

Equestrians on Shared Trails

Yielding

- Yield the right of way to those passing you from behind or traveling uphill.
- Mountain bikes yield to runners, hikers and horses.
- Hikers and runners yield to horses.
- Be sure you can control your horse and it has been exposed to other trail users before riding on shared use trails.
- Cooperate with bike riders to expose your horse to these users.
- Be alert and aware of the presence of other trail users. If possible, pull to the side of the trail when you hear oncoming bikes.
- Be prepared to let other trail users know what needs to be done to keep you, your horse and other trail users safe when you meet on the trail.
- Do not ride side by side on a single track trail.
- Less experienced horses and riders should stay behind more "trail-wise" horses and riders.



Guidelines for Bike Encounters on the Trail

- Pull to the side of the trail far enough for horses to pass safely as soon as you see them.
- Pull to the "downhill" side, with everyone on the same side of the trail. Horses tend to perceive unknown threats on the uphill side as predators; splitting the trail is perceived by horses as more than one predator.
- Speak to the horse and rider in a friendly, relaxed tone. Remove your helmet if it conceals part of your face. Horses are more likely to recognize you as a human that way.
- Equestrians may pull to the side of the trail a safe distance if they hear a bike approaching, but this does not necessarily mean that riding by them is safe. Stop and wait for instructions from the equestrian.
- If you ride by a horse, do so at a slow, steady pace and avoid making any sudden movements or sounds that might startle the horse.

Guidelines for Hiker/Runner Encounters on the Trail

- Hikers and trail runners should always stop and step to the downhill side of the trail when they come upon horses.
- Do not split the trail.
- Speak to the horse and rider in a friendly, relaxed tone.
- Keep pets under control.