

Ride and Go Seek

My folks gave me a bucket and shovel before I could walk. They'd put me in the sandbox and I'd be there when they came back to feed me. Many, many decades have passed and I've yet to lose my craving to carry and carve sandy soil. So many times I've been blissfully burrowing at the Ada/Eagle Bike Park at the Sports Complex on Old Horseshoe Bend Road under a clear sky, a light breeze, with memories so strong I can almost hear Mom holler from the house "Dude! Where's the Flow Trail?!"

Wait...wa...what?

It comes with the job. If you look like you work there, people are just gonna ask you questions. But the best part of these play-time interruptions is that anyone who asks me where a trail is, is new to the Bike Park. And if they're new to the Bike Park they're probably new to Eagle. (A new tributary in our river of revenue. Come back soon for dinner. Bring a date.) These moments in recreational discovery are pivotal. These people need a good map to guide them.

Enter Ada County.

The staff at Ada County Parks and Waterways, led by Director Scott Koberg, stepped up and put their resources into a trail map that will bring tears to your eyes and allow me to make my sandcastles in peace. Once erected, there will be five huge maps (like the one shown here) that will point trail users where they want to go and where they *should* go. They color-code trails for different skill levels. Point out areas of interest. Take the guesswork out of where to go next. They'll make learning your way around the Bike Park a snap.

And you don't even have to figure out how to refold them.