

An Innovative Way to "Bring Play to Nature"

Pathways for Play™ intentionally integrates play - critical for children's health - into walkable, bikeable, shared use community pathway networks to provide opportunities for playing along the way and encourage use by children and families. PlayCore has partnered with the Natural Learning Initiative, College of Design, NC State University, to offer an educational resource designed to help professional and community activists promote playful pathways across our nation.

Pathways for Play provides best practice guidelines for upgrading existing or designing new systems that:

- extend play value
- enable health promotion
- expand inclusion
- engage users with nature
- reinforce environmental literacy
- connect communities
- grow community social capital

Join us in the movement!



“ *Pathways for Play* gives us new tools to ensure that children grow healthier in body and spirit. American Trails is honored to be a part of this project and to help introduce it to the trails world. ”

Pam Gluck
Executive Director, American Trails

Best Practice Guidebook: Helping you infuse play into linear pathway networks

- ▶ 61 page educational guidebook
- ▶ Best practice design principles
- ▶ Supporting research and benefits
- ▶ Design considerations for new and existing systems
- ▶ Play pocket considerations for linear play value
- ▶ Case studies and examples of best practice implementation
- ▶ Tips for master planning, funding, and sustainability



“ A new vision of the built environment is required to support children’s healthy development. *Pathways for Play* shows how to design daily, nonmotorized, independent mobility for children and families, to stimulate outdoor play, have fun along the way, travel safely to meaningful, community destinations – and at the same time meet CDC recommendations for daily physical activity.

Professor Robin Moore, Dipl. Arch., MCP, ASLA
Director, Natural Learning Initiative



PathwaysforPlay.org Online resources for children and families

- ▶ Review supportive research
- ▶ Request a free copy of the guidebook
- ▶ Interact with "MyPath" - seasonal resources to extend family learning for planning your journey, sharing experiences, engaging with nature, playing along the way, and literature connections
- ▶ Explore case studies and model sites
- ▶ Access additional resources for playful pathways

my path...

interactive activities
for pathway play



Developed with the technical assistance of the Natural Learning Initiative, a research and design assistance unit of the College of Design, North Carolina State University

Program developed in partnership with:



To learn more about the *Pathways for Play* program, receive a *Pathways for Play* guidebook, or become a national demonstration site, visit www.PathwaysforPlay.org.