

# Equestrian etiquette

## **Expect, respect and connect with other park users**

Ride safely and be prepared to encounter hikers, runners, bikers and others on the trail.

Make sure your horse has the temperament and training for riding on busy multi-use trails.

Obey all park rules and stay on designated trails. Dogs must be on a leash.

If your horse is concerned about approaching bikers and other park users, speak to them about how you'd like them to proceed.

Mountain bikers and all park users are expected to stop and speak with equestrians before proceeding, whether approaching from the front or back. Even if you don't need them to stop, please thank them for offering, as the next equestrian may need them to stop.

Approach and pass all park users at a walk. As a courtesy, maintain a walk until other horses are out of sight so as not to cause them to react to your horse trotting or cantering off.

Use common sense in crowded areas. Follow the rules of the road. Don't take up the whole trail and stay to the right. Trotting, cantering on crowded trails may endanger everyone. Watch your speed especially around corners.

Let other park users know if you plan to pass them.

Horses can be great park ambassadors. Multi-use trails may be the only place many folks get a chance to interact with a horse.

Advise other trail users of your horse's temperament if your horse is prone to kick or bite.

If your horse is quiet and you want interested park users to pet him, let them know where to stand so the person will not be injured if the horse spooks. It's best not to

stand in front of or behind the animal or next to a leg. You will need to advise folks exactly where to stand and where to pet your horse.

Tie only to designated hitching posts or your trailer and don't leave horses unattended.

If your horse leaves manure in the parking lot, haul it out in your trailer. Leave no trace.

Please alert volunteers of trail conditions that need attention such as blocking trees, holes, low branches, etc. These trails are maintained and built by volunteers. Consider volunteering if you're a frequent park user.