

Trail Etiquette

November 27, 2014

What is the proper thing to do on the trail?

When you are HIKING, BIKING or RIDING a HORSE and you:

- Hike, Bike or Ride a Horse Cross Country
 1. Avoid making new trails but if you must try to stay on one set of footprints when traveling in a group; and
 2. Try to make your route invisible.
- Pack in a Lunch and or Water
 1. Leave **NO** trace – **EVERYTHING** you bring in, should always be taken out with you;
 2. ALWAYS carry a trash bag;
 3. If you must smoke, pick up your butts and bag them;
 4. Bag and carry out toilet paper and feminine hygiene products; and
 5. If you see trash/garbage left by others, if you have room in your pack/bag, please bring it out with you.
- Encounter other trail traffic, Hikers, Bikers Or Horse & Riders
 1. Horse traffic ALWAYS has the right of way;
 2. Hikers have right of way over Bikers;
 3. Bikers must give right of way to all other traffic;
 4. Uphill traffic has the right of way and you should always yield to the uphill traffic; and
 5. Always chat it up.
- Encounter a Rider On A Bike or Horse
 1. Chat it up as soon as you notice the Rider as this makes the Rider and Horse aware of your presence and ask if you are in a good location. This also lets horse know your are human and friendly;
 2. Stop in a visible (to riders and horses) safe location **BELOW** the trail. Stopping early is best vs. hiking right up to the riders; and
 3. Hold any backpacks, walking poles, or anything else close to you. Horses sometimes could react to backpacks etc.
- Treat Human Waste Properly
 1. You should ALWAYS bury all human waste 4-6 inches deep and between 100 and 200 feet from any water source or trail;
 2. ALWAYS pack out used toilet paper and feminine hygiene products; and
 3. NEVER burn used toilet paper or other waste.
- Respect Wildlife
 1. Use binoculars for long-distance viewing; and
 2. NEVER play or bath in any desert water source.