



# Devou Park Mountain Bike Trails

**Location:** Covington, on Sleepy Hollow Road (HWY 1072), just under the railroad tracks.

**Website:** [www.devouparktrails.com](http://www.devouparktrails.com)

**Driving Directions:** From Ludlow HWY8, take Deverill Rd south until it turns into Sleepy Hollow Rd. The parking lot will be on the right just before you go under the railroad tracks. From I-71/75, take exit 189, Kyles Lane, to Dixie Hwy US42, then turn north into Sleepy Hollow Rd. The parking lot will be on the left, just past the elevated railroad tracks.

Once you exit your car, head through the red gate and up the gravel road that parallels Sleepy Hollow Rd. At the fork, veer left, walk up a small hill, under the railroad trellis, and toward the eerie brick building. The trail head will be on the right, behind the board with the map. The building is an old incinerator built in the 40's and decommissioned in the 60's.

The only facilities are a port-o-potty in the parking lot.

**Hiking Trail Miles:** 12 different trails, ranging from .5 to 2.5 miles. The trails interconnect so you can create many different routes of varying lengths.

**Trail Features:** The Devou trails are single-track, 16 inch wide dirt paths designed to meet international mountain bike standards, but welcome hikers and trail runners as well. Expect a 400 foot elevation gain with numerous switchbacks. Trail etiquette reads that bikes yield to foot traffic. However, there are many places that, in the interest of safety, a walker should step off the trail to allow a biker to pass, especially if they are barreling downhill. I also recommend not wearing headphones so you can hear a biker approaching. This may not be the best trail to hike on with a group because conversations could drown out the sound of the bikes and too many people in one spot could increase the potential for accidents.

**Dogs:** I did not see any signs banning them, and I could not find information on the website banning them, so use your best judgment. Keep them on a leash, pick up after them, and be

aware that there are numerous fast moving mountain bikers that may spook them.

**History:** The Devou Park MTB Trails is an all-volunteer, all-donations effort, opened in 2010 with continued improvement and expansion today. Chad Irey, a local resident and outdoor enthusiast, was the mastermind behind the plan to convert the unused acreage at Devou Park into a maze of off-road trails. The trails are supported and maintained by the Cincinnati Off Road Alliance and the Kentucky Mountain Bike Association.

