Improving Access in Rural Areas

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“APRIL is a national membership organization dedicated to advancing the rights and responsibilities of people with disabilities in rural America”
As a membership organization, providing training and technical assistance to our rural members is a critical component of the services we offer. Equally as important to us, is ensuring that young people with disabilities are involved in all facets of program development and delivery. We are truly committed to the mantra: *Nothing About Us, Without Us.*
APRIL's guiding principles in addressing transportation needs in rural America include:

• “All” public transportation should be accessible to “All” users, “All” the time
Barriers to walking in rural America

- Unpaved, broken and/or disconnected routes
- No accessible route
- Steep elevation changes
- Type of surface material used
- Maintaining unobstructed accessible routes
Barriers to walking in rural America

- Lack of signage
- Lack of places to rest
- Lack of a water source
- Lack of shade
- Lack of accessible toilet facilities
Unpaved, broken and/or disconnected routes
No Accessible Route
Steep Elevation Changes
Type of Surface Material Used
Maintaining Unobstructed Accessible Routes
Lack of Signage
Lack of Signage
Lack of Places to Rest
Lack of a source of water
Lack of shade
Lack of accessible toilet facilities
This is How I Walk
More information on transportation for people with disabilities in rural America

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For additional information on ADA accessibility requirements

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or contact your regional National ADA Center at 1.800.949.4232
Resources

ADA 2010 Standards for Accessible Design

National ADA Network
www.adata.org

United States Access Board
www.access-board.gov

Development of Surface Roughness Standards for Pathways Used by Wheelchair Users: Final Report
https://www.access-board.gov/research/completed-research/surface-roughness-final-report?highlight=WyJwYXRod2F5cyI6InBhdGh3YXkiXQ==
Resources

National Center on Health, Physical Activity and Disability

This is How I Walk

https://youtube.com/watch?v=1PyCvP1cMU

How I Walk Toolkit


Creating Inclusive Walking Clubs