

# Landscaping Maintenance without a Truck

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In the endless pursuit to accomplish more with a smaller budget, park managers usually turn to larger, more powerful equipment to reduce costs and save time. While this approach is successful in many instances, what is often overlooked are the small efficiencies that can be achieved by providing the flood of seasonal spring help with the proper landscape maintenance tools.

One new piece of equipment that merits consideration is the "Parks Pioneer", a trailer designed to transport a mower, line trimmer, and other equipment within large parks or along trails. What can be new about an equipment trailer you ask? This one is pulled by a bicycle!

With many municipalities supporting Green House Gas (GHG) reduction programs, this trailer enables you to reduce fuel consumption and GHG emissions while improving the productivity of seasonal help at the same time. When a crew of three or four travel in a pick-up, there is often considerable lost time accumulated while most of the crew waits for one member to complete their task. This problem is avoided by allowing each member to work independently. The ability to present the equipment close to the work zone also

saves walking time compared to parking the pick-up at a distance.

An additional application of this trailer is litter collection and graffiti clean-up. Litter is rarely distributed evenly along a trail or throughout a park. There are litter zones, and rapid movement in between park benches picnic tables enables a cyclist with the cans to cover larger areas in a shorter time periods.

The bed of the trailer is 44" long and 25" wide - ample space for a recycling bin, trash can, and clean-up accessories.

In many cases, the use of a large pick-up on trails is very invasive, especially if the trail has many users which are required to get out of the way while the pick-up passes. The "Park Pioneer" on the other hand, blends into the trail environment and creates little disruption to park users. Using a truck to pick up litter seems like overkill to many users.

With a payload of 150 lbs, the trailer has all aluminium construction with tough poly bottom and sides, a drop down rear tailgate ramp to quickly load a mover, racks for six long handle tools, safety flag, slow moving vehicle reflector plus optional top, and front swivel wheels.