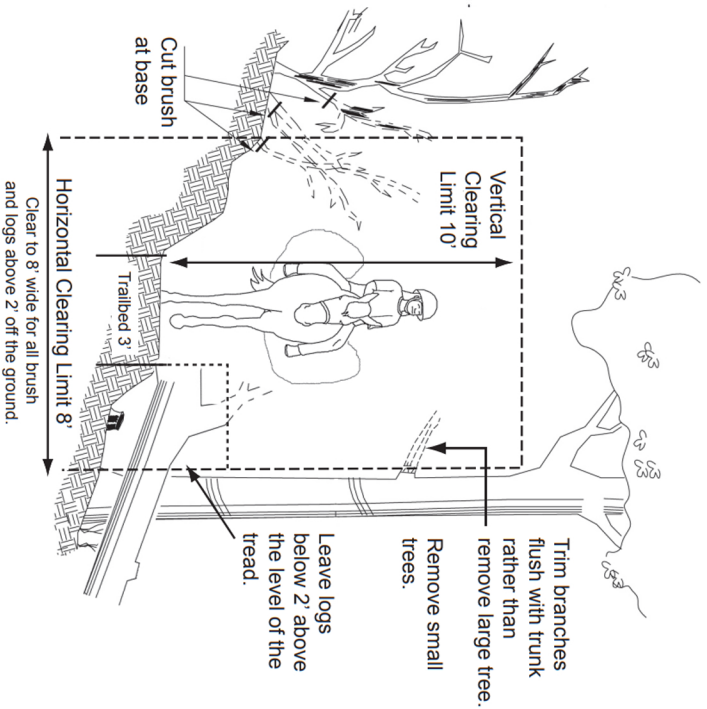


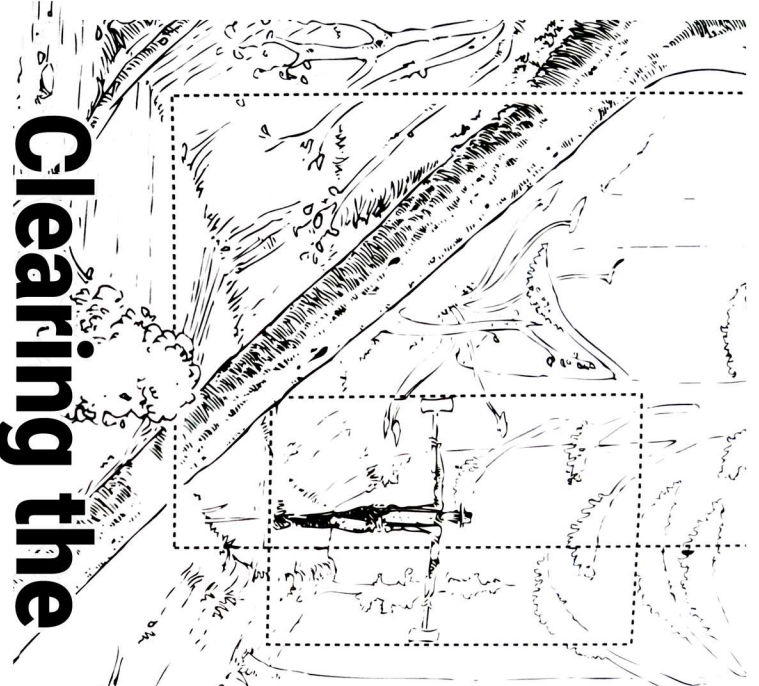
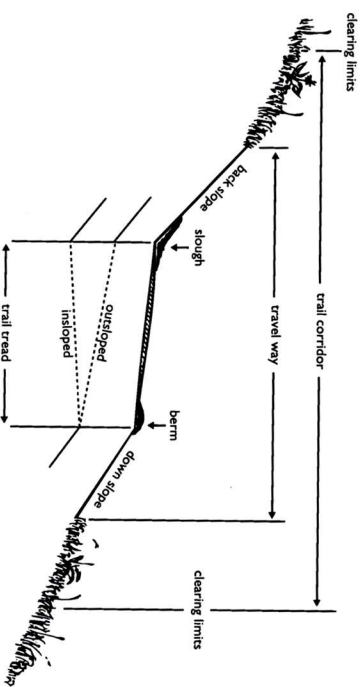


Intro to Trail Scouting

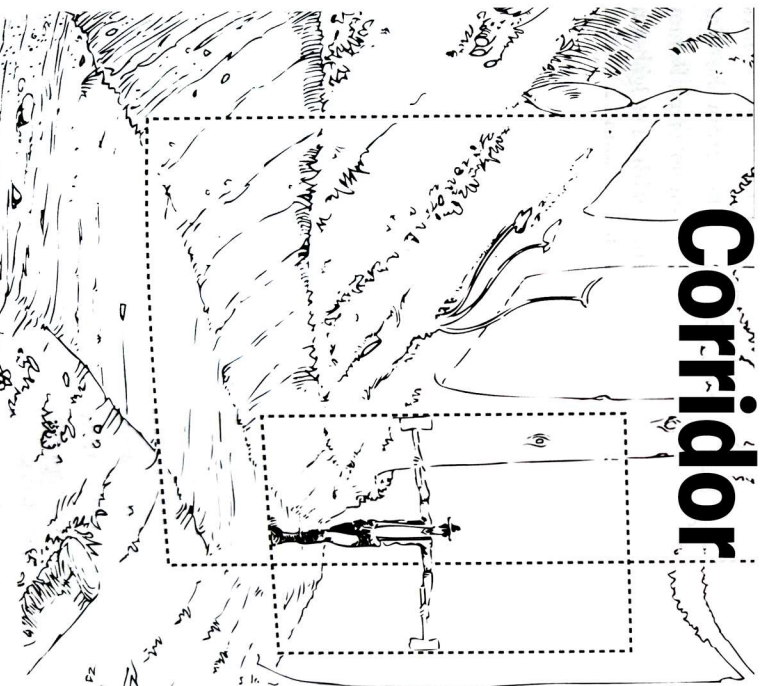
Trail Skills 101



Look out for spring poles (trees or limbs that are held down by other trees.) Spring poles can release with great force, causing serious injuries. Make a series of small cuts on the inside of the bend when severing a spring pole. (Image courtesy of the USFS)

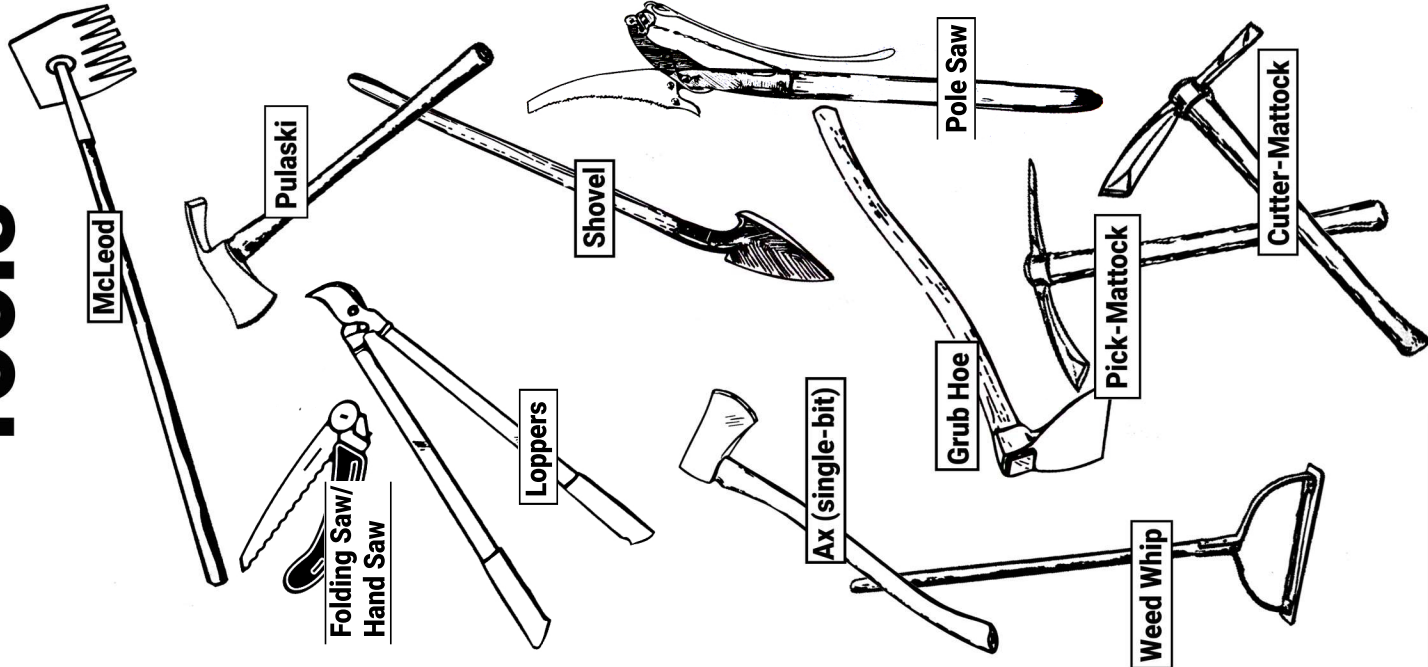


Clearing the



Corridor

Tools



Trail Terms

Trail Eyes: The ability to see how a trail is functioning in the landscape, and most importantly what trail work needs to be done to bring it into good shape. Primarily includes attention to clearing limits and drainage, but also tread condition, hillside hydrology, and intended use.

Corridor: The full dimensions of the trail, including the area (2 to 3 feet) on either side of the tread and the space overhead (10 to 12 feet) from which brush and obstacles need to be cleared.

Blow Down: (aka *wind fall*) any trees fallen across a trail, usually the result of high winds, most commonly in the winter storm season.

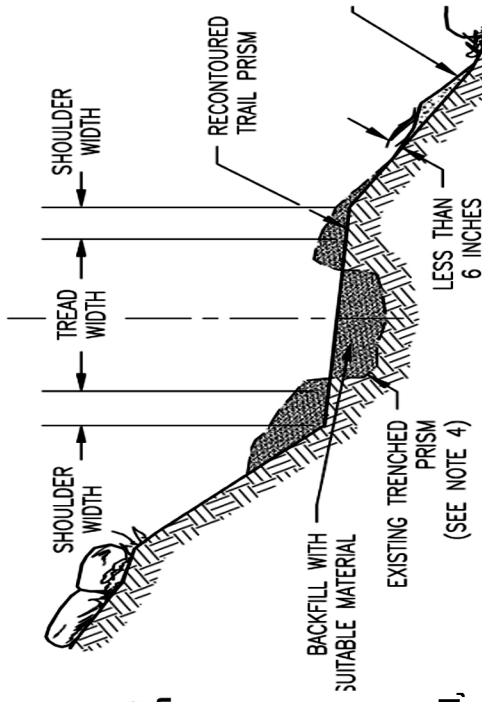
Brushing: The process of clearing the trail corridor of plants, trees, and branches that could impede the progress of trail users.

Clearing Limits: exactly how wide and how high to cut tree limbs, shrubs, blow downs etc. to open the trail corridor for users. Different trails have different specs.

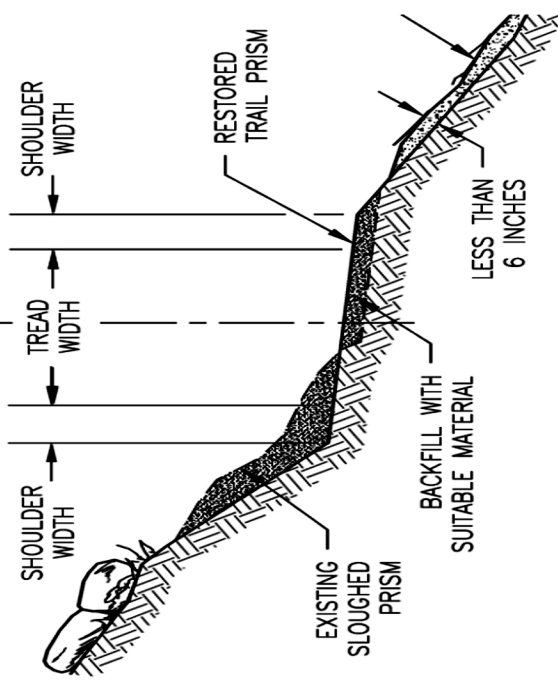
Berm: The material formed on the outer edge of the trail that projects higher than the center of the trail tread. Typically caused by tread compaction and soil displacement during trail use, a berm can trap water on the trail and lead to erosion.

Slough (pronounced "Sluff"): Material/debris collecting on the uphill (inside) edge of the trail tread. Slough may raise the height of the tread relative to the original level and result in water pooling on the trail or be sufficient to block the trail.

Trail Braiding: Multiple parallel paths created by users who have deviated from the main trail, often to avoid an undesirable feature (e.g. downed log, mud hole, sand) within the main trail causing erosion and expansion of the existing trail around the feature.



TRENCHED SECTION



SLOUGHED SECTION

