

Village of Voorheesville
Recreational Pathways Map



**A guide to multiple routes and points of interest
in Voorheesville to encourage
personal wellness through exercise.**

**Includes Bicycling and Pedestrian Safety Tips,
as well as Historical Information**

For a Healthy Community

The Village of Voorheesville's Comprehensive Plan includes a commitment to building and promoting non-motorized pathways. The goal is to create a connected, pedestrian and bicycling friendly community. The enclosed map displays several routes one could travel upon to visit friends, a local business, or just enjoy the outdoors. Also included on the map are civic and historical points of interest. The Village Trustees encourage residents and visitors to enjoy all that Voorheesville has to offer.

For a Healthy You

Daily physical activity is important for a healthy body. It reduces stress, helps manage weight, reduces the risk of heart disease, and strengthens bone and muscles. Talk with your doctor about a fitness plan that is right for you and then enjoy the many pathways available in the Village of Voorheesville and beyond. More information about the health benefits of exercise can be found on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website <https://www.cdc.gov/physicalactivity/index.html>.

Acknowledgements

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PATHWAY DESCRIPTIONS

The Red Loop is 1 mile and follows the quiet, perimeter roads of the Orchard Park development. Although Orchard Park is outside the village boundary there are dirt trails at the far eastern end of Smith Lane that connect to the Helderberg-Hudson Rail Trail and Douglas Lane.

The Yellow Loop is 1 mile and there are sidewalks the entire way except for a short section on Pine Street. The path passes by two village parks, historical structures, and the Voorheesville Centre commercial plaza. Route Clockwise from Village Hall: Head Northeast on Voorheesville Ave, Right on Pine Street, Right on Maple Ave, Right on Voorheesville Ave

The Blue Loop is 1.90 miles and sidewalks are available the entire distance. The loop passes by many points of interest. Route Clockwise from Village Hall: Head Southwest on Voorheesville Ave, Right on Maple Ave, Right on Altamont Rd/156, Stay Straight onto School Rd, Right

The Orange Path follows the two main roads of the Salem Hills development, Stonington Hill and Severson Hill. This route includes easy to moderate sloping hills. There are sidewalks near the entrance of the development. Stonington Hill Road is 1 mile long and Severson Hill Road is a half mile long. At the end of Stonington Hill there is an access trail to

The Green Loop is 1.25 miles and follows along the quiet, perimeter roads of the Scotch Pine housing development.

The Purple Loop is seven tenths of a mile and includes a section of the Helderberg - Hudson Rail Trail. Sidewalks are available on the other two segments of the route. To complete the loop users need to travel over two railroad crossings. Numerous businesses are accessible from this route. Route Clockwise from Village Hall: S. Main St, Cross Tracks, Turn Right to Rail Trail, Right on Voorheesville Ave

PATHWAY DESCRIPTIONS Continued

The Brown Path is a 2 mile out and back route starting at the junction of Altamont Road and School Road. Follow the sidewalk along Altamont Road, turn left onto Claremont Drive, and then left onto E. Claremont Drive to the end.

The Black Path follows a portion of the Albany County Helderberg-Hudson Rail Trail which is a nine-mile paved pathway running between the Village of Voorheesville and the Port of Albany.

The Silver Path follows Kling Terrace which is three tenths of a mile. At the end of the road there is an access trail to the Black Creek Marsh.

The Dotted Path marks dirt trails that connect the Helderberg-Hudson Rail Trail to Smith Lane in Orchard Park, and Douglas Lane to the east. From Douglas Lane one could cross route 85A to the Country Club Estates.

Pedestrian Safety

- ◆ Be visible by wearing bright and or reflective clothing.
- ◆ Use a flashlight if walking at night.
- ◆ Walk on sidewalks whenever available.
- ◆ If there are no sidewalks, walk on the side of the road facing traffic, and as far as possible from the traffic lane.
- ◆ Obey all signs and traffic signals, and don't assume a driver sees you.
- ◆ Cross roads at crosswalks or intersections and be sure to look both ways before entering roadway.
- ◆ Watch for cars entering or exiting driveways or parking spaces.

For more information visit these websites

New York State Traffic Safety <https://trafficsafety.ny.gov/pedestrian-safety>

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration <https://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/pedestrian-safety>



CIVIC POINTS OF INTEREST

1 **Village Hall:**

This brick building, built in 1911, was originally the Voorheesville firehouse.

2 **American Legion Post #1493:**

This building was erected in 1908 for the Voorheesville Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, a fraternal organization who served the community in many ways.

3 **Albany County Sheriff EMS:**

Prior to the Albany County Sheriff EMS this building was the home of the Volunteer Voorheesville Area Ambulance Service from 1952 to 2016.

4 **Voorheesville Elementary School:**

Archival records show a school has existed at this location since 1821. Prior to 1941 the school was known as New Scotland School #10.

5 **Voorheesville Fire House:**

The Voorheesville Volunteer Fire Department was established in 1902 and has served the community from this location since 1965.

6 **Voorheesville Public Library:**

The first library in Voorheesville opened in 1901 in the back of a local restaurant near the village train depot. It has been at this location since 1988.

7 **USPS Post Office:**

The Voorheesville Post Office has been at this location since mid 1980's.

8 **Al Zahra Islamic Center:**

The Al Zahra Islamic Center was established at this location in 2021.

9 **First United Methodist Church:**

A local Methodist Church was established in 1815 and a building was erected on Altamont Road around 1826. The structure was moved to this location in 1890.

10 **Saint Matthew's Church:**

The Voorheesville parish of Saint Matthew was formally established in 1962 and this church building was completed that same year. The congregation organized in the village in 1916.

PUBLIC PARKS

11 Nichols Park:

The Jim Nichols Memorial Park is named after a Voorheesville businessman and philanthropist. The park contains playground equipment, a peace garden, horseshoe pits, and basketball and tennis courts.

12 Hotaling Park:

The park is named after George H. Hotaling for his 35 years of service to the village. The park contains a gazebo, the village's centennial clock, and many gardens and memorials.

13 Black Creek Marsh:

The 450 acre Black Creek Marsh is a part of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. It contains trails to grassy fields and freshwater marshes.

14 Town of New Scotland Stephen P. Wallace Park:

The park is adjacent to the village boundary. It contains a variety of trails and recreational facilities.

15 Captain Joseph Hilton Town Park:

The Hilton barn towers over the Captain Joseph Hilton Park and is one of the largest post-and-beam structures in Albany County. There are walking trails in the park that connect to the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy Bender Melon Farm Preserve.



Nichols Park, Voorheesville, NY

HISTORICAL POINTS OF INTEREST

16 Alonzo B. Voorhees House:

Alonzo B. Voorhees (1821-1893) had this house built in 1867. He established the Voorheesville post office in 1868.

17 Voorheesville Train Depot:

The first Voorheesville railroad depot was built in 1864. A larger station with a steeple roof was built in 1889 and the nearby rail trail pavilion reflects the station's design.

18 Fryer's Grove Hotel:

Starting in the mid 1870's Conrad Fryer built and operated the Grove Hotel. In the public grove behind the hotel there was a bandstand, tennis court, and lawn for golf and polo.

19 Cider Mill:

In 1890 Charles H. Burton and A. Elmer Cory built the Empire Cider and Vinegar Company mill at this location.

20 Log Cabin Rest:

Log Cabin Rest was located at the present day Voorheesville Centre and was a gas station and sandwich shop during the 1930's.

21 Grist Mill:

As early as 1787 Coenrad Coens owned and operated a grist mill at this location. The waters of the Vly Creek were harnessed to power the mill.

22 Terwilliger/Severson Farm:

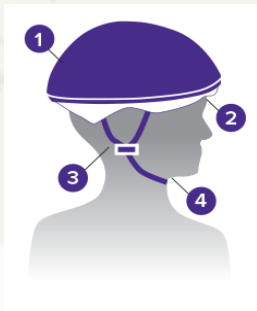
At this location once stood the Severson farm house. The apple orchard and dairy farm encompassed all that is now known as Salem Hills.

23 First Voorheesville Post Office:

James A. Reid, Jr. was the first Voorheesville post master and ran the post office out of his general store, located here, from 1868-1874.

24 Original Methodist Church:

A local Methodist Church was established in 1815 and a building was erected at this location around 1826.

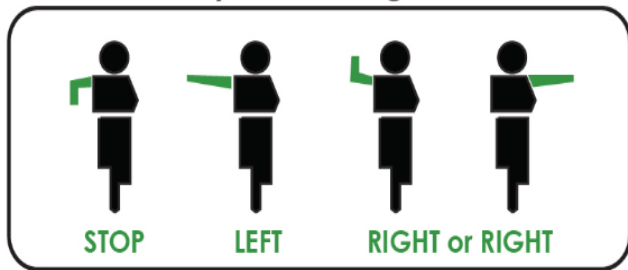


Helmet Fit Guide*

1. Helmets should fit snugly, and be level and stable on your head.
2. Helmet brim should sit two finger widths above your eyebrow.
3. Straps should form a 'V' under each earlobe, prior to buckling them.
4. Straps should be tightened to allow no more than two fingers between the strap and your chin.

*Information from NYS Department of Health https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/injury_prevention/bicycles.htm

Bicycle Hand Signals:



Bicycling Safety

- ◆ Make sure your bicycle is the right size and that the seat is adjusted properly.
- ◆ Check that tires are properly inflated and that the brakes are working.
- ◆ Make sure there are no loose bolts or fittings.
- ◆ Always wear a helmet and make sure it is properly adjusted to fit snugly.
- ◆ Attach reflectors or bike specific lights to the front and back of the bike to increase visibility.
- ◆ Wear bright and or reflective clothing to increase visibility.
- ◆ NYS law (Sec.1234 (a)) requires bicyclists to ride with the flow of traffic.
- ◆ Ride in a controlled manner and use hand signals when turning or stopping.
- ◆ Always follow all traffic rules, lights, and signs, and use caution when vehicles are present.
- ◆ If riding on a sidewalk slow down when approaching pedestrians, alert them to your presence, and pass them in a safe controlled manner.

For more information visit these websites

New York State Department of Transportation
https://www.dot.ny.gov/display/programs/bicycle/safety_laws

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
<https://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/bicycle-safety>