
Greenbelt Route Signage Guidelines

Revised March 31, 2015

Greenbelt Route



Waterfront
Regeneration
Trust

Waterfront Regeneration Trust
(416) 943-8080
info@wrtrust.com



Possibility grows here.

Greenbelt Foundation
(416) 960-0001
info@greenbelt.ca

www.greenbeltcycles.com

Greenbelt Route Way finding Program

The Greenbelt Route passes through a diversity of terrain and communities between Niagara and Northumberland. Clear and consistent signage is critical to people's enjoyment and safe usage of the Greenbelt Route. Their confidence in the signage program will affect their decision to go beyond local community, their willingness to return to the route in the future, and their recommendations to other cyclists.

Signage is also one of the most common ways people learn about the new Routes, and therefore plays a major role in marketing and promotional objectives for the Greenbelt Route and the communities it connects. These guidelines provide planners, public works departments, and trail managers with direction for a range of signage objectives:

- To provide a recognizable image for the Greenbelt Route that will remain consistent and identifiable from one municipality to the next.
- To provide a signage package which is concise, comprehensive and as compatible as possible with signage that may already exist along developed sections of the Route.
- To provide an economical signage package which can be easily installed and maintained by each municipality or authority through which the Trail travels.
- To minimize unnecessary signage and visual clutter, without compromising the safety of the trail user, by providing signage on an as needed basis.
- To allow for flexibility whereby signage can be adapted to existing and proposed trail situations and be re-useable when sections of the Trail are realigned.

Many municipalities have developed local signage guidelines for their on and off-road trail systems. Communities participating in the Greenbelt Route should incorporate the Greenbelt Route logo into their local guidelines.

Standard Greenbelt Route Sign Format



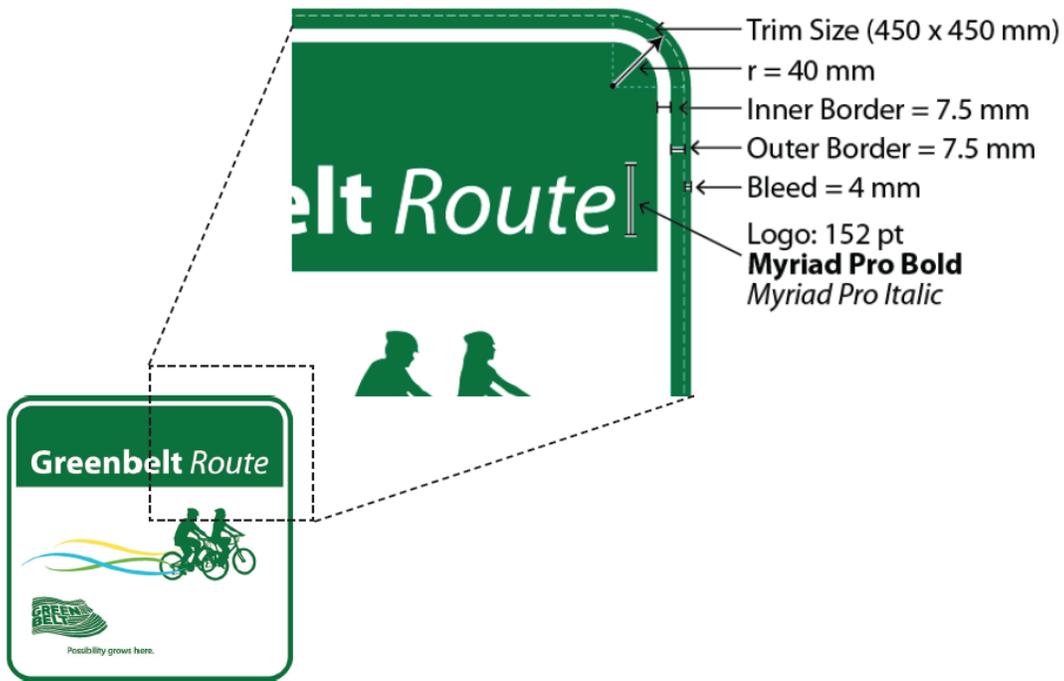
Standard signs are aluminum plate blanks with a painted or reflective sheeting surface.

These signs identify the main Greenbelt Route alignment. This section outlines the different types of signs and their application.

Specifications for all signs

Sign design conforms to the Ministry of Transportation's (MTO) Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM). Refer to OTM Book 2 for basic sign guidelines, and OTM Book 18 for Cycling Facilities guidelines. There are three sizes of sign for the Greenbelt Route: 450 x 450 mm, 450 x 300 mm and 450 x 600 mm. The MTO sign template numbers are listed in Table 1. All metal signs have rounded, 40 mm radius corners and minimum border specifications as shown in **Figure 1**.

Figure 1: Corner, border and header detail, applicable to all types of signs.



The Standard Trail Blaze is shown in **Figure 1**. The colours are as follows:

Background colour: White

Greenbelt Route Sign header and border colour: PMS 349 / C100, M0 ,Y91, K42 / R0, G112, B60 / #00703C

Greenbelt Logo: PMS 349 / C100, M0 ,Y91, K42 / R0, G112, B60 / #00703C

Greenbelt Connector Sign header and border colour: PMS 631; C67 M0 Y12 K2; R38 G188 B215; #26BCD7

Ribbon Colours:

Green: PMS 369; C59 M0Y100 K7; R108 G179 B63; #6CB33F

Blue: PMS 631; C67 M0 Y12 K2; R38 G188 B215; #26BCD7

Yellow: PMS 115; C0 M9Y80 K0; R255 G225 B79; #FFE14F

Typeface: Myriad Pro

Greenbelt Route logo: Black, Italic

Special text: Bold, regular

Directional and Special Text signs

Table 1 lists the standard and directional blazes. The Standard Blaze and Co-Brand Blaze are used along the trail as a reassurance to Route users that they are on the right path. Directional signs inform users of a change in direction. **Table 2** lists the different types of special text or instructional signs and when they are to be used.

Table 1: Greenbelt Route Blazes

	<p>Standard Trail Blaze Size: 450 x 450 mm (approximately 18 x 18") MTO Specification: B-11 Usage: Route sections without co-branding, where no directional or special instructions are needed. Generally installed as a reassurance to Route users that they are on the correct path. Template Name: GR-Blaze_Standard</p>	
	<p>Co-Brand Trail Blaze Size: 450 x 300 mm (approximately 18 x 12") MTO Specification: B-7 Usage: Co-branded trail sections, usually installed below the primary trail brand signage on the same post. The primary brand signage shall provide directions or special instruction. This smaller blaze can also be used in situations where space is too constrictive to use the standard blaze. Template Name: GR-Blaze_CoBrand</p>	
	<p>Ahead Directional Trail Blaze Size: 450 x 450 mm (approximately 18 x 18") MTO Specification: B-11 Usage: Use in place of Standard Blaze in situations where it is important to emphasize that the Route continues straight ahead, such as where a co-branded trail section ends, or approaching a confusing intersection. Template Name: GR-Directional_Ahead</p>	
		<p>Turn Left or Right Directional Trail Blaze Size: 450 x 450 mm (approximately 18 x 18") MTO Specification: B-11 Usage: Approaching intersections where a turn is required. Use a Special Text Direction Change Blaze if additional instructions are needed to provide clarity to Route users. Template Names: GR-Directional_LeftArrow, GR-Directional_RightArrow</p>
		<p>Veer Left or Right Directional Trail Blaze Size: 450 x 450 mm (approximately 18 x 18") MTO Specification: B-11 Usage: Approaching intersections where a change of direction is required. Template Names: GR-Directional_LeftDiagonal, GR-Directional_RightDiagonal</p>

Table 2: Greenbelt Route Blazes with Special Instructions

 <p>Greenbelt Route Use cycle path on south side of road</p>	<p>Special Text Blaze (2-Lines) Size: 450 x 450 mm (approximately 18 x 18") MTO Specification: B-11 Usage: <i>Situations where special instruction needs to be provided to Route users, such as a transition to a different type of trail, a confusing intersection, a hazardous situation or a gap in the Route.</i> Template Name: GR-Template_TwoLineText</p>
 <p>Greenbelt Route resumes in 4 km at Conc. 3 & Uxbridge-Pickering Townline Rd</p>	<p>Special Text Blaze (3-Lines) Size: 450 x 300 mm (approximately 18 x 12") MTO Specification: B-7 Usage: <i>As above. Note that a condensed font can be used, if necessary. Do not reduce the font size. Use a Large Special Text Blaze if it is not possible to fit the information clearly on the small template.</i> Template Name: GR-Template_ThreeLineText</p>
 <p>Greenbelt Route ← via Brick Lane</p>	<p>Special Text Direction Change Blaze Size: 450 x 450 mm (approximately 18 x 18") MTO Specification: B-11 Usage: <i>As per the standard Directional Trail Blaze, where special instruction is needed to provide clarity to Route users. Use a Large Blaze for 2 or more lines.</i> Template Name: GR-Template_OneLineText-LeftArrow, GR-Template_OneLineText-RightArrow, GR-Template_OneLineText-LeftDiagonal, GR-Template_OneLineText-RightDiagonal, GR-Template_TwoLine-UTurn</p>
 <p>Greenbelt Route ← via Hamilton - Brantford Rail Trail</p>	<p>Large Special Text Blaze Size: 450 x 600 mm (approximately 18 x 24") MTO Specification: B-15 Usage: <i>Multi-lines of text and direction information, typically to introduce the beginning of a co-brand section.</i> Template Names: GR-Template-Large_ThreeLine-LeftArrow, GR-Template-Large_ThreeLine-RightArrow</p>
 <p>Greenbelt Route Northumberland Terminus 470 km to Niagara Falls</p>	<p>Trailhead Lite (Secondary Trailhead) Sign Size: 450 x 600 mm (approximately 18 x 24") MTO Specification: B-15 Usage: <i>Announces the beginning of the Route, with distance to the end. Can also be used for up to 5 lines of special text.</i> Template Names: GR-Template-Large_Trailhead</p>

Sign Installation & Spacing

The following signage protocol should be following when determining signage locations:

- Signs should be placed:
 - Just above eye level for cyclists – a minimum of 2.5 m above the ground, to allow head clearance
 - On the right side of the road
 - Where shrubbery and trees will not grow to obscure the signage
- Designation sign should be installed as a reassurance sign at least every 2 km along straight sections of road. These signs serve to reinforce the confidence of cyclists on the route
 - Reassurance signs should generally go just after intersections, ideally within view of the previous side of the intersection
- At intersections requiring a change of direction, a designation sign along with the a directional arrow should be placed just before the intersection (15-30m before)
- If the turn requires changing lanes or maneuvering in traffic, the sign should be placed ahead of the intersection at an appropriate distance to allow the cyclists to negotiate traffic. If appropriate, a second designation and directional arrow can be used at the intersection.
- A reassurance sign should be used approximately 20-50m following any intersection at which a change of direction was made.
- Further guidance can be found in OTM Book 18.



Figure 3: Sign installation

The signs will be installed on new or existing posts of various types. Each sign will have two holes pre-drilled for bolts to affix the sign to the poles. Consideration must be made for accommodating both metric and imperial hole spacing on prefabricated metal posts, as shown in **Figure 3**.

Regulatory Signage

Regulatory Signage falls under the jurisdiction of the trail authority and Municipality in which each particular section of the Greenbelt Route is located. The Ministry of Transportation provides guidelines on regulatory signage as they relate to cycling facilities. This information can be found in the Ontario Traffic Manual Book 18 – Cycling Facilities, which was published in late 2013. To download Book 18 from the MTO, follow these instructions:

1. Access the MTO Library On-line. Cut & paste the following into your browser.
<http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/transrd/>
2. Choose (double-click) the Library Catalogue.
3. Type in Ontario Traffic Manual in the Title box.
4. Choose (double-click) the manual you wish to download:
 1. Ontario Traffic Manual Book-18-Cycling Facilities. December 2013
5. Choose (double-click) on the paperclip (attachment) to the right of the title.
6. Download & save to your computer. view the instructions on how to download

Additional Design Specifications

Templates are available for each sign type, as indicated in Table 1 and 2. The following figures provide more detailed design specifications for working with the templates.

Figure 3: Directional blaze showing bolt hole specification and position of graphic elements.

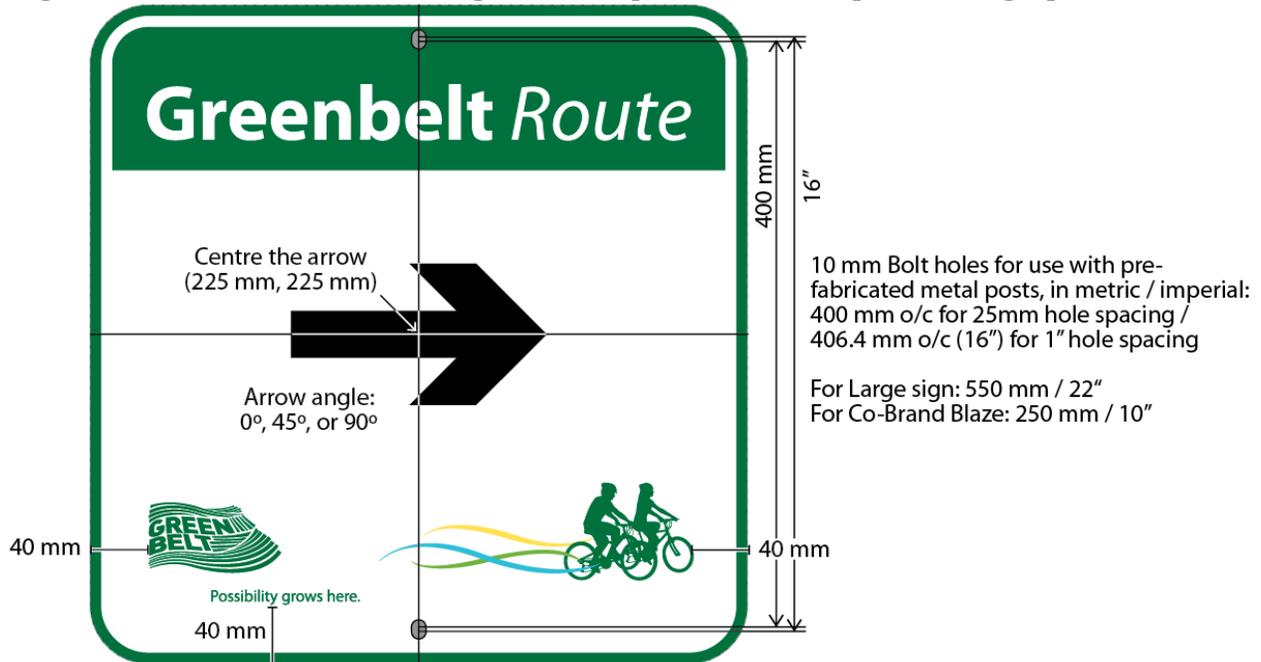


Figure 4: Single-line special text blaze with directional arrow showing font specification.

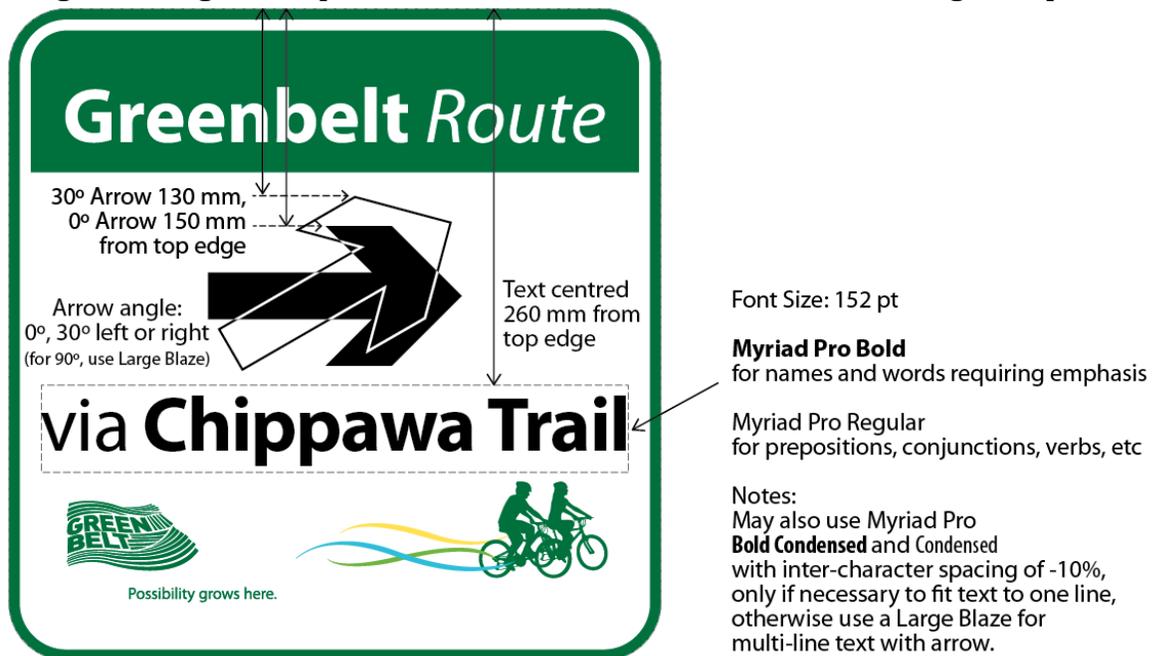


Figure 5: Two and three line special text blazes showing acceptable text block boundaries.

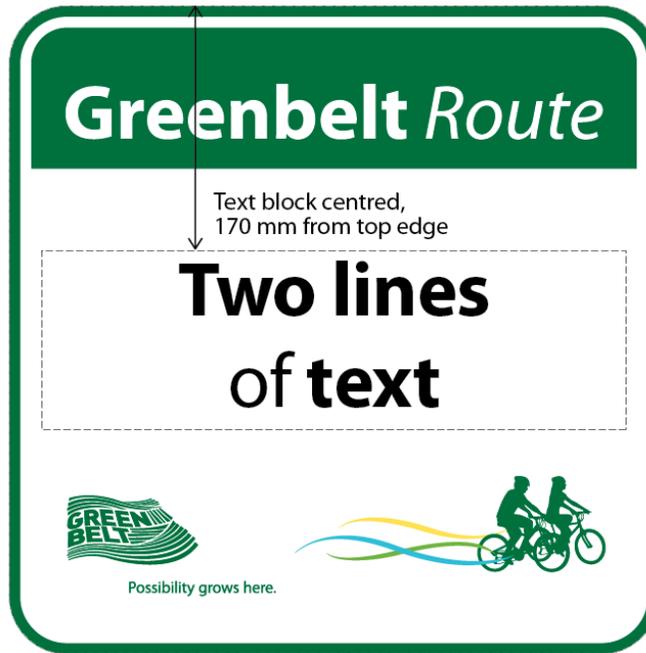
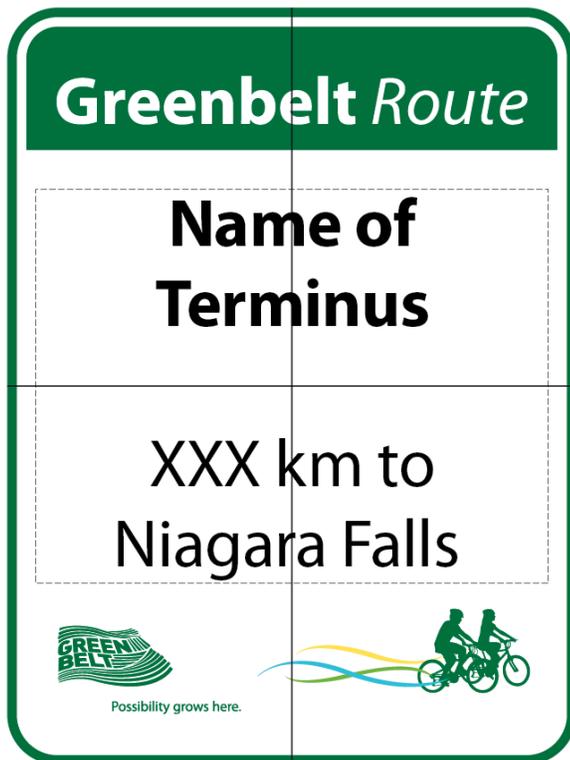


Figure 6: Large Blaze with special text and direction, and Trailhead Lite Sign.



Centre the text block to the sign
(x = 225, y = 300 mm)

Name of trailhead in **Myriad Pro Bold**
with up to 3 lines of text
Distance in Myriad Pro Regular

Maximum total lines of text is 5

Greenbelt Connector Signage

Greenbelt Connector signage uses a similar template to the regular Greenbelt Route signs, in that the borders and headers are the same dimensions, except that light blue (PMS 631) is used instead of green to distinguish between the two designations. Connector routes lack a brand of their own, to avoid confusion with the main Route. **Table 3** further explains the variations of these signs.

Figure 7: Greenbelt Connector Signage



"This way to:"
152 pt *Myriad Pro Italic*

Direction arrows are
90% Black.



Text for distances,
connecting trails or special
instructions is 130 pt *Myriad
Pro Italic*, in 90% Black

Table 3: Greenbelt Connector Signs

	<p>Connector Directional Sign, towards Greenbelt Route <i>Size: 450 x 450 mm (approximately 18 x 18")</i> MTO Specification: B-11 <i>Usage: Arrow can point ahead, left, right or veer left/right, depending on the situation. This type of sign guides the user to the Route, and is also a reassurance that the user is headed in the right direction to join the Route.</i> <i>Template Name: GC-Template_toGreenbeltRoute</i></p>
	<p>Connector Directional Sign, towards Waterfront Trail <i>Size: 450 x 450 mm (approximately 18 x 18")</i> MTO Specification: B-11 <i>Usage: As with the sign above, arrow can point ahead, left, right or veer left/right depending on the situation, to direct the user from the Greenbelt Route to the Waterfront Trail.</i> <i>Template Name: GC-Template_toWaterfrontTrail</i></p>
	<p>Connector Route Midway Sign <i>Size: 450 x 450 mm (approximately 18 x 18")</i> MTO Specification: B-11 <i>Usage: Placed at a trail intersection, approximately midway between the Greenbelt Route and the Waterfront Trail along the Connector Route.</i> <i>Template Name: GC-Template_Midway</i></p>
	<p>Connector Junction Sign, towards Greenbelt Route <i>Size: 450 x 450 mm (approximately 18 x 18")</i> MTO Specification: B-11 <i>Usage: Placed at a trail intersection to direct the user towards the Greenbelt Route via a connecting trail. Up to 3 lines of text, with distance in km below the direction arrow.</i> <i>Template Name: GC-Template_JunctionGreenbelt</i></p>
	<p>Connector Junction Sign, towards Waterfront Trail <i>Size: 450 x 450 mm (approximately 18 x 18")</i> MTO Specification: B-11 <i>Usage: Placed at a trail intersection to direct the user towards the Waterfront Trail. Up to 3 lines of text, with distance in km below the direction arrow.</i> <i>Template Name: GC-Template_JunctionWaterfront</i></p>