415 W 6<sup>th</sup> Street,  
Vancouver WA 98668

[cityvolunteer@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:cityvolunteer@cityofvancouver.us)



# Questions?



Email or call Volunteer Coordinator:

Hailey Heath (City)

[cityvolunteer@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:cityvolunteer@cityofvancouver.us)

360-771-0638

# THANK YOU!

