

Emma Bravard

CRP 558

Final Project Peer Review

Saylorville Lake Hiking Trails – Caroline Murray

This project was very easy to understand, yet very informational at the same time, which is optimal for viewers and users. The introduction set the audience up to know what could be found in the rest of the webpage. Pictures of places around this area helped give a more complete view of Saylorville Lake's many trails and uses. I really liked the custom basemap that Caroline created for her interactive map using Mapbox. This map made sense with the information she was trying to convey through her webpage. The trails were all marked, and pop-ups provided useful information. I also appreciated how the trails were color-coded based on their difficulty. The addition of a second webpage to notify viewers of trail closures was very useful and created a better experience for users.

The scrolling bar in the header at the top of the webpage was great. I have not thought to use on of those on any of my projects, but it fit this project perfectly. This "alert" banner was incredibly useful and looked professional for a website containing recreation information for the public. I appreciate the thought that went in behind her decision to include that element. Making that separate webpage for alerts or other important information would make it very easy for this project to be updated as closures and statuses within the park changes. Additionally, I learned about ArcCollector. This is an application that I have not used before. The data gathered from ArcCollector were very good for this project and provided essential information needed to make it work.

I agree with Caroline's observation that the use of a higher accuracy device for gathering GPS data, like Trimble, could be used in the future to improve the project. I also agree that giving the public at little more information on why certain projects, activities, and maintenance are going on in the park to avoid misunderstanding and reduce the number of upset visitors. Additionally, I would have liked some instructions on the main page for how to use the map. Without reading the Final Project Report, I would not have known that I could click on each trail and have it zoom in and produce a pop-up with the trail length. Also, for the smaller trails, it was difficult to see where they were from the zoomed out basemap. There might be a better way to do the zoom function instead of on-click. Perhaps turning on that layer in the layer controls would zoom you in to view that trail, and then if the viewer wished, they could zoom back out manually to see where that trail is located in relation to the rest of the park.