

The Ontario Trail User Code of Ethics

**A research report prepared for the
Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion**

by

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SUMMARY

Need for code of ethics

The Ontario Trails Strategy, approved in 2005, stated that “trail stakeholders recognize the need to work together to effectively establish a province wide code of trail conduct.” A province wide code of ethics would improve the safety of trails in Ontario, reduce conflicts between trail users, and decrease the environmental impact of trails.

In April 2006, the Ministry of Health Promotion contracted the Trail Studies Unit at Trent University, to develop a draft code of ethics for trail users.

Scope of the project

The project called for us to:

1. Do a literature search and recording trail ethics relating to motorized and non-motorized trail users throughout Canada and abroad.
2. Assess each code of ethics to determine generic trail codes of ethics for all users of trails.
3. Propose a code of ethics
4. Test or evaluate acceptance of code of ethics via mail, internet, personal interviews and telephone survey.
5. Prepare a final report.

Methods

Existing codes of ethics advocated by 166 trail organizations, including 49 from Ontario, were collected by internet research, and a survey. They were analyzed to identify commonalities. These formed the basis of a draft code of ethics, that was then circulated to 70 Ontario trail stakeholder for review. This enabled a revised draft code of ethics to be developed. This second draft was then presented at the Ontario Trails Council Conference in June 9-10, 2006. Comments were solicited verbally and by means of a questionnaire. A presentation was made to the Ontario Provincial Trails Advisory Committee, June 26, 2006. As a result, further input was received by email and telephone. Having considered the results of our analysis and the feedback received on draft versions, the following Code of Ethics is proposed:

The Ontario Trail User Code of Ethics

Expect and respect other users

Know and obey rules and laws

Stay on the trail

Do not disturb plants or animals

Do not litter

Respect private property and local residents

Be prepared, to ensure your safety and the safety of others

Stay on the right, pass on the left

Slow when approaching other travelers, and yield to the faster traveler

Be courteous and communicate with other trail users

A province-wide Code of Ethics should apply to all trails and trail users, regardless of mode of transport. As a result, individual trails and user groups may need to add additional ethics to the Code in order for it to meet their specific requirements.

Further Review

The only statement in the above Code of some concern that might merit further consideration, is “Slow when approaching other travelers, and yield to the faster traveler.” This statement could be eliminated and a supplementary statement added on multi-use trails to indicate which users should yield. One respondent suggested the statement could be modified to say “Yield to users with less maneuverability”.

We suggest there be a final review of the proposed Code by the Ontario Trails Council, and a field testing of the Code for comprehension and acceptability. Trails, their users, and impacts are constantly changing, so the Code should again be reviewed and possibly revised within five years.

Approval

It is recommended that the final Code of Ethics be adopted by the Ministry of Health Promotion and the Ontario Trails Council.

Need to communicate

This report has been written in sections so it can be communicated with various levels of detail: the summary, the summary and text, the summary text and figures, and the summary, text, figures and appendices.

If the final Code of Ethics is to achieve the objectives for which it was developed, it will be essential to communicate it widely and persistently by means of websites, newsletters, brochures, and school and public education programs. It should also be communicated by signs on trails, though the wording could be more concise.

Acknowledgements

The Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion for financial aid, and all who contributed to the development of the code.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Why is a Province-Wide Trail User Code of Ethics Needed?

The Ontario Trails Strategy developed by the Ministry of Health Promotion and trail stakeholders across the province establishes directions for planning, managing, promoting and using trails in the province (Ministry of Health Promotion 2005). During the Ontario Trails Strategy consultation process, “Trail stakeholders recognized the need to work together to effectively establish a province-wide code of trail conduct...” (Ministry of Health Promotion 2005). A well established, province-wide code of ethics, will help alleviate some of the challenges that trails in Ontario are facing, by defining acceptable behavior and standards of care to which all trail users should adhere. A province-wide code of ethics would minimize the impact trail users have on the environment, improve the safety of trails, and help alleviate conflict amongst trail users. The goal of a code of ethics is to influence, shape, and control the behavior of trail users, and provide them with a benchmark for self evaluation of their trail conduct.

1.2 Aim and Scope of the Project

The aim of the project was to develop, in consultation with trail stakeholders, a draft code of ethics that could be adopted, and then applied to all trails in Ontario. A province-wide code of ethics must be applicable to all trails and trail users, regardless of mode of transport. As a result, individual trails and user groups may need to add additional ethics to the province-wide code in order for it to meet their specific requirements.

The project called for us to:

1. Do a literature search and recording trail ethics relating to motorized and non-motorized trail users throughout Canada and abroad.
2. Assess each code of ethics to determine generic trail codes of ethics for all users of trails.
3. Propose a code of ethics

4. Test or evaluate acceptance of code of ethics via mail, internet, personal interviews and telephone survey.
5. Prepare a final report.

2.0 METHODS

2.1 Data Collection

This project was initiated on April 17, 2006. The initial stages involved collecting codes of ethics being advocated by trail owners, managers, users and other stakeholders in Ontario and beyond. The internet was the primary source of information used to collect the codes used in this report. An exhaustive search of the internet was undertaken using the Google Canada™ search engine. Keyword searches such as, “trail ethics”, “trail etiquette”, “trail code of conduct”, “trail users code”, “trail regulations”, “rules of the trail”, etc. were performed. Codes of ethics were also collected from published literature, such as trail brochures and maps.

Once the initial internet search was completed a list of trail stakeholders in Ontario was compiled, with additional stakeholders being added over time (Appendix 1). Each of the 70 organizations on this list was contacted via e-mail on May 10 -11, 2006. If there was no information about an organization’s code of ethics, an e-mail was sent inquiring if they advocated a code (Appendix 2). If there was a copy of the organization’s code of ethics an e-mail was sent asking them to verify if the information collected was correct (Appendix 3). Those who did not respond to our initial mailing were contacted again on May 19, 2006, using the form letters presented in Appendix 4 or Appendix 5. As a result of these two mailings 69% of the 70 trail stakeholders responded to our e-mails to add their code to our dataset, confirm they do not advocate a code of ethics, or verify that the information we had collected was correct.

In total 166 codes of ethics were collect via the internet, or as a result of our mailing. Of these 166 codes of ethics 49 codes (29.5%) were promoted by Ontario based trail

stakeholders (Figure 1). Figures 2 and 3 show a breakdown of the target groups for which the codes of ethics in the dataset were directed. Table 1 shows what types of organizations are advocating the codes of ethics in the dataset.

2.2 Data Analysis

A qualitative data analysis software package, NVivo 2 (QSR International Pty Ltd.), was used to assess commonalities in the 166 codes of ethics. Each code of ethics was entered into NVivo as a document, and the data collected on the group advocating the code (type of organization, target audience and location) was recorded as document attribute data. Six general themes were then identified: respect the environment, respect other users, traffic flow and passing, user safety, user limitations and regulations and respect the trail. “Parent nodes” were created for each of these 6 themes in NVivo. The 6 “parent nodes” were further subdivided into more specific “child nodes”. A complete list of the parent and child nodes can be seen in Appendix 6.

NVivo was then used to “code” each of the 166 documents containing codes of ethics. Coding is the process of referencing each passage in a document to the appropriate “parent node” and “child node”. Some passages in code of ethics documents were coded as multiple nodes. For example, the passage “Leave the wildflowers and wildlife for others to enjoy” (Ontario Trails Council, 2006) would be coded as the parent node – “respect the environment”, but would also be coded as the child nodes – “respect flora” and “respect fauna”.

The most commonly stated sub-themes were analyzed to identify commonalities in the dataset of codes of ethics (Table 2). These formed the basis of a draft code of ethics.

2.3. Trail Stakeholder Reviews of Draft Code of Ethics

The draft code of ethics was then circulated to 70 Ontario trail stakeholders (Appendix 1) for review (Appendix 7). The comments received were considered in preparing a revised draft code of ethics.

This revised draft was then presented as a poster at the Ontario Trails Council Conference, June 9-10, 2006 (Appendix 8). Comments were solicited verbally and by means of a questionnaire (Appendix 9).

A presentation, including the revised draft code of ethics, was made to the Ontario Provincial Trails Advisory Committee, June 26, 2006. As a result, further input was received at the meeting and subsequently by email and telephone.

3.0 RESULTS

The percentages of codes of ethics that used each of the 6 general themes are shown in Figure 4. “Respect the Environment” is the theme that is most prevalent in the codes of ethics database. Ninety-six percent of codes of ethics contain a passage coded as “Respect the Environment.” All of the codes of ethics advocated by Ontario trail stakeholders included passages coded as “Respect the Environment.” The theme “Respect the Trail” is present in 81% of all codes of ethics, and 83% of the Ontario codes. Both “Traffic Flow and Passing” and “User Safety” themes are present in 70% of all codes of ethics; however, these themes are only present in 51%, and 53% of the Ontario codes respectively. The least prevalent themes in the codes of ethics are “Respect Other Users” and “Limitations and Restrictions”, both of which are present in 67% of all codes. This is different from the pattern in Ontario codes. “Limitations and Restrictions” themes are present in 73% of Ontario codes, while the “Respect Other Users” theme is only present in 59% of Ontario codes of ethics.

The prevalence of the sub-themes of “Respect the Environment” in all codes of ethics, and the Ontario codes subset is shown in Figure 5. This shows that the two are similar. “Do Not Litter” phrases are present in 78% of all codes of ethics, and 82% of Ontario codes. Both datasets also show that “Stay on the Trail” is the second most prevalent sub-theme of “Respect the Environment”, present in 63% of all codes of ethics, and 73% of Ontario codes. “Respect the Fauna,” and “Respect the Flora” are both common in all codes of ethics. Fifty two percent and 43% of all codes of ethics contain “Respect the Fauna” and “Respect the Flora” phrases respectively. These phrases are more common in Ontario codes, with 59% including “Respect the Fauna,” and 57% including “Respect the Flora.”

The prevalence of the sub-themes of “Respect the Trail” in all codes of ethics are shown in Figure 6. This shows that the most prominently stated sub-theme of “Respect the Trail” is “Respect Private Property and Locals”, which is used in 57% of all codes of ethics, and 73% of Ontario codes. “Respect Designated Trail Uses” is the second most commonly stated sub-theme of “Respect the Trail,” in 33% of all codes of ethics, and 24% of Ontario codes. “Obey signs” closely follows, as it is included in 25% of all codes of ethics, and 29% of Ontario codes.

The frequencies of the sub-theme of “User Safety” are shown in Figure 7. It shows that “Be Prepared” is the most commonly used sub-theme of “User Safety”, closely followed by “Know and Obey Laws and Rules” and “Be in Control”. These codes are present in 29%, 23% and 21% of all codes of ethics respectively, and 20%, 20%, and 14% of Ontario codes respectively. However, it must be noted that unlike all of the other general themes, there are no sub-themes of “User Safety” that are used significantly more than others, with less than a 20% difference between the top 8 most frequently used sub-themes.

The occurrence of the “Traffic Flow and Passing” sub-themes is presented in Figure 8. The closely related “Right of Way” and “Passing Etiquette” are the most frequent sub-themes, present in 49% and 45% of all codes respectively, and 55% and 33% of Ontario

codes. “Communicate Presence and Intentions” is stated in 36% of all codes, and 20% of Ontario codes. “Stay on the Right” is also stated in a significant number of codes of ethics. Thirty one percent of all codes of ethics include “Stay on the Right”, substantially greater than the 18% of Ontario codes that include it.

The most commonly stated sub-theme of “User Limitations and Regulation” is “Control your Pets” (Figure 9). Eighty-three percent of all codes of ethics contain a passage coded as “Control your Pets.” This is significantly higher than the 57% of Ontario codes that state “Control your Pets.” Codes banning motorized users are the second most commonly advocated sub-theme of the “User Limitations and Regulations” theme. These are included in 19% of all codes of ethics, and 29% of Ontario codes.

The most commonly included sub-theme of the “Respect other Users” category is “Be Courteous to Other Users” (Figure 10). It is included in 57% of all codes of ethics, and 51% of Ontario codes. “Avoid Excessive Noise” is included in 16% of all codes of ethics, and 16% of Ontario codes.

The most commonly stated sub-themes were analyzed to identify commonalities in the dataset of codes of ethics (Table 2). These formed the basis of a draft code of ethics, that was then circulated to 70 Ontario trail stakeholder for review (Appendix 7). This enabled a revised draft code of ethics to be developed.

This revised draft was then presented as a poster at the Ontario Trails Council Conference, June 9-10, 2006. Comments were solicited verbally and by means of a questionnaire (Appendix 9). Ten people completed the questionnaire. Of these 7 indicated they were hikers, 5 cyclists, 3 walkers, 2 cross-country skiers and 1 motor-cyclist. Of the 10 respondents, 9 supported the code, 1 did not. Three respondents made suggestions for improving the code. One said it “would be great to shorten the list,” “shorten the longer points” or “combine a couple of points.” “Keep it short, clear and quick to read and absorb.” Another person asked: “is this really a ‘code of ethics?’ Seems more like manners or common courtesy.” The one person who did not support the code,

who was a motor-cyclist, suggested a statement banning alcohol, drugs and fires, and said a horse and dog policy was needed.

A presentation was made to the Ontario Provincial Trails Advisory Committee, June 26, 2006. As a result, further input, that was largely positive, was received at the meeting and subsequently by email and telephone. However, concern was raised on behalf of trail users with disabilities, about the statement in the draft code: “Yield to the faster traveler.” These concerns and means to address them are discussed in the Conclusion.

4.0 CONCLUSION

The following code of ethics was developed based upon the research on commonalities in codes of ethics, as well as through the input of the trail stakeholders. A universal code of ethics, that applies to all trails and trail users, must be general in nature. These statements are designed to be easy to understand, and not overly restrictive.

The Ontario Trail User Code of Ethics

- **Expect and respect other users**
- **Know and obey rules and laws**
- **Stay on the trail**
- **Do not disturb plants or animals**
- **Do not litter**
- **Respect private property and local residents**
- **Be prepared, to ensure your safety and the safety of others**
- **Stay on the right, pass on the left**
- **Slow when approaching other travelers, and yield to the faster traveler**
- **Be courteous and communicate with other trail users**

Some comments on each of these statements follow.

Expect and respect other users

This statement was not present in the draft version of the code that was sent out to Ontario trail stakeholders for comments. We received several requests that it be added. It embodies the “Be Courteous to Other Users” theme, but also incorporates and emphasizes “User Safety”, and “Traffic Flow and Passing” themes. We therefore added this passage to our proposed “Ontario Trail User Code of Ethics”.

Know and obey rules and laws

Although this theme was only used in 23% of the codes of ethics in our dataset, we felt that it should be included in our list. Due to the general nature of the Ontario Trail Users Code of Ethics, and the fact that this set of ethics will likely be supplementing rules already in place, we thought it would be appropriate for our list. This statement also incorporates restrictions that are covered by municipal, provincial and federal laws, such as leash laws for pet owners, and helmet requirements for motorized trail users. This statement also emphasizes “Respect designated trail uses” and “Obey signs”.

Stay on the trail

This ethic is the second most used ethic in our dataset. It is contained in 73% of Ontario codes of ethics, and 63% of all codes of ethics. This statement is a means of preventing several problems associated with recreational trail usage. The most common reasons that trail users leave the trail are to approach an attractive natural feature, or to take a shortcut. Problems arise when trail users are repetitively leaving the trail in the same location. Repetitive shortcutting rapidly creates erosion problems, and sensitive features such as vegetation are trampled. The easiest way to prevent these problems is to advise people to stay on the trail. It also discourages trail users from trespassing on private property, and helps improve relations with landowners, and local residents.

Do not disturb plants or animals

This ethic encompasses the “Respect Fauna” and “Respect Flora” ethics, which are present in 59% and 57% of the Ontario codes of ethics, and 52% and 43% of all codes respectively. This ethic is extremely important as many trails pass through sensitive

habitats containing endangered species of plants and animals. It is essential that trail users disrupt the natural environment as little as possible.

Do not litter

side of the trail, allows faster trail users to overtake on the left hand side of the trail, and leaves room for oncoming traffic to pass uninhibited.

Slow when approaching other travelers, and yield to the faster traveler

This passage covers the “Right of Way,” “Passing Etiquette”, and the “Speed” sub-themes. These sub-themes are present in 49%, 45% and 27% of all codes of ethics. This is the most controversial statement in our proposed code. Originally we stated “Yield to the faster traveler”. Many respondents suggested we should change this to “Yield to the slower traveler,” however, this does not facilitate efficient traffic flow on trails. The addition of “Slow when approaching other travelers” emphasizes that the faster traveler does not have unlimited right of way. All trail users should slow when approaching others on the trail and the slower users should allow the faster traveler to overtake them.

Be courteous and communicate with other trail users

“Be Courteous to Other Users” is present in 58% of all codes of ethics, and in 51% of Ontario codes. “Communicate Presence and Intentions” is advocated in 36% of all codes, and 20% of the Ontario codes. Proper communication between trail users helps improve safety on the trail. Trail users should announce their presence, to avoid startling other trail users, and should clearly communicate their intentions before passing.

The only statement in the proposed Code of some concern that might merit further consideration, is the statement “Slow when approaching other travelers, and yield to the faster traveler.” Patti Longmuir of PEL Consulting, Don Mills raised concerns about this statement, especially on behalf of trail users with disabilities. She suggested “two possible options for changes, depending on the intent of the ‘faster traveler’ clause: a) change it to “allow faster travelers to pass”, if the purpose of the clause is to educate users that they shouldn’t deliberately block other users, or b) change it to ‘yield to users who have less maneuverability’ (you could probably find better wording for this option in the rules for watercraft use) if the intent is to ensure that there are clear lines of responsibility when users of different abilities encounter one another on the trail.”

We suggest this statement could be eliminated and instead a supplementary statement be added on shared-use trails to indicate which users should yield.

We suggest there be a final review of the proposed Code by the Ontario Trails Council, and a field testing of the Code for comprehension and acceptability.

5.0 SUPPLEMENTARY CODES

A province-wide code of ethics must be applicable to all trails and trail users, regardless of mode of transport, and therefore must be general in nature. We recognize that individual trails and user groups may need to add additional ethics to the province-wide code in order for it to meet their specific requirements. A complete list of additional ethics for all conceivable situations is beyond the scope of this report. However, the following are three possible supplementary codes

Trails that allow pets

- **Control and clean up after pets.** This statement combines “Control your Pets” and “Clean up after Pets and Horses”. These themes were advocated in 50% and 28% of all codes respectively. Many of the Ontario trail stakeholders suggested that this statement be included in “The Ontario Trail User Code of Ethics.” However, 7% of ethics in our dataset included a “No Pets” clause, and therefore “Control and clean up after pets” could not be included. We do, however, recommend that all trails that allow pets include this statement.

Trails that allow horseback riders

- **Pass horseback riders with caution, making no sudden or loud movements.** We recognize that trails that allow horseback riders need to address horse and other trail user’s safety for a code of ethics to be effective. However, given that not all trails allow horses, we could not include a specific ethic for horseback riders in The Ontario Trail User Code of Ethics.

Trails for mechanized users

- **Always wear a helmet, and appropriate safety gear.** Twenty percent of all codes of ethics contained helmet rules. During consultation many stakeholders suggested that we add a helmet statement to The Ontario Trail User Code of Ethics. However, since a large number of trails do not allow mechanized users, a universal helmet code would not be appropriate.

6.0 ADOPTON OF CODE OF ETHICS

By adopting a province-wide code of ethics, Ontario will provide trail users with a consistent code, thus helping ensure compliance. The Ontario Trail User Code of Ethics needs to be reviewed by the Ontario Trails Council and then adopted by the Council and the Ministry of Health Promotion.

7.0 COMMUNICATING A CODE OF ETHICS

In order for a trail users Code of Ethics to be effective it must be advertised to the public. Some suggested methods of conveying The Ontario Trail Users Code of Ethics to the public include:

- Trail signage
- Pamphlets
- Posters
- Trail guidebooks
- Websites
- T.V. commercials
- School/Education programs

8.0 CONTINUOUS MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF A CODE OF ETHICS

A code of ethics such as The Ontario Trail Users Code of Ethics will not stand forever. It must be recognized that regular reviews of the code should be undertaken to determine its appropriateness and effectiveness.

9.0 REFERENCES

Ministry of Health Promotion. 2005. Ontario Trails Strategy. Queen's Printer for Ontario.
Toronto

Ontario Trails Council. 2006. OTC Trail Etiquette.

http://www.ontariotrails.on.ca/otc_etiquette.htm (accessed May 31, 2006).

10.0 FIGURES

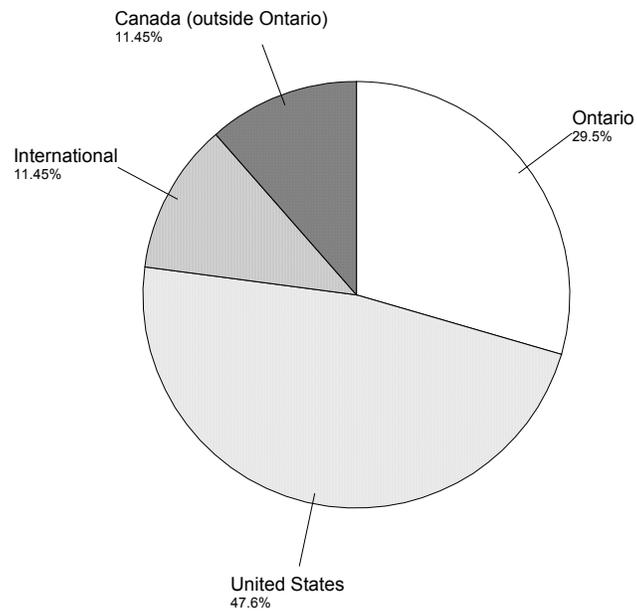


Figure 1 Codes of Ethics in Dataset by Location (n=166)

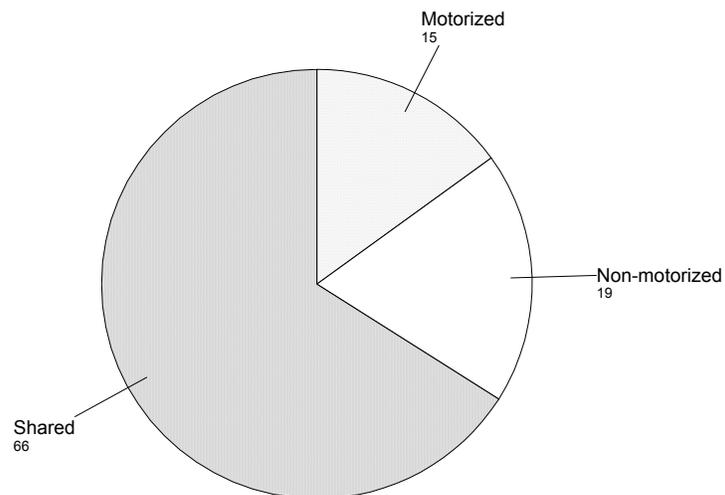


Figure 2 Codes of Ethics in Dataset by Motorized and Non-Motorized Target Groups (n=166)

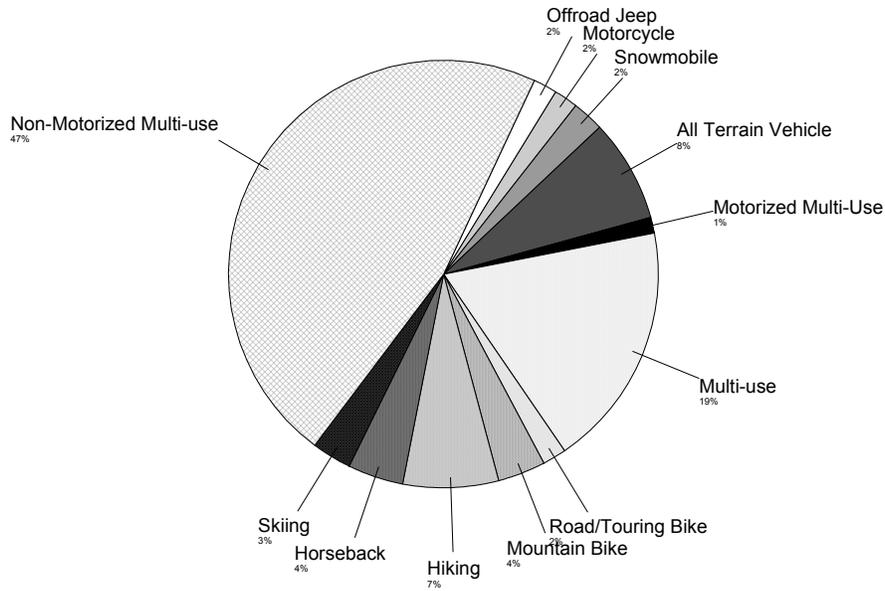


Figure 3. Codes of Ethics in Dataset by Target Groups (n=166)

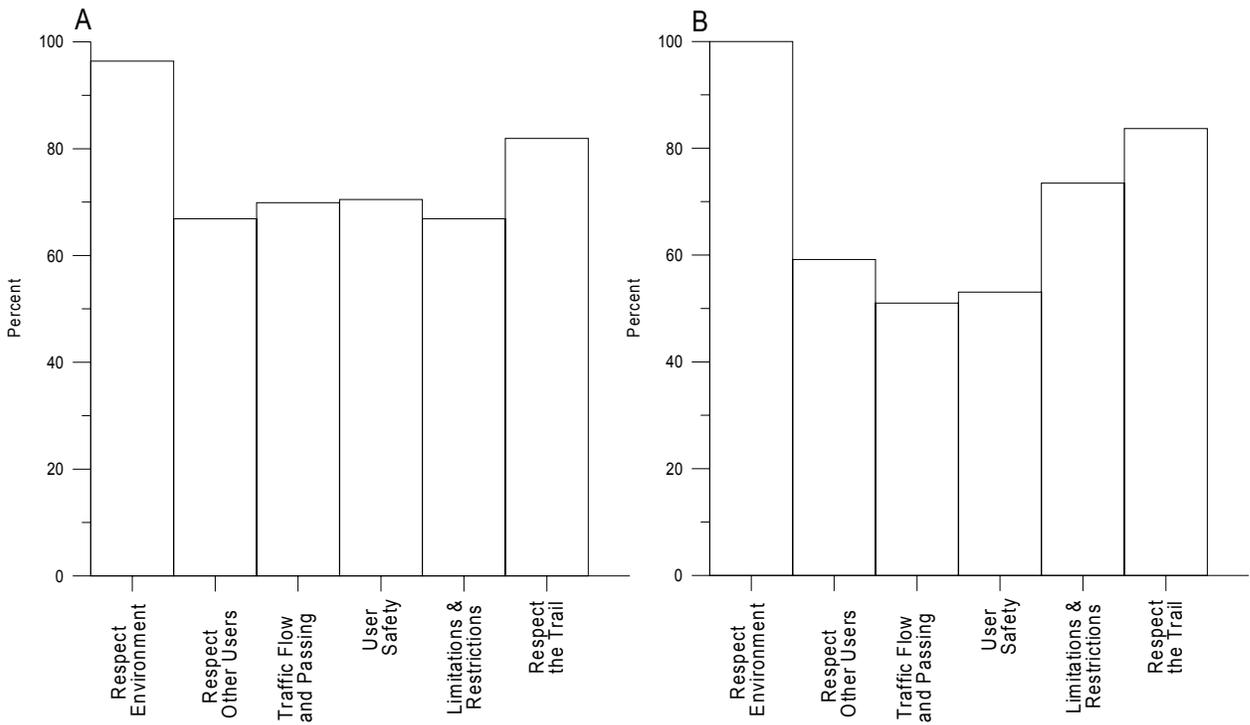


Figure 4. Percentage Of Codes Of Ethics In Dataset Containing The General Themes (Parent Nodes): (A) Entire Dataset (n=166) and (B) Ontario Based Organizations (n=49)

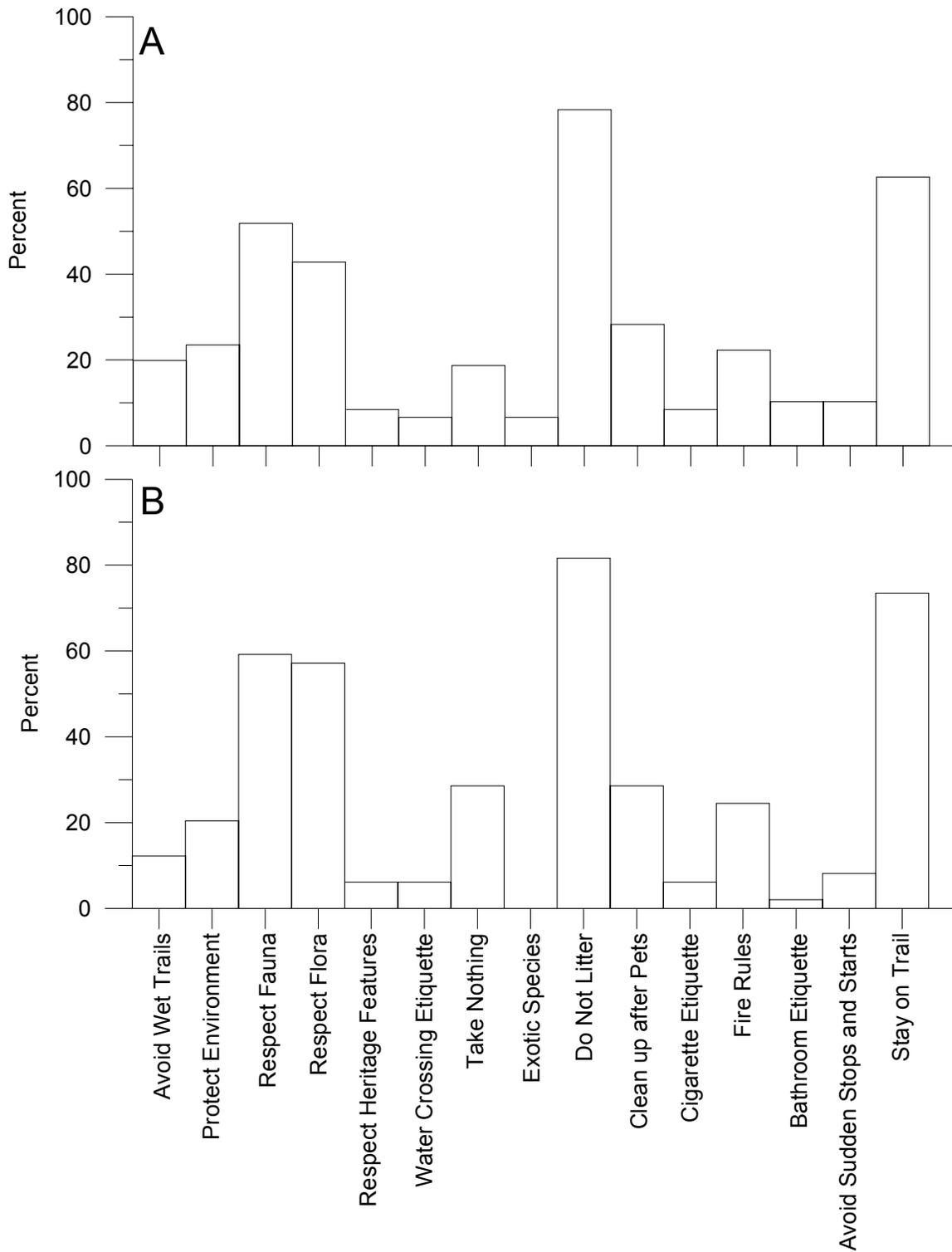


Figure 5. The Percentage of Codes of Ethics that Contain Respect The Environment Sub-Themes: (A) Entire Dataset (n=166) and (B) Ontario Based Organizations (n=49)

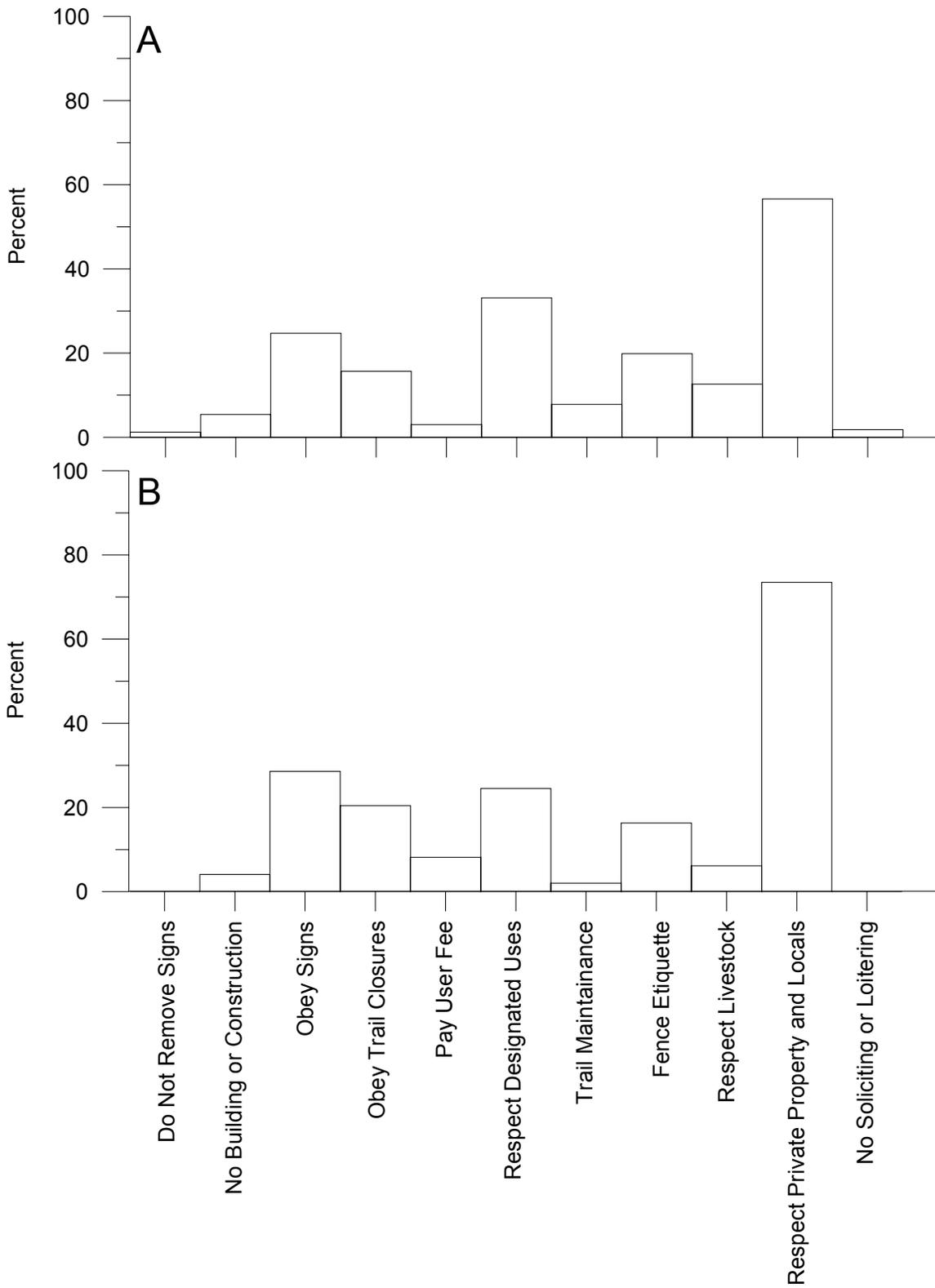


Figure 6. The Percentage of Codes of Ethics that Contain Respect The Trail Sub-Themes: (A) Entire Dataset (n=166) and (B) Ontario Based Organizations (n=49)

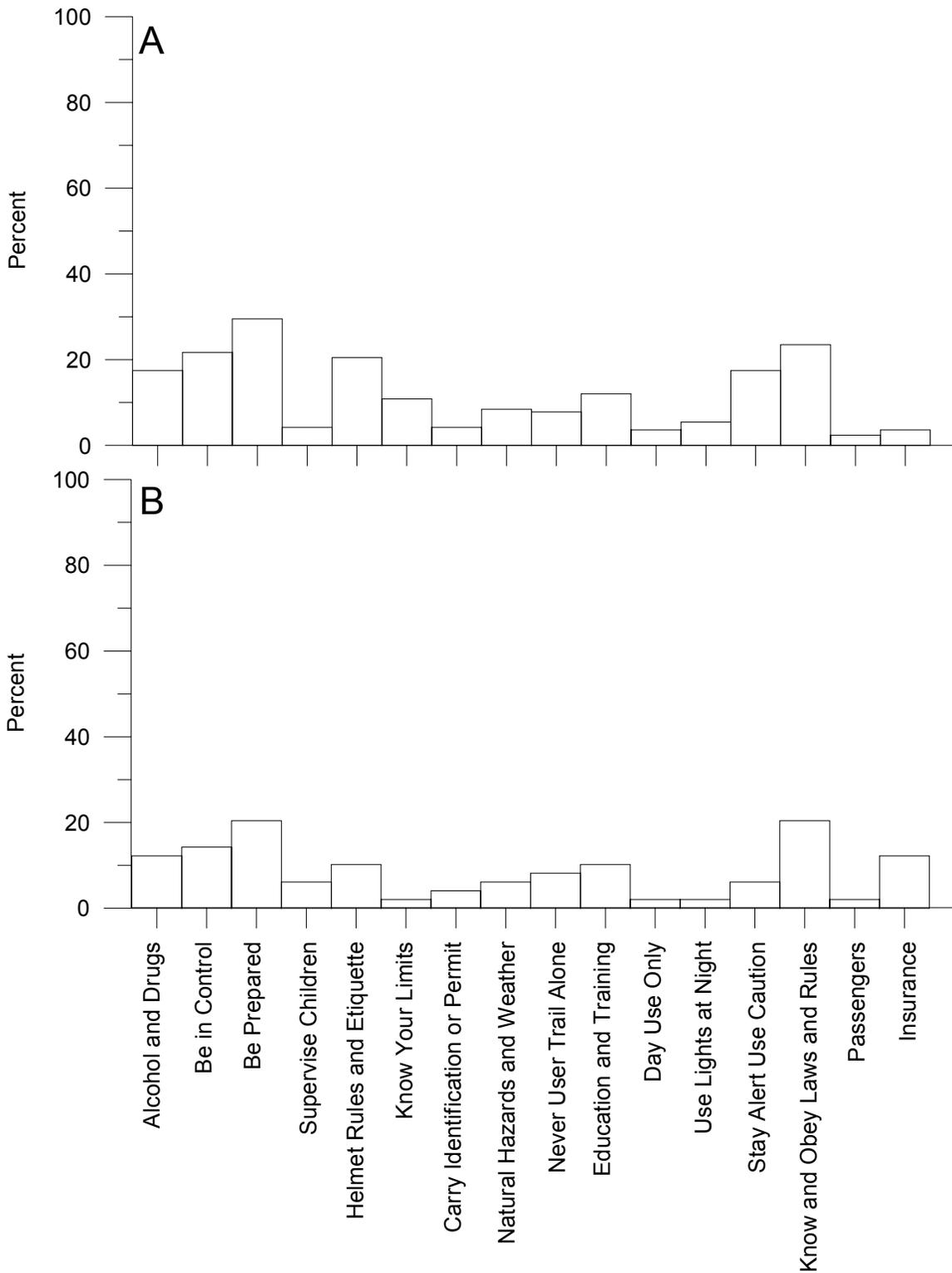


Figure 7. The Percentage of Codes of Ethics that Contain User Safety Sub-Themes: (A) Entire Dataset (n=166) and (B) Ontario Based Organizations (n=49)

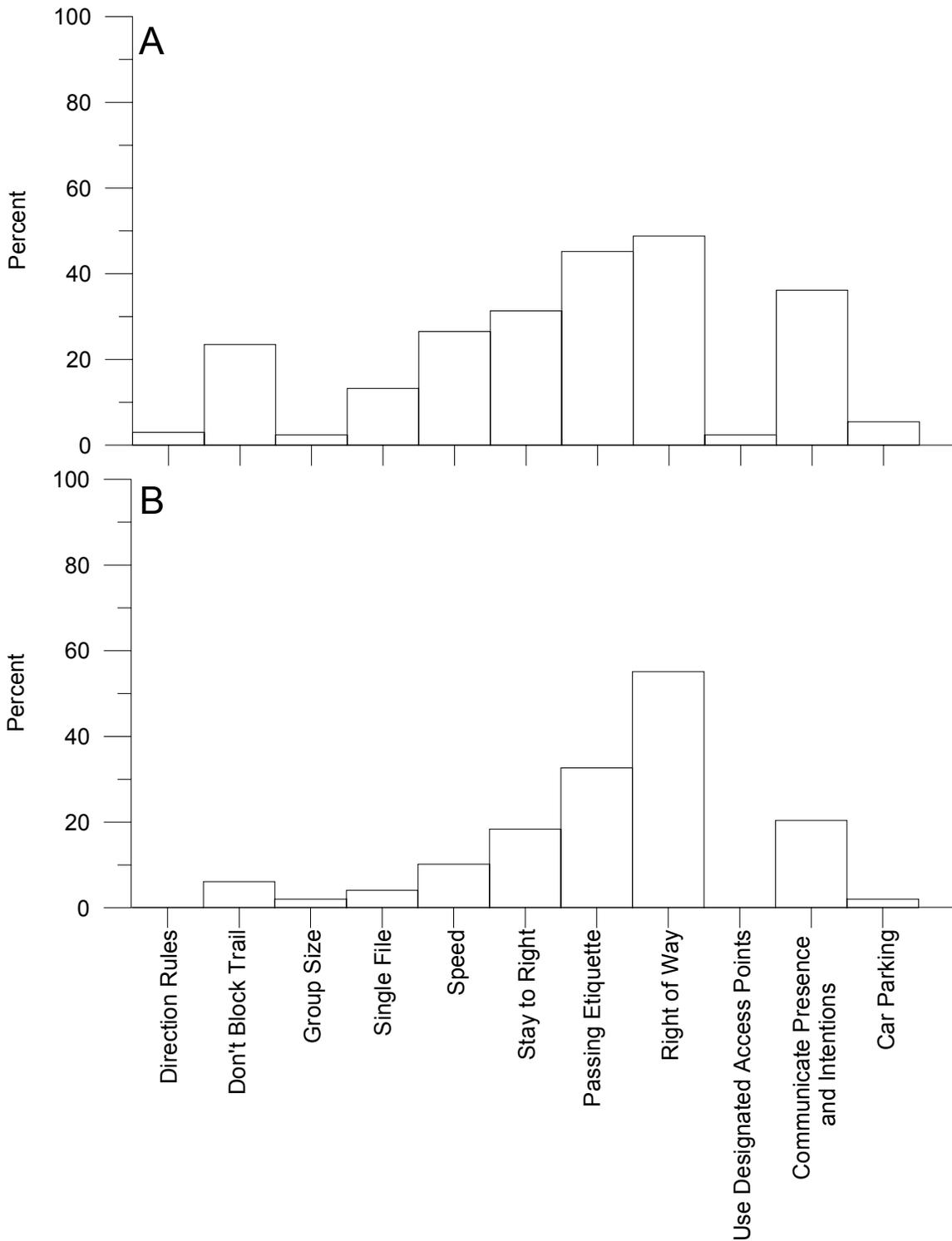


Figure 8. The Percentage of Codes of Ethics that Contain Traffic Flow and Passing Sub-Themes: (A) Entire Dataset (n=166) and (B) Ontario Based Organizations (n=49)

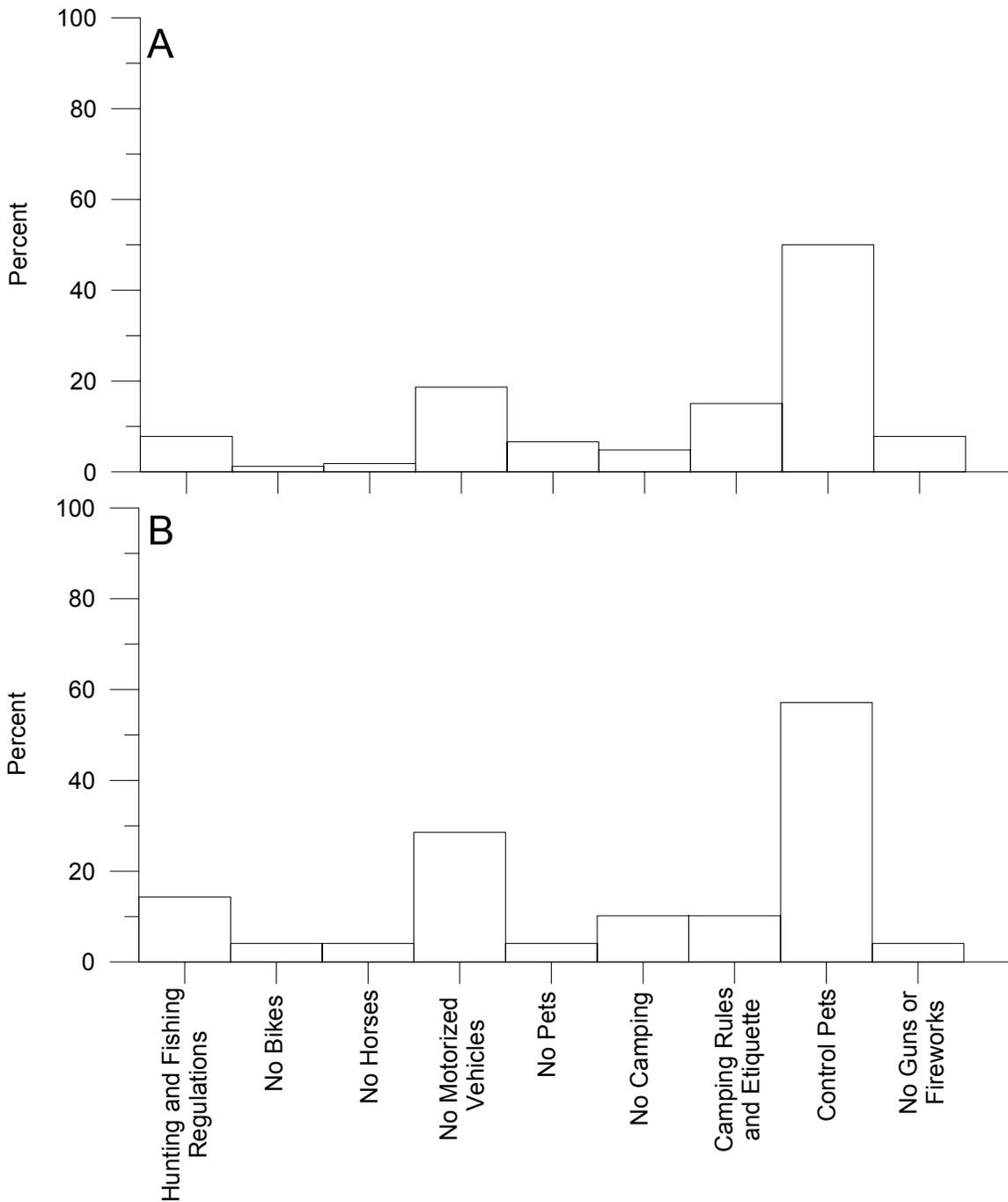


Figure 9. The Percentage of Codes of Ethics that Contain User Limitations and Regulations Sub-Themes: (A) Entire Dataset (n=166) and (B) Ontario Based Organizations (n=49)

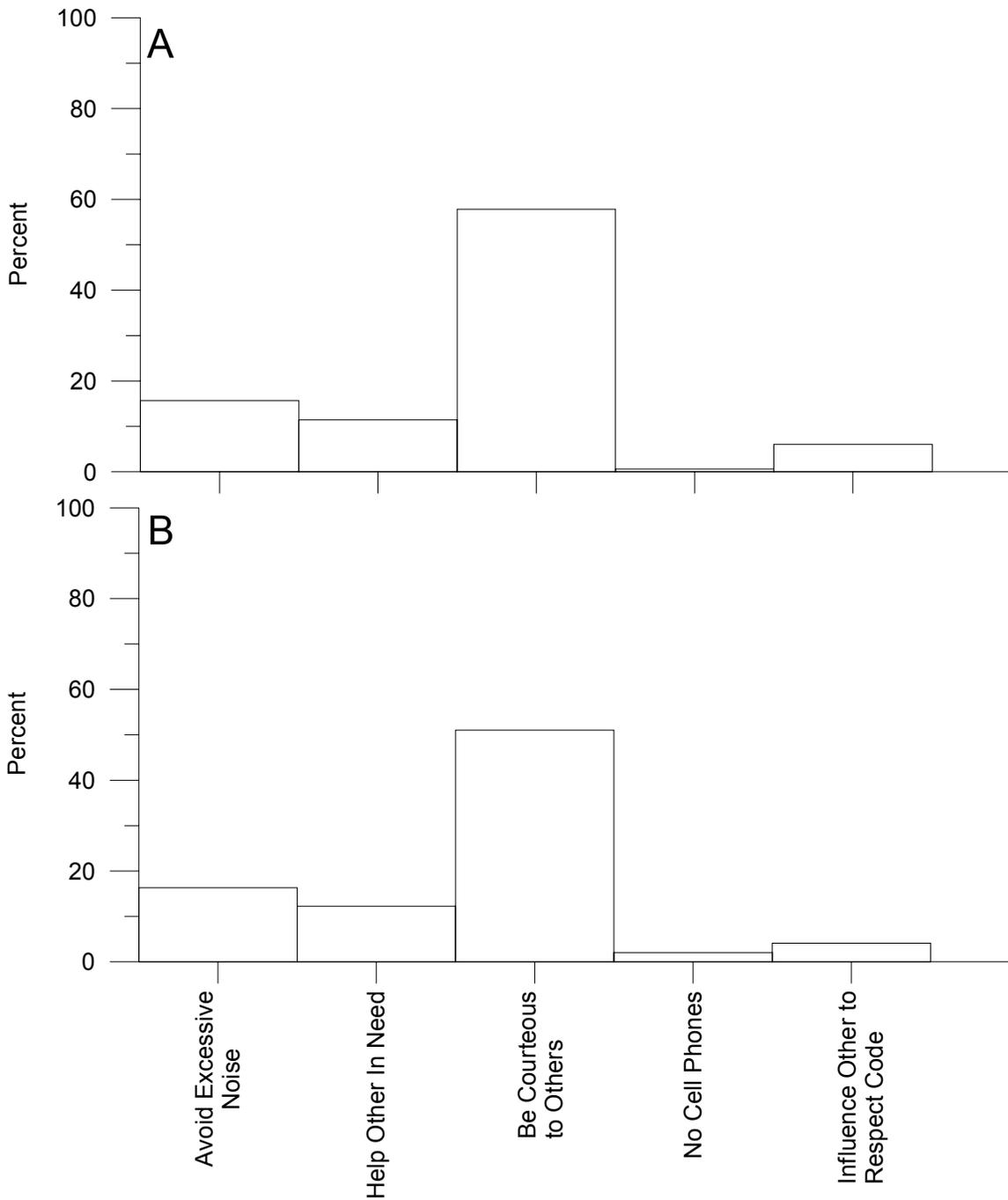


Figure 10. The Percentage of Codes of Ethics that Contain Respect Other Users Sub-Themes: (A) Entire Dataset (n=166) and (B) Ontario Based Organizations (n=49)

11.0 TABLES

Table 1. Codes of Ethics in Dataset by the Type of Organization

Type of Organization	Number of Codes in Database
National Government	6
Provincial/State Government	18
Municipal Government	33
Regional Government	2
Township Government	3
International User Group	2
National User Group	6
Provincial User Group	10
Regional User Group	6
Local User Group	2
National Trail Group	4
Provincial Trail Group	8
Regional Trail Group	26
Local Trail Group	12
National Park	7
Private Land	5
Conservation Authority	6
Tourism Association	1
Corporate	1
Education	8

Table 2. The 25 Most Commonly Advocated Sub-Themes: (A) All Data (N=166), and (B) Ontario Data (N=49)

A	% of codes advocating	B	% of codes advocating
Sub-theme		Sub-theme	
Do Not Litter	78	Do Not Litter	82
Stay on Trail	63	Stay on Trail	73
Be Courteous to Other Users	58	Respect Private Property and Locals	73
Respect Private Property and Locals	57	Respect Fauna	59
Respect Fauna	52	Respect Flora	57
Control Pets	50	Control Pets	57
Right of Way	49	Right of Way	55
Passing Etiquette	45	Be Courteous to Other Users	51
Respect Flora	43	Passing Etiquette	33
Communicate Presence and Intentions	36	Take Nothing	29
Respect Designated Trail Uses	33	Clean-up after Pets and Horses	29
Stay to Right or Left	31	No Motorized Vehicles	29
Be Prepared	30	Obey Signs	29
Clean-up after Pets and Horses	28	Fire Rules	24
Speed	27	Respect Designated Trail Uses	24
Obey Signs	25	Protect Environment	20
Protect Environment	23	Communicate Presence and Intentions	20
Don't Block Trail	23	Be Prepared	20
Know and Obey Law and Rules	23	Know and Obey Law and Rules	20
Fire Rules	22	Obey Trail Closures	20
Be in Control	22	Stay to Right or Left	18
Helmet Rules and Etiquette	20	Avoid Excessive Noise	16
Avoid Wet Trails	20	Fence Etiquette	16
Fence Etiquette	20	Be in Control	14
Take Nothing	19	Hunting and Fishing Regulations	14

12.0 APPENDICES

Appendix 1. Ontario Trail Stakeholders Contacted For Codes of Ethics or to Verify Codes of Ethics

Ontario Trail Stakeholder	Responded to Mailing	Commented on Draft
A Stroll in the Park Walking and Adventure Club	Yes	Yes
ATV Ontario		
Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority		
Avon Trail		
Bighead River Heritage Association		
Bluewater Trails	Yes	
Bruce Gray Trails Network		
Bruce Trail Association	Yes	Yes
Caledon Hills Bruce Trail Club		Yes
Canada Trails	Yes	Yes
Cataraqui Trail		Yes
Central Lake Ontario Conservation		
Central Ontario Loop Trail	Yes	Yes
Conservation Halton		
Conservation Ontario	Yes	
Credit Valley Conservation	Yes	Yes
Cross Country Ontario	Yes	
Cycle Ontario Alliance	Yes	Yes
Dufferin Hi-Land Bruce Trail Club	Yes	
Durham Outdoors Club		
Eastern Ontario Trail Alliance		
Elgin Hiking Trail Club		
Elora Cataract Trail		
Friends of Ontario Recreational Trails and Partners	Yes	Yes
Friends of the Glengarry Trails Association		
Ganaraska Hiking Trail Association	Yes	
Georgian Triangle Tourist Association		Yes
Go For Green	Yes	
Grand Valley Trails Association	Yes	
Green Tourism Association	Yes	
Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council	Yes	
Haliburton Highlands Trails and Tours Network	Yes	Yes
Hamilton Conservation Authority	Yes	Yes
Hike Ontario	Yes	
Humber Valley Heritage Trail		
Huronian Trails and Greenways	Yes	Yes
IMBA Canada	Yes	
Iroquoia Bruce Trail Club	Yes	
Lambton County Trails		

Nastawgan Trails		
Northern Lights, the Ontario Federation of 4WD Recreationists	Yes	Yes
Northern Ontario Native Tourism Association		
Oak Ridges Trail Association	Yes	Yes
Ontario Cycling Association	Yes	Yes
Ontario Equestrian Federation	Yes	
Ontario Federation of All Terrain Vehicle Clubs	Yes	Yes
Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs	Yes	Yes
Ontario Federation of Trail Riders	Yes	Yes
Ontario Nature	Yes	Yes
Ontario Parks	Yes	
Ontario Parks Association	Yes	Yes
Ontario Trail Riders Association Inc.	Yes	
Ontario Trails Council	Yes	
Otonabee Conservation	Yes	
Outback ATV Club		
Park to Park Trail	Yes	
Parks and Recreation Ontario	Yes	
Petrolia Discovery Trail		
Rideau Trail Association		
Street to Trail	Yes	Yes
Sudbury Hiking Club		
Sydenham Bruce Trail Club		
Thames Valley Trail Association	Yes	
Thunder Bay Hiking Association		
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority		
Toronto Bruce Trail Club	Yes	Yes
Trans Canada Trail Ontario	Yes	Yes
Voyageur Trail Association	Yes	
Waterfront Regeneration Trust	Yes	
Welland Canals Parkway and Trails	Yes	

Appendix 2. Form Letter Used in Initial Mailing to Organizations without a Code of Ethics in the Dataset

Dear INSERT

We at the Trail Studies Unit of Trent University have received funding from the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion's Trails for Life grant program to develop a Code of Ethics for Ontario Trail Users. We have collected numerous examples of codes of ethics that are currently being advocated by trail owners, managers, users and other stakeholders across the province, and beyond. This information is being analyzed to assess their commonalities. From this analysis we will be suggesting a set of ethics to be considered for adoption by the trails community.

Currently, our information does not contain a code of ethics that INSERT promotes. Your organization's input is important to us. If INSERT promotes a trail user's code of ethics we would appreciate a copy. In return for your contribution we will include you in our list of organizations that we will approach for review before we submit our draft proposal to the Ministry of Health Promotion for review by the Ontario Trails Coordinating Committee (i.e. the advisory committee that oversees the implementation of the Ontario Trails Strategy). The final product will be presented to the Ontario Trails Council for its consideration for wide-spread application. Any information that you can provide can be e-mailed to craigmurray@trentu.ca, telephoned to (705) 748-1011 ext. 1419, or mailed to:

The Trail Studies Unit
c/o The Geography Dept.
Trent University
1600 East Bank Dr.
Peterborough, ON
K9J 7B8
ATTN: Craig Murray

Due to the tight timeline of this project, we would appreciate your response before May 18th, 2006.

Thanks
Craig Murray, M.Sc.
Research Assistant
Trail Studies Unit
Trent University

Appendix 3. Form Letter Used in Initial Mailing to Organizations with a Code of Ethics in the Dataset

Dear INSERT

We at the Trail Studies Unit of Trent University have received funding from the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion's Trails for Life grant program to develop a Code of Ethics for Ontario Trail Users. We have collected numerous examples of codes of ethics currently being advocated by trail owners, managers, users and other stakeholders across the province, and beyond. This information is being analyzed to assess their commonalities. From this analysis we will be suggesting a set of ethics to be considered for adoption by the trails community.

Currently, our dataset shows that INSERT promotes the following code of ethics:

INSERT THE CODE OF ETHICS IN DATABASE FOR RECIPIENT

We would like to verify that the above code of ethics is accurate, and current. Your organization's input is important to us. In return for your contribution we will include you in our list of organizations that we will approach for review before we submit our proposal for review by the Ontario Trails Coordinating Committee (i.e. the advisory committee that oversees the implementation of the Ontario Trails Strategy). The final product will be presented to the Ontario Trails Council for its consideration for wide-spread application. Any information that you can provide can be e-mailed to craigmurray@trentu.ca, telephoned to (705) 748-1011 ext. 1419, or mailed to:

The Trail Studies Unit
c/o The Geography Dept.
Trent University
1600 East Bank Dr.
Peterborough, ON
K9J 7B8
ATTN: Craig Murray

Due to the tight timeline of this project, we would appreciate your response before May 18th, 2006.

Thanks
Craig Murray, M.Sc.
Research Assistant
Trail Studies Unit
Trent University

Appendix 4. Form Letter Used in Second Mailing to Organizations without a Code of Ethics in the Dataset that Did Not Reply to the Initial Mailing Before May 19, 2006.

Dear INSERT

We at the Trail Studies Unit of Trent University are looking for your input. You were sent an e-mail on May 10, 2006 inquiring about trail user codes of ethics. We have not heard back from you. INSERT input is important to us. We have received funding from the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion's Trails for Life grant program to develop a Code of Ethics for Ontario Trail Users. We have collected numerous examples of codes of ethics that are currently being advocated by trail owners, managers, users and other stakeholders across the province, and beyond. This information is being analyzed to assess their commonalities. From this analysis we will be suggesting a set of ethics to be considered for adoption by the trails community.

Currently, our information does not contain a code of ethics that INSERT promotes. If INSERT promotes a trail user's code of ethics we would appreciate a copy. In return for your contribution we will include you in our list of organizations that we will approach for review before we submit our draft proposal to the Ministry of Health Promotion for review by the Ontario Trails Coordinating Committee (i.e. the advisory committee that oversees the implementation of the Ontario Trails Strategy). The final product will be presented to the Ontario Trails Council for its consideration for wide-spread application. Any information that you can provide can be e-mailed to craigmurray@trentu.ca, telephoned to (705) 748-1011 ext. 1419, or mailed to:

The Trail Studies Unit
c/o The Geography Dept.
Trent University
1600 East Bank Dr.
Peterborough, ON
K9J 7B8
ATTN: Craig Murray

Due to the tight timeline of this project, we would appreciate your response before May 24th, 2006.

Thanks
Craig Murray, M.Sc.
Research Assistant
Trail Studies Unit
Trent University

Appendix 5. Form Letter Used in Second Mailing to Organizations with a Code of Ethics in the Dataset that did not Reply to the Initial Mailing Before May 19, 2006.

Dear INSERT

We at the Trail Studies Unit of Trent University are looking for your input. You were sent an e-mail on May 10, 2006 inquiring about trail user codes of ethics. We have not heard back from you. INSERT input is important to us. We have received funding from the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion's Trails for Life grant program to develop a Code of Ethics for Ontario Trail Users. We have collected numerous examples of codes of ethics that are currently being advocated by trail owners, managers, users and other stakeholders across the province, and beyond. This information is being analyzed to assess their commonalities. From this analysis we will be suggesting a set of ethics to be considered for adoption by the trails community.

Currently, our dataset shows that INSERT promotes the following code of ethics:

INSERT THE CODE OF ETHICS IN DATABASE FOR RECIPIENT

We would like to verify that the above code of ethics is accurate, and current. Your organization's input is important to us. In return for your contribution we will include you in our list of organizations that we will approach for review before we submit our proposal for review by the Ontario Trails Coordinating Committee (i.e. the advisory committee that oversees the implementation of the Ontario Trails Strategy). The final product will be presented to the Ontario Trails Council for its consideration for wide-spread application. Any information that you can provide can be e-mailed to craigmurray@trentu.ca, telephoned to (705) 748-1011 ext. 1419, or mailed to:

The Trail Studies Unit
c/o The Geography Dept.
Trent University
1600 East Bank Dr.
Peterborough, ON
K9J 7B8

ATTN: Craig Murray

Due to the tight timeline of this project, we would appreciate your response before May 24th, 2006.

Thanks
Craig Murray, M.Sc.
Research Assistant
Trail Studies Unit
Trent University

Appendix 6. General Themes (Parent Nodes), and Sub-Themes (Child Nodes) used in NVivo Coding

PARENT NODE	CHILD NODES	
Respect Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect Environment • Respect Fauna • Respect Flora • Respect Heritage Features • Avoid Wet Trails • Water Crossings • Take Nothing • Exotic Species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do Not Litter • Clean-up after Pets and Horses • Cigarette Etiquette • Fire Rules • Bathroom Etiquette • Avoid Sudden Stops and Starts • Stay on Trail
Respect Other Users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid Excessive Noise • Help Others in Need • Be Courteous to Other Users 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Cell Phones • Influence Others to Respect Code
Traffic Flow and Passing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directional Rules • Don't Block Trail • Group Size • Single File • Speed • Stay to Right or Left 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passing Etiquette • Right of Way • Use Designated Access Points • Communicate Presence and Intentions • Car Parking
User Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alcohol or Drugs • Be in Control • Be Prepared • Children Accompanied by Adult • Helmet Rules and Etiquette • Know Your Limits • Carry Identification or Permit • Natural Hazards and Weather 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never Use Trail Alone • Education and Training • Day Use Only • Use Lights at Night • Stay Alert Use Caution • Know and Obey Law and Rules • Passengers • Insurance
User Limitations and Restrictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hunting and Fishing Regulations • No Biking • No Horses • No Motorized Vehicles • No Pets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control Pets • No Camping • Camping Rules and Etiquette • No Guns or Fireworks
Respect the Trail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do Not Remove Signs • No Building, Construction, Digging etc • Obey Signs • Obey Trail Closures • Pay User Fee • Respect Designated Trail Uses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trail Maintenance • Fence Etiquette • Respect Livestock • Respect Private Property and Locals • No Soliciting or Loitering

Appendix 7. Form Letter Used in Final Mailing to all Organizations on the List of Ontario Trail Stakeholders, Asking for Comment on Proposed Code of Ethics.

Dear INSERT

As mentioned in my previous e-mail, the Trail Study Unit at Trent University received funding from the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion's Trails for Life grant program to develop a Code of Ethics for Ontario Trail Users. We collected over 175 codes of ethics that are currently being advocated by trail owners, managers, users and other stakeholders across the province, and beyond. This information was analyzed to assess their commonalities. From this analysis we developed the following code of ethics:

The Ontario Trail User Code of Ethics

- Know and obey rules and laws
- Stay on the Trail
- Do not disturb plants or animals
- Do not litter
- Respect private property and local residents
- Be prepared, and stay in control
- Stay right, pass left
- Yield to the faster traveler
- Be courteous and communicate with other trail users

This general code of ethics has been developed to meet the needs of all trails and trail users, regardless of their mode of transport. We recognize that individual trails and user groups may need to add additional ethics to The Ontario Trail User Code of Ethics in order for it to meet their specific requirements. We value the opinion of INSERT, and would appreciate your comments. If you support our proposed Ontario Trail User Code of Ethics please let us know. If not, what would you change? On the basis of the comments we receive we will revise the above code of ethics before submitting it to the Ministry of Health Promotion for review by the Ontario Trails Coordinating Committee. The final product will be presented to the Ontario Trails Council for its consideration for wide-spread application. Your comments can be e-mailed to craigmurray@trentu.ca. Due to the tight timeline of this project, we would appreciate your comments before May 28th, 2006.

Thank you,
Craig Murray, M.Sc.
Research Assistant
Trail Studies Unit
Trent University

Appendix 8. Poster Presentation from Ontario Trails Council Conference, June 9-10, 2006.

The Ontario Trail User Code of Ethics

Research for the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion
By John Marsh, Al MacPherson, and Craig Murray
Trail Studies Unit, Trent University

WHY IS A TRAIL USERS CODE A CODE OF ETHICS NEEDED?

The Ontario Trails Strategy, approved in 2005, stated that "trail stakeholders recognized the need to work together to effectively establish a province-wide code of trail conduct..." (Ministry of Health Promotion 2005). The goal of a code of ethics is to influence, shape, and control the behavior of trail users, and provide them with a benchmark for self-evaluation of their trail conduct. A province-wide code of ethics would minimize the impact trail users have on the environment, improve the safety of trails, and help alleviate conflict amongst trail users.

AIM OF THE PROJECT

The aim of the project was to develop, in consultation with trail stakeholders, a draft code of ethics that could be adopted, and then applied to all trails in Ontario.

METHODS

Data Collection

This project was initiated on April 17th, 2006. Codes of ethics advocated by trail owners, managers, users and other stakeholders in Ontario and beyond, found on the internet and in publications, were collected for analysis (Figure 1). Seventy trail stakeholders in Ontario were contacted via e-mail to inquire if they advocated a code of ethics, or to verify if their code of ethics in our dataset was correct. Sixty nine percent of the 70 trail stakeholders responded to our e-mails to add their code to our dataset, confirm they do not advocate a code of ethics, or verify the accuracy of the information we had collected.

In total 166 codes of ethics were collected via the internet, or through our mailing. Of these 166 codes of ethics 49 codes (29.5%) were promoted by Ontario based trail stakeholders (Figure 2).

Data Analysis

A qualitative data analysis software package, NVivo 2 (QSR International Pty Ltd), was used to assess commonalities in the 166 codes of ethics. Six general themes were then identified: respect the environment, respect other users, traffic flow and passing, user safety, user limitations and regulations, and respect the trail. The 6 general themes were subdivided into more specific sub-themes. NVivo was then used to "code" each of the 166 codes of ethics. Coding is the process of referencing each passage in a code to the appropriate "general theme" and "sub-theme".

WE WANT YOUR COMMENTS

- Expect and respect other users
- Know and obey rules and laws
- Stay on the trail
- Do not disturb plants or animals
- Do not litter
- Respect private property and local residents
- Be prepared, to ensure your safety and the safety of others
- Stay on the right, pass on the left
- Slow when approaching other travelers, and yield to the faster traveler
- Be courteous and communicate with other trail users

RESULTS

Table 1 shows the results of the NVivo analysis. This analysis identifies commonalities between the 166 codes of ethics in the dataset. These commonalities formed the basis of a draft code of ethics that was prepared on May 24, 2006. The draft code was circulated to 70 Ontario trail stakeholder for review. Based on comments that we received, a second draft of the code of ethics was prepared, and is presented on this poster. After comments are received from the Ontario Trails Council Conference attendees, the code will be revised one last time before it is submitted to the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion in June 2006, and reviewed by the Ontario Trails Coordinating Committee (i.e. the advisory committee that oversees the implementation of the Ontario Trails Strategy). The final product will be presented to the Ontario Trails Council for its consideration for wide-spread application.

Table 1: The 25 most commonly advocated sub-themes

Ethical (sub-theme)	% of codes
Do Not Litter	78
Stay on Trail	63
Be Courteous to Other Users	58
Respect Private Property and Locals	57
Respect Fauna	52
Control Pets	50
Right of Way	49
Passing Etiquette	45
Respect Flora	43
Communicate Presence and Intentions	36
Respect Designated Trail Uses	33
Stay to Right or Left	31
Be Prepared	30
Clean-up after Pets and Horses	28
Speed	27
Obey Signs	25
Protect Environment	23
Don't Block Trail	23
Know and Obey Law and Rules	23
Fire Rules	22
Be in Control	22
Helmet Rules and Etiquette	22
Avoid Wet Trails	20
Fence Etiquette	20
Take Nothing	19

SUPPLEMENTARY CODES

A province-wide code of ethics must be applicable to all trails and trail users, regardless of mode of transport, and therefore must be general in nature. We recognize that individual trails and user groups may need to add additional ethics to the province-wide code in order for it to meet their specific requirements. For example: Trails that allow pets should include: Control and clean up after pets.

Figure 1: Codes of Ethics in Dataset by Motorized and Non-Motorized Target Groups (n=166)

Figure 2: Codes of Ethics in Dataset by Location (n=166)

Figure 3: Percentage Of Codes Containing The General Themes: (A) All Data (n=166) and (B) Ontario Data (n=49)

**PLEASE COMPLETE THE SURVEY.
YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT TO US**

TRAIL STUDIES UNIT
Trent University
Peterborough, ON, K9J 7B8
Phone: (705) 748-1011 ext 1419 Email: jmarsh@trentu.ca
Website: www.trentu.ca/trailstudies

Appendix 9. Questionnaire to Solicit Comments on Revised Draft Code of Ethics at The Ontario Trails Council Conference, June 9-10, 2006.

The Ontario Trail User Code of Ethics

- **Expect and respect other users**
- **Know and obey rules and laws**
- **Stay on the Trail**
- **Do not disturb plants or animals**
- **Do not litter**
- **Respect private property and local residents**
- **Be prepared, to ensure your safety and the safety of others**
- **Stay on the right, pass on the left**
- **Slow when approaching other travelers, and yield to the faster traveler**
- **Be courteous and communicate with other trail users**

Do you support the above code?

YES NO

Please circle the type of trail user you represent:

HIKER CYCLIST HORSEBACK ATV SNOWMOBILE

MOTOR OFFROAD OTHER: _____
CYCLIST 4WD

Do you have any suggestions or feedback?

Contact Information (optional)

Appendix 10. Ontario Codes of Ethics

A Stroll in the Park Walking and Adventure Club

Code of Ethics

- Do not hike in front of the leader.
- Do not get behind the sweep. (end Leader)
- Stay on the trails - not to harm the wilderness
- Do not pick any flowers or take any items as souvenirs.
- For any smokers: please refrain from smoking when with the group. IF you must smoke do so at the back and never leave any butts on the trail.
- Do not feed the wild animals if you spot them.
- If hiking in areas with wild animals, (Banff),
- Have Bear Bells and a whistle. Make loud sounds while hiking. This will alert them and they will usually depart before we approach.
- Always carry a first aid kit.
- Always carry a Flash light and matches.

Source: Personal Communication with Christa Kroboth - Founder

Bluewater Trails

General Rules for all Trail Users

- Obey all posted "trail use" rules.
- No motorized vehicles.
- Do not litter.
- Show courtesy to other trail users at all times.
- Always stay to the right side of the trail.
- Give an audible warning and use caution when overtaking other trail users.
- Move off the trail surface when stopped, to allow others to pass.
- Use caution approaching driveways.
- Keep pets on a short leash.
- *Clean up after pets - stoop and scoop!*
- Wear proper safety equipment.
- Respect public and private property.

Cyclists and Skaters “Wheels Yield to Heels”

- Yield to other trail users at all times.
- Wear an MTO approved helmet and appropriate safety gear.
- Stay to the right except when passing.
- Slow down and use caution when approaching or overtaking another trail user.
- Announce your presence with a bell or quiet greeting and pass slowly.

- Never use the trails to race.
- Travel slowly and always stay under control.
- Avoid harsh skids and any braking action that will destroy the trail surface.
- Stay in single file in congested areas

Trail Safety Tips

- Never attempt to walk, bike, run or skate the trail alone. There is safety in numbers!
- Whether biking or skating, be sure to wear the proper safety equipment. Helmets are a proven life saver!
- Watch for vehicles entering or leaving driveways or park entrances.
- Use the trail between dawn and dusk only.
- Always be in control of your speed and avoid conflicts with other trail users.
- Walk single file on the right when being passed.
- Be aware of your impact on other trail users.
- If you stop, get off the trail.
- Be aware of and follow all trail signs.

Source: <http://www.bluewatertrails.com/use.htm> (accessed April 19, 2006)

Bruce Trail Association

Bruce Trail User's Code

- Hike only along marked routes, especially on farmland.
- Do not take short cuts. Do not climb fences – use the stiles.
- Respect the privacy of people living along the Trail.
- Leave the Trail cleaner than you found it. Carry out all litter.
- No open fires are allowed on the Trail. Use a portable stove.
- Leave flowers and plants for others to enjoy. Do not damage live trees or strip off bark.
- Keep dogs on a leash, especially on or near farmland.
- Protect and do not disturb wildlife.
- Leave only your thanks, and take nothing but photographs.

Source: <http://www.brucetrail.org/explorethetrail.asp?id={233D4F6B-545E-48B4-9C6B-3880A3592847}> (accessed on April 18, 2006)

The Caledon Trailway

Trail Use

- No motorized vehicles are allowed on the Trailway.

- No hunting is allowed.
- Trail etiquette is encouraged at all times.
- Dogs must be kept on a leash.
- Cyclists and horse riders should be aware of other Trail users, and should pass with care and caution.
- Respect the privacy of people living along the Trail. \
- Off-trail travel is not permitted unless recognized by the proper signage.
- Do not litter, and leave the Trail cleaner than when you found it.

Source: <http://www.caledon.library.on.ca/trailway1.html> (accessed May 9, 2006)

The Cambridge to Paris Rail Trail

Trail Rules

- Walk, hike, jog, bicycle, wheelchair, snowshoe and cross-country ski.
- Stay on the trail and off adjacent private property.
- Park vehicles in the parking areas provided.
- Keep your dog on a leash and please, stoop and scoop.
- Do not camp along the trail.
- Do not Trespass on adjacent lands.
- Do not hunt along the trail.
- Do not use motorized vehicles or horses on the trail.

Source: <http://www.trainweb.org/elso/lentrail.htm> (accessed May 9, 2006)

The Cataraqui Trail

Guidelines for Cataraqui Trail Use

- respect the privacy of people living along the trail
- hunting is prohibited
- motorized vehicles other than snowmobiles are prohibited
- don't litter
- take nothing but photographs
- leave flowers and plants for others to enjoy
- protect and do not disturb wildlife
- keep dogs on a leash at all times
- clean up after pets and horses
- respect and obey signs
- because many people use the Trail - people on foot and people on wheels - it's important to alert slower-moving users to your presence, and to slow down and proceed with caution as you pass them (usually on the left)

- cross-country skiers should yield the track while snowmobilers pass at low speed

Source: <http://www.rideau-info.com/cattrail/guidelines.html> (accessed May 09, 2006)

Central Ontario Loop Trail

Trail Etiquette

- Respect for the Environment
 - Stay on the trail – help protect our natural environment by not damaging any trees, shrubs, plants or flowers.
 - Appreciate wildlife – from a distance.
 - Do your part to keep the trail clean – carry out all your litter.
- Respect for Others
 - When passing near homes, respect resident’s privacy.
 - Enjoy the trail with your dog on a leash.
 - Cyclists yield to walkers/hikers and ride in control.
 - When overtaking other trail users, make your presence known and pass with care on the left.
 - Pass horseback riders with caution, making no sudden or loud movements as horses startle easily. A red ribbon tied to the horse’s tail means that the horse is known to be cranky and will kick.

Source: <http://www.looptrail.com/> (accessed April 18, 2006)

City of Brampton Parks and Recreation

Trails & Pathways Code of Conduct

- The code of conduct is endorsed by Brampton City Council
- The trail will be used by pedestrians, wheelchairs, cyclists and roller bladers. Cyclists and wheelchairs MUST give pedestrians the right-of-way and access on the trail.
- Always signal before turning and stopping. Provide early warning when overtaking pedestrians (horn, bell, voice command, etc)
- Obey all trail signage, traffic signs and signals
- When crossing major roadways, pedestrians, wheelchairs and cyclists are to cross at the nearest intersection.
- All cyclists to stop, dismount and walk your bicycle across all roads. Wait for a clear, safe break in traffic before proceeding.
- When riding during evening hours, bicycles are to be equipped with a white front light, a rear red light and reflective tape as required by law. Wheelchairs should be equipped with lights or reflective tape.
- Always wear an approved bicycle helmet.

- Always travel on the right side of the trail and in single file.
- Never ride two to a bicycle.
- Make sure your bicycle or wheelchair is in good working order.
- Always lock your bicycle.
- All pets are to be on a leash or chain.
- Stoop and scoop.
- Be courteous at all times.

Source: <http://www.city.brampton.on.ca/parks&rec/trails.tml> (accessed April 29, 2006)

The City of Cambridge

Rules of the Trail

- Motorized vehicles are not permitted (except for motorized wheelchairs)
- Dogs must be kept on a leash. Clean up after your dog by obeying the “Poop & Scoop” by-laws.
- Keep trails clean and tidy by not littering, picking up litter of less considerate users, and leaving litter in waste receptacles or taking litter home to dispose of.
- Respect the rights of people living near the trail to privacy and enjoyment of their private property. Be an informed trail user on property matters. Only use public trails and know what is private. Do not trespass by staying on the trail.
- Be courteous. Many trails are multi-use, accommodating cycling and hiking enthusiasts of varying ages and abilities. Share them with others. Cyclists ring bell to warn hikers of your approach.
- “Safety first” – use caution when conditions are slippery or rough, or when trails are narrow. Use common sense and keep away from the water’s edge, high embankments or potentially dangerous situations and avoid excess speed on bikes. Obey posted signs.
- Help keep our trails safe and beautiful – be our eyes and ears... if you notice a trail hazard or an area requiring maintenance; or if you see unauthorized or inappropriate use or activity... let us know by calling 519.740.4681, ext. 4229.

Source: <http://www.city.cambridge.on.ca/subsection.php?ssid=180&visit=1> (accessed April 25, 2006)

City of Hamilton

Trail Etiquette

- Pedestrians always have the right-of-way on the trails.

- Cyclists and in-line skaters must yield to pedestrians and please give audible warning when passing.
- Please do not litter.
- Dogs must be kept on a leash at all times. Clean-up after your pets.
- Protect and do not disturb wildlife.
- Leave flowers and plants for others to enjoy. Please be aware that non-paved areas of the trails are vulnerable to damage from footwear and wheels, especially after a rain.

Source:

<http://www.myhamilton.ca/myhamilton/CityandGovernment/CityDepartments/PublicWorks/Parks/PublicTrails/trail etiquette.htm> (accessed April 20, 2006)

Credit Valley Conservation

Trail Etiquette

- Give the right-of-way to smaller and slower users.
- Stay right when approaching oncoming users.
- Stay on the trail surface.
- Keep pets on a leash and clean up after them.
- Obey signs.
- Do not climb fences or take shortcuts.
- Respect the privacy of landowners bordering the trails.
- Leave wildlife and plants for others to enjoy.
- Be aware of and adhere to only permitted uses along the trail.

Source: <http://www.creditvalleycons.com/recandleisure/trails.htm> (accessed April 18, 2006) and personal communications with Tim Wood, Conservation Land Management Coordinator, Credit Valley Conservation

Eastern Ontario Trails Alliance

Rules and Regulations

- Please stay on the main trails! Some areas have rare sensitive plants and small animals that can be easily damaged or destroyed. Don't make new trails or use unmarked (unsigned) trails.
- Some areas may require user fees. Please prepare to pay a fee.
- Please respect neighboring landowners by staying off private trails and property, and avoid excess noise.
- Please leave the trail as you found it, whatever you pack in, pack out.
- Please leave the wildflowers and wildlife for others to enjoy.

- Keep dogs on a leash at all times while on the trail.
- ALL USERS to slow to a walking speed when meeting up with other USERS and be prepared to stop.
- Respect and be courteous to other users who are also using shared use trails. Always yield right of way to other trail users who are approaching or passing. Be certain to communicate in advance with riders of Horses, Dog Teams and those walking pets.
- Use bridges for water crossings
- Please slow down when your vision of the trail is restricted.
- Avoid sudden stops and starts and quick directional changes with acceleration.

Source: http://www.thetrail.ca/info/rules_regs.htm (accessed April 18, 2006)

The Fort Erie Friendship Trail

Rules of the Trail

- Obey all trail signs.
- Stay on trail surface.
- Pass on the left.
- Give way to slow moving trail users
- Use a horn, bell, or voice when signaling to others.
- Be courteous.
- Respect those living along the trail. Stay off private property.
- Keep two abreast when walking.
- Do not litter - keep the trail cleaner than you found it.
- Take nothing but photographs.
- Protect, do not disturb the wildlife.
- Be cautious at night - do not travel alone.

Source: <http://www.friendshiptrail.forterrie.ca/etiquette.html> (accessed April 25, 2006)

Friends of the Second Marsh

Code of Conduct

- No motorized vehicles (including snowmobiles, motor bikes, or ATV's)
- Please do not litter; use the containers.
- No fires or camping allowed here. Camping is available in Darlington Provincial Park.
- No excessive noise.
- No firearms.
- Vandalism will not be tolerated.

- Dogs are allowed on the main paved trail (the Ed Kroll Memorial Walkway) only if on a leash. There are no dogs allowed on the Bob Mills Boardwalk Trail, or in the McLaughlin Bay Wildlife Reserve.
- No fishing or boating allowed in Second Marsh.

Source: http://secondmarsh.science.uoit.ca/Recreation_Conduct.html (accessed April 29, 2006)

Ganaraska Hiking Trail Association

Hiker's Code

- Stay on the trail
- Use stiles when crossing fences
- Respect all animals, plants and trees. Never strip bark from trees.
- Carry out your litter. Leave nothing behind but your footprints. Take nothing with you but the photographs and memories and leave flowers and plants for others to enjoy.
- No fires or camping are allowed on the Ganaraska Trail, except in the Wilderness section where indicated in the guidebook.
- No dogs are allowed on GROUP hikes. If you are hiking alone with your dog, keep it leashed near homes, barns and farm animals, as well as where required by law (i.e. Provincial or municipal parks, cities and towns..)
- At all times, behave as guests of the landowners who have granted you the privilege of hiking on his/her land, and of the earth that has provided you with the opportunity to enjoy her beauty.
- Always remember, a trail is a privilege, not a right.

Source: Personal Communication with Peter Verbeek

Go For Green

Leave No Trace

- Plan ahead and prepare
- Leave what you find
- Camp and travel on durable surfaces
- Properly dispose of waste
- Minimize campfire impacts
- Be considerate of other visitors
- Respect wildlife

Source: Personal Communication with Bjorn Nielsen, Chair of Go For Green

Grand Valley Trails Association

The Trail User's Code

- As much of the trail is over private land, it is of the utmost importance that the Trail User's Code be followed. Respect the privacy and rights of landowners.
- Hike only along marked routes.
- Do not climb fences -- use the stiles.
- Leave the trail cleaner than you found it, carry out all litter.
- Cooking fires at official campsites only. Drench fires after use. (Better still, carry a lightweight camping stove.)
- Leave flowers and plants for others to enjoy.
- Do not damage live trees or strip off bark.
- Keep dogs leashed on or near farmland.
- Walk around the edge of fields -- not across them.
- Protect and do not disturb wildlife.
- Leave only your thanks -- take nothing but photographs.
- No motorized vehicles.
- Use at your own risk.

Source: Personal Communications with Ruth Oswald, Secretary, Grand Valley Trails Association

Haliburton Highland Trails and Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council

Trail Use and Safety Guidelines

- Expect and respect other trail users
- Stay on the marked trail - this trail could not exist without the generosity of private landowners, please respect their privacy
- Help keep our trail beautiful - carry out all litter
- Camping and fires are not permitted
- Keep dogs on a leash at all times
- Wildlife live here too - respect their presence and keep your distance
- Sturdy hiking boots and trekking poles are recommended - snowshoes are required for winter travel
- Wear 'blaze orange' in the fall as hunting is a part of the Highlands heritage - check with Trails & Tours or the local MNR office to confirm dates
- Length, Rating and Duration information are guidelines only
- Remember, you use the trail at your own risk!

Source: Personal Communication with Karen Hoover, Trails and Tours Network

Hamilton Conservation Authority

General Rules of Etiquette

- Please stay on the main trails! There are many rare and sensitive plants and small animals that are easily damaged or destroyed if you leave the trails. Please don't make new trails or use unmarked trails.
- Passes are mandatory on the trail system. They are available on a daily or yearly basis and are on sale at the Authority's main office, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, The Dundas Valley Trail Centre off Governor's Road, Dundas.
- Trails are closed at certain times of the year. Watch for and obey any signs that indicate trail closures, call the Trail Centre at 627-1233 or check our website: www.conservationhamilton.ca for updates. If signs are not posted and the weather conditions have been bad, watch for you own damage and do not use the trails.
- Please stay to the right and allow other users to pass to your left.
- Please respect neighboring landowners by staying off private property, maintaining privacy for landowners and avoiding excessive noise.
- Please take out any packaging you bring into the Dundas Valley. Better still, bring along a plastic bag and pick up any litter you find.

Source: Personal Communications with Sarah Clarke, Information Officer, Hamilton Conservation Authority

Hastings Heritage Trail Association

Trail Regulations

- Road vehicles are not allowed without an HHTA permit.
- Stay on the Trail.
- Be courteous to all users.
- Obey speed limits and signs.
- A licensed and insurance is required for all motorized vehicles.
- O.F.S.C Trail Permits are required for snowmobiles.
- Carry out all garbage. Don't litter.
- No hunting on the Trail.

Source: HHTA. NO DATE. Hastings Heritage Trail Association: New Challenges Unique Experiences Endless Possibilities. HHTA. Bancroft , ON.

Hike Ontario

Trail Etiquette

- Stay on existing trails
- Avoid very wet and muddy conditions
- Know the local rules, regulations and concerns of the area
- Obey gate closures and signs
- Keep the trail clean
- Slower traffic has the right-of-way
- Keep right, except when passing
- Get owners permission on private land
- Do not disturb the wildlife

Source: Hike Ontario, 2004. Trail Mail December 2004. Vol 1, Issue 9.

Huronian Trails and Greenways

Simcoe County Trails User Guidelines

- Expect and respect other trail users.
- Keep to the right to allow other users to pass on your left. When stopping for a break, move to the side to allow others room to pass.
- Stay on the trail! Don't make new trails or used unmarked (unsigned) trails.
- Respect neighbouring landowners by staying off private property, and avoid excessive noise.
- Leave the trail as you found it; whatever you pack in, pack out. Leave the wildflowers and wildlife for others to enjoy.
- Maintain control of you pets. Carry a leash for your dog and be prepared to use it. "Stoop & scoop" near residential areas and when waste is on the trail path.
- Use trails only according to the permitted uses indicated on the signage. Some trails are user specific i.e. hiking or snowmobile only trails.
- Some trails may close seasonally. Obey any trail closure signs.
- Most trails experience problems in spring. Check the trail conditions. If you are leaving tracks over 1/2" deep don't use the trail. If there are no signs posted, but weather conditions have been bad, do not use the trail.
- Some trails require user fees. Check with the Trail Association or Conservation Area and be prepared to pay a fee. These monies help to maintain the trail.

Source: Huronia Trails and Greenways. NO DATE. HTG Trail Patrol. Our Natural Connection. Cookstown, ON.

McLaughlin Bay Wildlife Reserve

Trail User Code

- No dogs allowed (except certified guide dogs)
- No alcoholic beverages
- No firearms
- No motorized vehicles
- No fires or camping
- No excessive noise
- No littering

Source: http://www.mclaughlinbay.org/mb_trails.html (accessed April 29, 2006)

Millbrook Valley Trails

Guidelines and Ethics

- Wear appropriate clothing.
- Follow these signs (drawing of direction signage shown)
- Please stay on the trail to minimize damage and to avoid trespassing on private land.
- Watch for poison ivy
 - Leaves of three, Let them be...

Source: Millbrook Valley Trails Committee. 2000. Millbrook Valley Trails. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. Queen's Printer.

Ministry of Natural Resources

Be a responsible all-terrain/off-road vehicle user of Crown Land

- Protect the natural environment and avoid sensitive features such as wetlands, streams and wildlife habitat.
- Stay on recognized trail systems.
- Pick up and pack out litter.
- Respect other users of Crown land.

- To create a new trail, build a water crossing or hold an organized ATV/ORV event on Crown land, prior approval from the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) may be required.

Source: Ministry of Natural Resources. NO DATE. Respect the Land – Enjoy the Sport: Be a responsible all-terrain/off-road vehicle user of Crown Land. Ministry of Natural Resources. Queens Printer. Toronto, ON.
<http://www.ontariotrails.on.ca/Trail%20Disputes/atv%20fact%207%20col.pdf>

Muskoka Trail Seekers

ATV'ers Code

- I will be a good sportsperson.
- I will use my influence to promote responsible ATV use.
- I will recognize that others will judge all ATV users by my actions.
- I will maintain clean trails & use areas.
- I will work to preserve the environment in all my riding endeavors.
- I will respect other people's property & rights
- I will help others that are in distress.
- I will make myself & my vehicle available in an emergency.
- I will recognize the rights of other user groups.
- I will strive to have other recreation participants recognize and respect my rights as an ATV operator as I recognize their rights.
- I will learn & obey all federal, provincial & municipal laws regarding the use of my ATV.
- I will inform public officials when travelling on public lands.
- I will not harass wildlife with or while riding my ATV.
- I will be aware of riding in protected or sensitive areas.
- I will use marked trails & areas open to ATVs'.
- I will not travel where prohibited.

Source: <http://www.geocities.com/muskokatrailseekers/code.html> (accessed April 20, 2006)

Northern Lights, the Ontario Federation of 4WD Recreationists

Northern Lights/OF4WD Membership Code of Conduct

- When interacting with other 4WD Enthusiasts
 - Be civil and respectful to other 4WD enthusiasts independent of their opinions, relationships, or associations.

- Promote proper education and practices to all 4WD enthusiasts you encounter.
- Offer your assistance to other 4WD enthusiasts whenever it is safe and prudent to do so.
- When interaction with other trail user groups
 - Be courteous to all other trail users and offer assistance when safe and prudent to do so.
 - Always yield the right of way to other users, especially if they are on non-motorized vehicles or on horseback.
 - Make yourself available to authorities who require your assistance in search & rescue operations.
 - Avoid following too closely and sudden vehicle motions that may require emergency manoeuvring by others on the trail. Keep your vehicle within your control at all times.
 - When encountering equestrian groups, pull over to the shoulder and turn off engines until all of those in the equestrian group have passed a safe distance.
 - When interacting with the public
 - Be courteous of all individuals you interact with heading to and returning from the trail.
 - Be aware that the perceptions formed regarding the 4WD community are largely from those who you interact with before and after trailriding.
 - Plan staging areas that will not interfere with local business or people.
 - Try to support local businesses whenever possible on 4WD trips.
- When Trail Riding
 - Never go 4-wheeling alone under any circumstances.
 - Recognize that the reputation and image of all 4WD enthusiasts will be judged based on your actions and image.
 - Do not drive on private land unless you have specific permission to do so from the landowner.
 - Do not drive on trails that are gated, marked “closed”, marked “private”, or have other signage, which implies the state of the trail is in question.
 - Avoid environmentally sensitive areas at all times.
 - Do not litter in or pollute the environment in any way. Clean up spills and human waste appropriately.
 - Leave the environment in better condition than when you found it.
 - Do not damage or remove any standing trees or natural features of the trail. Avoid damaging growing foliage especially in the spring.
 - Do not cut new paths, switchbacks, or trails unless you have express written permission from the appropriate office to do so.
 - Do not cross bridges that are not suitable or safe for the size of your vehicle.
 - Comply with all laws and by-laws that apply when using public or private lands.

- Park and walk to sensitive scenic, historical or cultural destinations especially if no trail exists for their access.
 - Restrict interaction with wildlife to viewing, do not feed the animals and practice safe camping practices.
 - Avoid low-lying trails during the spring; choose rock-based trails early in the season.
 - Ensure that your vehicle is in safe working condition and that all safety equipment is functional and properly used.
 - Do not carry more passengers than you have appropriate safety equipment for.
 - Refrain from consuming alcohol before or while operating your 4WD vehicle. Consume alcohol responsibly only at campsites.
 - Do not let individuals who are uninsured or unqualified operate your 4WD vehicle at any time.
 - During winter use, do not use any trail that is groomed or signed by a season-specific user group (i.e. snowmobiles, skiers).
- When Camping
 - Respect fire bans and keep campfires under control. Always ensure extinguishing materials are at hand at all times.
 - Respect other camping in your vicinity.
 - Use biodegradable soaps and cleansing products.
 - Bury human waste a safe distance from any water source and at a sufficient depth.
 - Maintain a clean campsite, respect the rights of other users to use that campsite also.
 - Do not cut standing wood for use in fires, if possible purchase firewood at the nearest town.

Source: http://www.of4wd.com/pdf/OF4WD_Code_of_Conduct.pdf (accessed April 19, 2006)

Oak Ridges Trail Association

The Trail User's Code

- Hike only along marked routes – do not leave the trail.
- Use stiles to climb fences. Close gates behind you.
- Carry out all garbage.
- Respect the privacy of residents.
- Walk around the edge of fields, do not cross them.
- Control your dog on leash at all times.
- Do not disturb the wildlife or farm animals.
- Leave trees, flowers and plants as you found them for others to enjoy.

- No overnight camping or fires except where permitted in designated areas.
- Take nothing but photographs and leave only your thanks

Source: http://www.oakridgestrail.org/Documents/The_Trail_Users_Code.pdf
(accessed on April 18, 2006)

Ontario Equestrian Federation

A Trail Rider's Code of Ethics

- A Good Trail Rider:
 - Respects private property.
 - Respects the rights of other trail users.
 - Respects the authority of the Trail Boss.
 - Respect nature and the environment.
 - Leaves only hoofprints to tell of his passing.
 - Never abuses his horse.
 - Respects the wishes and requirements of his host
 - Takes good care of his horse at rest stops and at camp.
 - Rides only on the route identified as the trail.
 - Always camps in authorized areas.
 - Never drinks alcohol while mounted or in public.
 - Always proceeds at a walk when riding in heavily used or congested areas.
 - Tries to help riders in trouble or riders with less experience than himself.
 - Avoids showing off.
 - Has control of his horse at all times.
 - Is saddled and ready on time.
- A Trail Rider's Guide To Environmental Awareness
 - Respects A Trail Rider's Guide To Environmental Awareness
 - Do not litter. What you carried in, you can carry out. And if you have room pick up what others have carelessly left behind.
 - Do not smoke while riding. Instead, dismount at a designated spot chosen by the Trail Boss, and carefully butt out, completely. You don't want to be responsible for a forest fire.
 - Leave your campsite neat and tidy. Spread your manure or deposit it where your hosts have asked you to. Don't leave large quantities of hay behind. Return your site to as natural looking as possible.

- Do not damage crops. Access to farmland does not mean galloping across planted fields. Carefully ride single file around the edge of any crops or stay on a path. This also applies to lawns while riding in residential areas.
- Stay on the trail path. Deviations from the path lead to unnecessary destruction of vegetation.
- Keep your horse moving while dropping manure. Small lumps disappear more quickly and don't inconvenience other trail users.
- Spread any piles of manure your horse may drop while at rest stops.
- Never allow your horse to damage trees by chewing or pawing, while tied at rest stops.
- A Trail Rider's Guide To Public Awareness
 - Be friendly towards other trail users. Stop, speak, answer questions, whatever it takes to present a good image of equestrian trail users.
 - Present a neat appearance while riding. Remember that you represent all equestrians while in public.
 - Drinking and riding do not mix. Confine your alcohol to your camp area.
 - Have control of your horse at all times. If necessary, dismount and lead your horse through areas of high activity. If you remain mounted, proceed no faster than a walk
 - Respect private property. Get permission from landowners to use their land. Leave gates as you find them and don't bother livestock. Never cut fences.
 - It is recommended that all trail riders carry 3rd party liability insurance. Check with your agent.
 - Any child under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Source: Personal Communication with Marcia Barrett, Executive Director of Ontario Equestrian Federation

Ontario Federation of All Terrain Vehicle Clubs

OFATV Trail Etiquette & Environmental Guidelines

- Remove your helmet when talking to other trail users.
- Always yield the right-of-way to other trail users who are approaching or passing.
- Ride on designated trails. Do not utilize CLOSED trails. 'If you don't know, don't go!'
- Avoid sudden stops and starts and quick directional changes with acceleration.

- Avoid sensitive and restricted areas at all times, especially wetlands, lakeshores, steep stream banks and hills.
- Cross at designated crossings and utilize bridges when available. Cross watercourses at 90-degree angles and drive carefully and slowly.
- Do not venture out on new, non-ATV designated trails without consulting appropriate stakeholders.
- Comply with all applicable legislation and/or municipal bylaws.
- Keeps in mind the following OTC statement: 'Shared use trail - expect/respect other users.'
- Signal when approaching from behind. In particular, be certain to communicate with the riders of horses and those walking pets.
- Avoid running over young trees and shrubs, particularly in the spring and the growing season of the summer.
- Do not trespass on private property and do not utilize single-purpose trails designated for other (non-ATV) activities.
- Promote parking and dismounting from your ATV to walk to sensitive, scenic, historic and cultural areas.
- Enjoy wildlife viewing opportunities, avoid stressing any species particularly during the rearing stages.
- Respect and be courteous to other users who are also using shared use trails.
- Avoid riding after heavy rains.
- Adjust riding behavior according to season and location.
- The planning and staging of rodeos and safety courses should be within areas such as pits, gravel parking lots and controlled areas.
- Take a rider safety course and ride within your abilities
- Do not cut switchbacks or take shortcuts.
- Keep your speed and engine rpm low and steady when approaching other riders, homes, etc.
- What you pack in, pack out - do not litter.
- The ATV designated trail season begins and ends with the advent of winter and the appearance of snowmobile groomers.

Source: <http://www.ofatv.org/index.cfm?action=dynmcPage&pageID=2> (accessed: April 18, 2006)

Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs

Canadian Snowmobile Code of Ethics

- General
 - I will ride in manner that is a credit to our recreation.
 - I will influence other snowmobilers to adhere to this Code of Ethics.

- I will respect the rights of others including property owners and other outdoor enthusiasts.
- The Environment (Everyone enjoys the outdoors)
 - I will protect and preserve our natural environment.
 - I will ride in a responsible manner and will use only marked trails; areas or roads open to snowmobiles.
 - I will not harass or harm wildlife or the natural surroundings.
 - I will minimize my impact on the environment.
- Safety (Snowmobilers always come home)
 - I will ride smart, be prepared and stay in control.
 - I will check ice and weather conditions before riding.
 - I will help those in distress.
 - I will obey all laws and rules governing our recreation.
 - I will promote proper snowmobile education and training.
 - I will practice Zero Tolerance with respect to impaired riding.

Source: http://www.ofsc.on.ca/Downloads/Com/CodeEthics_Jan06.pdf (accessed April 18, 2006)

Ontario Federation of Trail Riders

Code of Conduct

- Do Not Trespass on private property. Ride on existing trails.
- Respect nature.
- Expect and Respect others who have the right to be on the trails. Be courteous to others.
- Remember that few other vehicles are as maneuverable as bikes, so give the others lots of room and pass on the right.
- Other user groups do a lot of trail grooming - respect their efforts.
- STOP when you see a horse, shut off your engine immediately. Then take off your helmet and ask for instructions from the rider.
- Comply with all legislation, bylaws and insurance requirements.
- Always wear a helmet and other safety gear. (Take off your helmet if you talk to someone)
- Whatever you pack in, pack out. Do not litter, and leave the place better than you found it.
- Use trails only according to the permitted uses indicated. Some trails are seasonal and can experience problems in the spring. Check the trail conditions.
- Do not use any Alcohol or Drugs if you plan to ride.

- Keep your bike QUIET. More sound = Less ground!

Source: Personal Communication with Ken Hoeverman, Ontario Federation of Trail Riders

Ontario Mountain Biking Committee

Off Road Rules of the Trail

- Ride open trails only.
- Leave no trace.
- Never spook animals.
- Plan ahead.
- Control your bicycle.
- Always yield trail.

Source: Ontario Mountain Biking Committee.1994. Mountain Biking: Off Road Rules of the Trail. Ontario Cycling Association. Willowdale, ON.

Ontario Trails Council

OTC Trail Etiquette: General Rules of Etiquette

- Please stay on the main trails! Some areas have rare and sensitive plants and small animals that can be easily damaged or destroyed. Don't make new trails or use unmarked (unsigned) trails.
- Some areas may require user fees. Please be sure to check with the Trail Association or Conservation Area and be prepared to pay a daily or weekly fee. These monies help to maintain the trail.
- Some trails may close seasonally. Watch and obey any trail closure signs in the area. Check the trail conditions before going to far. If you are leaving tracks over 1.5 cm deep you really shouldn't be there. Most trails experience problems in the spring. If there are no signs posted, but weather conditions have been bad, please do not use the trail.
- Please stay to the right to allow other users to pass to your left.
- Please respect neighboring landowners by staying off private property, and avoid excess noise.
- Please leave the trail as you found it, whatever you pack in, pack out.
- Maintain control of you pets. Carry a leash for your dog and be prepared to use it. Some urban areas have strict leash laws.
- When stopping for a rest, please move to the side to allow other users room to pass on the thoroughfare.

- Leave the wildflowers and wildlife for others to enjoy.
- Please respect trail signs and use only trails that are signed for our user group. Some trails are users specific i.e. hiking or snowmobile trails

Source: http://www.ontariotrails.on.ca/otc_etiquette.htm (accessed on April 18, 2006)

Outback ATV Club

ATV Code of Ethics

- I will be a good sportsperson. I recognize that many people will judge all ATV owners by my actions. I will use my influence with other ATV owners to promote responsible conduct.
- I will maintain clean trails and use areas. I will work to safeguard clean and pure streams and lakes. I will ensure my ATV use has the lowest possible impact on the environment. I will safeguard living trees, shrubs, and other natural features.
- I will respect other people's property and rights.
- I will lend a helping hand when I see someone in distress.
- I will make my vehicle and myself available to assist in emergency situations.
- I will recognize the rights of other user groups.
- I will energetically strive to bring other recreation participants to recognize and respect my rights as an ATVer by explaining my needs and, at the same time, listening to their needs.
- I will learn and obey all federal, provincial, and municipal rules regulating the operation of ATVs in areas where I use my vehicle. I will inform public officials, as required, when using public lands.
- I will not harass wildlife, and will become aware of protected or sensitive areas.
- I will use marked trails, and areas open to ATV's. I will not travel where prohibited.

Source: http://www.outbackatvclub.com/atv_ethics.htm (accessed April 20, 2006)

Park to Park Trail Association

Code of Ethics

- Recognize that this is an unpatrolled wilderness trail with no facilities – you are totally responsible for your own safety.
- Protect the environment and do not disturb animals, trees or plants.
- Prevent forest fires by extinguishing all matches, cigarettes or campfires.
- Pack everything out and leave no litter or garbage.

- Leave campsites clean.
- All vehicles will proceed with caution to minimize dust and noise.
- Respect the rights and safety of other trail users.
- Obey all regulatory signs.
- Stay on the trail and do not trespass onto private property.

Source: Personal Communications with Lori Ingriselli, Park to Park Trail Association

The Prescott-Russell Recreation Trail

Code of Conduct on the Trail

- Respect the privacy of people living along the trail; stay on the trail.
- Preserve the environment by not disturbing and not damaging plants, trees or wildlife.
- Travel with caution, especially when pathway is busy.
- Remain visible at all times, and travel in pairs.
- Share the responsibility of keeping the trail litter free and setting a good example.
- Leash pets at all times.

Source: http://www.prescott-russell.on.ca/sentier-trail/frames_en.html (accessed April 29, 2006)

Rainbow Country Travel Association

ATV Trail Etiquette and Environmental Guidelines

- Avoid running over young trees and shrubs, particularly in the spring and the growing season of the summer
- Do not trespass on private property and do not utilize single-purpose trails designated for other (non-ATV) activities.
- Promote parking and dismounting from your ATV to walk to sensitive, scenic, historic and cultural areas.
- The ATV designated trail season begins and ends with the advent of winter and the appearance of snowmobile groomers.
- Avoid riding after heavy rains.
- Do not venture out on new, non-ATV-designated trails without consulting appropriate stakeholders.
- Comply with all applicable legislation and/or municipal bylaws.
- The planning and staging of rodeos and safety courses should be within areas such as pits, gravel parking lots and controlled areas.
- Take a rider safety course and ride within your abilities.
- Do not cut switchbacks or take shortcuts.

- Keep your speed and engine rpm low and steady when approaching other riders, homes, etc.
- What you pack in, pack out – do not litter.
- Remove your helmet when talking to other trail users.
- Keep in mind the following Ontario Trails Council (OTC) statement: “Shared use trail – expect/respect other users.”

Source: <http://www.rainbowcountry.com/> (accessed April 29, 2006)

The Rotary Greenway: Scenic River Road

Trail Etiquette

- Leave only footprints, take only memories.
- Respect and be courteous to users and adjacent landowners.
- Keep to the right of the trail.
- Please keep dogs on a leash and “stoop and scoop”.
- Please don’t wander off the main trail or the River Road side trails.
- No horses or motorized vehicles (except wheelchairs).
- Use at your own risk.

Source:

Marsh, J. Rodie, T. 2000. The Rotary Greenway: Scenic River Road Trail. Trail Studies Unit, Trent University. Peterborough, ON.

Shoreline Discovery Trail

Trail Etiquette and Safety

- Never Hike Alone. Tell someone when you plan to return.
- Stay on marked trail
- Leave behind with pictures, not litter
- Please keep dogs on a leash. Stoop and Scoop
- Do not disturb plants and wildlife.
- Be prepared for natural conditions.
- Ensure your children are within sight at all times.
- Wear appropriate hiking/walking shoes.
- No Motorized Vehicles Allowed on Trail.

Source: <http://www.town.spanish.on.ca/pages/shoreline.asp> (accessed April 20, 2006)

Street to Trail Association

The Trail Users' Code

- Hike only along marked routes, especially on private property - do not take short cuts.
- Do not climb fences - use the stiles.
- Respect the privacy of people living along the trail.
- Leave the trail cleaner than you found it - carry out all litter.
- Light cooking fires at official campsites only - drench fires after use (carry a lightweight stove)
- Leave flowers and plants for others to enjoy.
- Do not damage live trees or strip off bark.
- Keep dogs on a leash, especially on or near private property.
- Protect and do not disturb wildlife.
- Leave your thanks and take nothing but photographs.

Source: Personal Communications with Paul Mackle, executive director, Street to Trail Association

Thames Valley Trail Association

Trail User's Code

- Hike only along marked routes. Do not leave the trail.
- Do not climb fences or open gates - use stiles.
- Carry out all garbage and litter - even other people's.
- Protect trees and shrubs. Never strip bark from trees.
- Leave flowers and plants for others to enjoy.
- keep dogs on a leash.
- Walk around the edge of fields - not across them.
- Do not disturb farm animals.
- Protect and do not disturb wildlife.
- No camping or fires permitted except in designated areas.
- No motorized vehicles.
- NO BICYCLES ON PRIVATE LANDS.
- leave only your thanks - take only photographs.

Source: Personal Communication with John Clark

Trent University Nature Areas

Things to Keep in Mind In Trent's Nature Areas...

- Be considerate of other users.
- Do not disturb vegetation or wildlife.
- Beware: Poison Ivy is present throughout the Nature Areas.
- Sorry, no mountain biking on the nature trails.
- Dogs must be leashed at all times as per city by-law 91-115
- No hunting.
- No motorized vehicles.
- No lighting of fires.

Source: McLean, P. 2000. The Nature Areas and Trails of Trent University's Symons Campus. The Trent University Nature Areas Committee. Peterborough, ON.

The Victoria County Recreation Corridor

Rules And Restriction

- No motorized vehicles are allowed except as provided by County by-law.
- Dogs must be kept on a leash.
- Pedestrians have right of way over all other users.
- The privacy and rights of abutting land owners must be respected.
- Do not litter or remove natural vegetation
- All snowmobilers must have a valid permit.

Source: <http://www.kawartha.net/%7Efencom/railtr.htm> (accessed May 9, 2006)

The Voyageur Trail Association

Trail Users' Code

- Hike only along marked routes. Do not take shortcuts.
- Do not climb fences.
- Respect the privacy of people living along the trail.
- Leave the trail cleaner than you found it--carry out all litter.
- Light cooking fires at official campsites only. Drench fires after use. (Better still, carry a lightweight stove.)
- Leave flowers and plants for others to enjoy.
- Do not damage live trees or strip off bark.

- Keep dogs under control (leash if necessary) and follow your club's guidelines concerning dogs.
- Protect and do not disturb wildlife.
- Leave only your thanks and take nothing but photographs.
- BE A LOW-IMPACT HIKER!

Source: <http://www.voyageurtrail.ca/> (accessed April 19, 2006)

Welland Canals Parkways

Trail Etiquette

- The trail is mostly separated into two parts – one for the hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians and cross country skiers, the other is for snowmobilers and off-road motorcyclists. The permitted uses will be indicated on the trail signs.
- No ATVs permitted
- Wheels give way to heels
- Right-of-way is determined according to the sequence of users listed above. Thus off-road motorcycles must give way to snowmobilers and all other users, mountain bikers must give way to equestrians, cross-country skiers and walkers etc.
- When motorized vehicles are approaching or meeting equestrians, drivers should pull over and turn off engine until the horses have passed.
- Common sense should prevail when overtaking or being overtaken.
- All motorized vehicles must be insured and licensed and must conform to all safety and emission standards and any other statutory requirements such as those included in the Highway Traffic Act, the Motorized Snow Vehicle Act and the Off Road Vehicle Act. Proof of vehicle liability insurance and licensing must be carried by the driver of the vehicle. Equestrians must also carry proof of liability insurance.
- All motorized vehicles must comply with the noise limits and standards as set by Provincial statutes.
- Mountain Bikers must have a sounding device to be used with caution a common sense when meeting or overtaking other users especially equestrians.
- Stay on the trail close to the trail sign markers, obey the trail etiquette and all trail signage instructions.

Source: Personal Communications with George Nicholson, Welland Canals Parkway and Trails

Woolwich Township

Trail User's Code

- Please respect other trail users as well as private landowners for their kind consent by abiding to the following:
 - Stay on marked routes and do not leave the trail.
 - Keep your dog(s) under control. Township of Woolwich By-law #36-93 states that dogs must always be leashed while off of their owner's property. The by-law also states that owners can be fined if they do not stoop and scoop.
 - Respect the privacy of people living adjacent to the trail.
 - Hunting is not allowed on or near the trail.
 - Do not disturb farm animals or wildlife.
 - Leave flowers, plants and trees for others to enjoy.
 - Abide by the signs regarding permitted trail use.
 - Please stay to the right and allow others to pass to your left.
 - Motorized vehicles are not allowed unless posted.
 - Cyclists are to ring their bell or call out to announce their presence when approaching other trail users from behind.
 - Leave nothing but thanks and take nothing but pictures.

Source:

http://www.township.woolwich.on.ca/community/recreation_trails_userscode.html
(accessed April 20, 2006)

Waterfront Regeneration Trust

Trail Etiquette

- Respect the privacy of people living along the Trail.
- Please don't litter.
- Take nothing but photographs.
- Leave flowers and plants for other people to enjoy.
- Keep dogs on a leash, especially near farmland and natural areas.
- Protect and do not disturb wildlife.
- Clean up after pets.
- Respect and obey signs.
- Since many people use the Trail- people on foot, and people on wheels- it's important to alert slower moving Trail users to your presence, slow down and proceed with caution as you pass them (usually on the left).

Source: Personal Communication with David Arcus, Project Coordinator, Waterfront Regeneration Trust

Appendix 11. Codes of Ethics Advocated by Groups Outside of Ontario

Alberta Bicycle Association

Tips For Group Riding

- Stay Alert
 - Momentary inattention is the number one cause of accidents. Be aware of what is in front and behind you, watch your line, and keep your hands near your brakes
- Make Your Own Decisions
 - Stop at all stop signs and lights on your own. What's clear for someone else might not be clear for you.
- Ride in a Predictable Manner:
 - It's especially important to keep a straight and consistent line so other riders and drivers can predict where you're going.
- Share the Road:
 - Ride single file in traffic or on trails. Leave room for cars, pedestrians, and others at intersections or places where you pull over. Take turns in small groups when going through an intersection so other users also have a chance to proceed.
- Leave Space Between Yourself and Others:
 - Leave enough room when riding to be able to dodge obstacles without putting others in danger. Remember also that other riders might not be comfortable if you come too close.
- Always Pass Others on the Left and Call Out When Passing:
 - It's safer to pass on the left since road debris or potholes are more commonly on the shoulder. Also, most riders will not be expecting you on their right.
- Announce Obstacles and Approaching Traffic:
 - Call and point out obstacles and traffic for others behind you.

Source:

<http://www.albertabicycle.ab.ca/rec/Tips%20for%20Group%20Riding2.pdf>
(accessed April 29, 2006)

Aspen Parks and Recreation

Safety and Ethics

- Hikers and bikers going up a path have the right of way.
- Bikers should yield to rollerbladers and pedestrians.
- Please be a responsible pet owner and pick up after your pet.

- Deposit all garbage into bear proof trash bins.
- Be considerate of the environment. Stay on designated trails and be respectful of plants and wildlife.
- Proper snowshoes are required for working on Nordic trails.

Source:

<http://www.aspenrecreation.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=standardpage&mainid=237&yld=9&zld=4> (accessed April 20, 2006)

Bear River Outdoor Recreation Alliance

Trail etiquette

- All of our groomed trails are two way trails - people can travel either direction
- Always yield to the downhill skier by stepping off the trail
- Stay to the right of the trail as you travel
- Avoid stopping where others cannot see you - blind corners and trail intersections
- Those pulling sleds, please do not use the ski tracks (these are the parallel lanes set for cross-country skiing)
- Snowshoers are also asked not to use the ski tracks
- Observe any posted and closed signs
- Do not assume that motorized user will yield to non-motorized users
- If you encounter snowmobiles in the ski area, be polite and educate why this is a closed area
- Dogs on the trail.
 - Keep your dog under control at all times. Carry a leash and use it when necessary. Be considerate of other trail users, (not all skiers are happy to see dogs on the trail)
 - Try to limit two dogs per group. Dog packs cause more problems and congestion on the trails.
 - Clean up after your dog. Carry a small shovel or plastic baggie to scoop and flick dog waste off the trail.
 - Be a good ambassador for the sport of cross-country skiing, help others who do not know.

Source: <http://www.evanstonoutdoors.com/trailletiq.html> (accessed April 24, 2006)

Blueribbon Coalition

Code of Ethics

- I will respect the rights of all recreationists to enjoy the beauty of the outdoors. I will respect public and private property.
- I will park considerately, taking no more space than needed, without blocking other vehicles, and without impeding access to trails.
- I will keep to the right when meeting another recreationist. I will yield the right-of-way to traffic moving uphill.
- I will slow down and use caution when approaching or overtaking another recreationist.
- I will respect designated areas, trail-use signs and established trails.
- When stopping I will not block the trail.
- I will not disturb wildlife. I will avoid areas posted for the protection of feeding wildlife.
- I will pack out everything I pack in, and will not litter.
- I realize that my destination objective and travel speed should be determined by my equipment, ability, the terrain, weather, and the traffic on the trail. In case of an emergency, I will volunteer assistance.
- I will not interfere with or harass others. I recognize that people judge all trail users by my actions.
- As a motorized trail user, I will pull off the trail and stop my engine when encountering horse back riders (it is also a good idea to take off your helmet and greet the riders).

Source: <http://www.sharetrails.org/index.cfm?page=505> (accessed April 20, 2006)

Boulder Area Trails Coalition

Open Space Trail Etiquette

- Respect Our Open Space
 - Do not disturb the wildlife.
 - Stay on existing trails.
 - Don't short-cut switchbacks.
 - Avoid very wet and muddy conditions. If you encounter muddy sections, go through the mud; don't go around it.
 - Leave plants, rocks, and artifacts as you find them.
 - Keep the trail clean. Carry everything you bring into open space back out with you.
 - Obey seasonal and area closures.
 - Leave gates as you find them.
- Respect the Rights of Others

- Do not block the trail.
- Keep right, except when passing.
- Pass with care. Let others know you are about to pass.
- Do not spook horses. Move to the lower side of the trail if possible.
- Slower traffic has the right-of-way.
- Dog Owners
 - All dogs must be on leash and under control at all times on all Boulder County Open Spaces (other public lands may allow voice and sight control as noted at the trail heads).
 - Pick up after your dog.
- Equestrians
 - Let other users know when it's safe to pass your horse.
 - Do not ride on a muddy trail.
 - Slow to a walk when approaching others.
- Bicyclists
 - Ride only on designated trails.
 - Yield the right-of-way to all other users.
 - Control your bike. Always be ready to stop.
 - Ride slowly in single file when passing or being passed.
 - Maintain traction; skidding damages the trail.
 - Do not ride in the mud.
 - Do not ride around waterbars.
 - Downhill riders yield to uphill riders.

Source: http://bcn.boulder.co.us/batco/batco2_etiquette.htm (accessed April 20, 2006)

Canada Trails – Skiing

Skier's Code of Ethics

- Always buy a trail pass when skiing at a commercial center. Your trail fee helps pay for grooming and maintenance of the trails.
- When stopping, step off the trail to leave room for other skiers to pass.
- On double-tracked trails ski single-file except when overtaking.
- When a skier behind calls out "track," move to the right to give them room to pass. (In Quebec if someone calls "piste" it's not an insult, just French for "track".)
- Avoid cutting off other skiers when entering trails or overtaking.
- Ski in the specified direction on one-way trails.
- Descending skiers have right-of-way on hills. Climbing skiers should move as far to the right of the trail as possible when oncoming skiers approach.
- Fill in sitzmarks after falling on trails.
- Pack out any garbage that you have brought with you. Leave nothing but tracks, take nothing but pictures.
- Avoid walking or snowshoeing on ski trails--footprints decrease grip and glide.

- Skating on classically groomed trails will similarly disrupt the grip and glide of classic skiers.
- Leave your dog at home--dogs not only leave paw prints (and more unpleasant things) but can also cause an accident.
- Stick close to the trail--you may get lost or your tracks may lead other skiers astray.
- Respect private property. Some landowners are gracious enough to allow use of their land. Trespassers may cause this privilege to be revoked.

Source: http://www.canadatrails.ca/xc_ski/xctips.html (accessed on April 20, 2006)

Canada Trails - Hiking

Hiker's Code of Ethics

- Park your car well off the road and away from private driveways
- Stay on the trail. Taking a cutoff on a switchback trail will cause increased erosion. Making a detour around a muddy patch will destroy vegetation.
- When hiking above the treeline, stay off fragile alpine moss, lichen and wildflowers.
- Keep off private property. Landowners often give permission for the trail to pass over their land and may revoke that privilege if people stray all over their land.
- Some parks do not allow dogs because they may run off and chase the wildlife. If you do take our dog hiking, make certain that it stays under control and clean up after it.
- Avoid hiking when the trails are wet, especially in the early spring, as this can lead to trail erosion.
- A fire should only be started if you are camping and it is a special camp fire container. Fires are not permitted when the forest fire index is high.
- If you smoke, make certain that your cigarette is completely extinguished when you are finished and carry the butt out with you.
- When nature calls, go off the trail and keep a least 100 yards from streams and lakes to avoid contaminating the water. Bury your toilet paper and feces several inches deep.
- Pack out any garbage that you have brought with you.
- Leave nothing behind – not even footprints.
- Take nothing except photographs. Leave wildflowers and other plants for others to enjoy.
- Don't feed the wildlife. Increasing a species' food supply can disturb the balance of nature.
- When meeting a horseback rider, step off to the right of the trail and stand still until the rider passes. Any fast movement may frighten the horse.

- Don't throw rocks or anything else over the side of mountains – they may strike someone passing below.

Source: http://www.canadatrails.ca/hiking/hk_tips.html (accessed on April 18, 2006)

Canada Trails – Mountain Biking

Mountain Biking Code of Ethics

- Ride only on trails that are designated for mountain biking and that are open. Riding on wet trails during the spring melt-off can cause erosion and ruin the trail.
- Yield to pedestrians and horseback riders. If a horseback rider signals you, pull over to the side to avoid spooking the horse.
- Ride under control at all times
- Avoid skidding when braking – it can destroy vegetation and create erosion problems
- Pack out everything that you have brought with you.
- Avoid disturbing wildlife.

Source: <http://www.canadatrails.ca/mtb/mtbtips.html> (accessed April 20, 2006)

Canadian All-Terrain Vehicle Distributors Council

ATV Safe Rider Code

- Know Your Operator's Manual
- Check the ATV Before You Ride
- Wear Your Helmet
- Protect Your Eyes and Body
- Get Qualified Training
- Ride Off-Road Only, Never on Public Roads
- Ride With Others – Never Alone
- Ride Within Your Skills
- Carry No Passengers
- Respect Riding Area Rules
- Keep Noise Levels Low
- Ride Straight – No Alcohol or Other Drugs
- Preserve the Environment
- Be Courteous to All You Meet
- Lend Your ATV to Skilled Riders Only
- Always Supervise Youngsters

Source: <http://www.catv.ca/> (accessed April 29, 2006)

City of Albuquerque

Trail Etiquette

- Be Courteous
 - Trails are for the enjoyment of all visitors. Please be courteous and respectful when encountering fellow trail users.
- Pack it in - Pack it out
 - Keep your impact to a minimum when on the trail - take your trash out.
- Stay on Established Trails
 - Well-built trails are designed to protect the land from erosion and promote preservation. When users cut their own trails they promote degradation of the fragile landscape and wildlife habitat.
- Yield
 - All users must slow and stop for horses. Cyclists must also yield to hikers.
- Announce Yourself
 - Let people know when you are approaching from behind and that you are passing on the left. Pass on the Left.
- Share the Trail
 - Keep to the right of the trail and allow faster users enough room to pass on the left.
- Keep Dogs Leashed
 - Promote wildlife preservation, enhance the wilderness experience for other users, keep your pet safe and avoid hefty fines by keeping your dog properly leashed.
- Clean Up after Your Dog
 - Not only does dog excrement stink, but it also spreads disease to other dogs and pollutes groundwater. Some trailheads provide "Mutt Mitts" to clean up after pets.

Source: <http://www.cabq.gov/openspace/rules.html> (accessed April 24, 2006)

City of Duluth Parks and Recreation

Trail Etiquette

- Always stay on the trail
- Dogs must be leashed at all times
- Pick up after your pet
- Be courteous when meeting on the trail
- Downhill yields to uphill, stay to the right
- Pick up litter

- Please do not use the trails when they are wet
- Avoid muddy areas on the trails

Source:

<http://www.ci.duluth.mn.us/city/parksandrecreation/Secondarypages/trails.htm> (accessed April 24, 2006)

The City of Edmonton

Rules of the Trail

- Respect groomed ski trails and avoid damaging the ski tracks. Fill in craters if you fall onto the track and tread lightly if you must travel along a ski trail. Please try to use ungroomed trails for walking, running, cycling or walking dogs.
- Observe directional signage as many ski trails are one-way.
- Yield right of way to skiers travelling downhill.
- Signal that you are passing by calling out “track.”
- Step out of the tracks or pull off to the right-hand side of the trail to rest or to allow others to pass. Stopping on the trail causes congestion and accidents.
- Skiing with a dog can be very dangerous to you and others. Park bylaws state that you must be in control of your dog at all times.
- Avoid skiing in fragile natural habitats and disturbing animals.
- Be positive and communicate!
- Most trails are “multi-use” and require cooperation among users

Source:

<http://www.edmonton.ca/CommPeople/ParklandServicesBranch/SkiSense.pdf> (accessed April 29, 2006)

City of Fayetteville

Bicycle and Walking Trail Etiquette

- Always keep to the right, allow others to pass on the left.
- Use proper hand signals, especially on denser routes.
- No motorized vehicles are allowed on the trails at any time.
- Dogs and other pets must be kept on a leash at all times.
- Vandalism, littering, dumping, firearms, and excessive noise are not permitted on the trails.
- Absolutely no alcoholic beverages are allowed on the trails.

Source: http://www.tele-works.com/htbin/webware/default.asp?HR=47-20&agency=fayetteville_city&perform=TEXT (accessed April 24, 2006)

City of Minnetonka

Trail Etiquette and Safety

- If you stop, move off the trail.
- Travel on the right. Single file usage is preferred.
- Pass on the left, only when safe. Pass only in a single file line.
- When overtaking fellow trail users, warn them by activating a bell, horn, or whistle and saying "Passing on your left" or "Passing."
- Stop at road crossings and look for cars.
- Proceed at a reasonable speed (15 mph maximum).
- Obey all traffic signs.
- Proceed slowly around blind curves, steep hills, and bridges.
- Yield to slower trail users.
- Watch for children, strollers, dogs on leash, wildlife, and other trail users.
- Watch for wet or slippery surfaces, sand, acorns, rocks or washouts.
- Dogs: Trails And Parks
 - Dogs must be on a close leash (6' or less).
 - Pick up and properly dispose of dog droppings. Dispensers with plastic bags for droppings are placed along the trail. Please use them!

Source:

http://www.eminnetonka.com/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC=%7B70F34C13-D1D7-45A5-B8CB-EA85F0182A5C%7D (accessed April 21, 2006)

City of Phoenix

Trail Etiquette

- Phoenix mountain preserves are open, undeveloped desert areas. Hikers can encounter rocky terrain, rattlesnakes and other potential hazards native to the Sonoran Desert. Observing trail etiquette will help to ensure that your preserve outing is a safe one.
- ALWAYS stay on a designated trail. Phoenix city ordinances prohibit trailblazing
- Learn to share the trails with all other users. In general, bike riders yield to both hikers and horseback riders; hikers yield to horseback riders. However, for all trail users, downhill yields to uphill.

- Use common sense and courtesy while on the trails. Announce your intentions and slow your pace when passing someone on the trails.
- Do not litter.
- Destruction or removal of plants, animals, historical, prehistoric or geological sites are prohibited.
- Do not chase or harass wildlife.
- Avoid putting your hands and feet anywhere you cannot see.
- Remember the 3 C's: Courtesy, Communication and Common Sense.

Source: <http://phoenix.gov/PARKS/hikesafe.html> (accessed April 21, 2006)

City of Renton

Trail Etiquette

- All Users...
 - Obey all trail signs and regulations
 - Show courtesy for other trail users at all times
 - Keep dogs on leash, maximum length 8 feet (Dogs are not allowed in Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park & Kennydale Beach Park)
 - When entering or crossing a trail at an uncontrolled point, yield to traffic already on the trail
 - No group of trail users shall occupy more than half of the trail as to impede the normal movement of trail users
 - Motor vehicles are not allowed on City of Renton trails
- Pedestrians...
 - Listen for audible signals and help faster trail users pass safely
- Bicyclists...
 - Cyclists are required to wear safety helmets on all trails in King County
 - Yield to pedestrians
 - Always give an audible (voice, bell, horn) warning before passing another trail user

Source: <http://www.ci.renton.wa.us/commserv/parks/ruleregs.htm> (accessed April 29, 2006)

City of San Luis Obispo Parks and Recreation Department

Trail Etiquette

- Stay on designated trail. NO SHORTCUTTING!
- Keep your dog on a leash.
- Please pick up after your dog.

- Do not trespass!
- The only public access to Cerro San Luis is off of Fernandez Rd., which is located off of the south bound Marsh St. on-ramp to HWY 101.
- Do not harass the wildlife/livestock.

Source: <http://www.ci.san-luis-obispo.ca.us/parksandrecreation/download/trailetiq.pdf> (accessed April 24, 2006)

City of Saskatoon and the Nordic Ski Club of Saskatoon

Ski Trail Etiquette

- Practice environmental ethics (pack it in -- pack it out).
- Step off the trail during stops to allow other skiers to pass unhindered. For the same reason get up & off the trail quickly after falling down.
- Yield to faster skiers, or call "track" if you see someone in your way.
- Give the right of way to descending skiers on hills.
- Ski on the right where there are double tracks.
- Ski in the proper direction on one-way trails.
- Leave your dog at home if skiing on groomed trails.
- Walking on a ski trail (both classic tracks & skating lanes) is definitely a no-no!

Source: <http://www.saskatoon.ca/org/leisure/facilities/pdfs/skitrail.pdf> (accessed April 24, 2006)

City of Seattle

Trail Etiquette

- Show courtesy to other trail users at all times.
- Use the right side of the trail except when otherwise designated.
- Always pass on the left.
- Respect the rights of property owners.
- Keep dogs on leash (maximum length 8 feet) and remove pet feces from trail.
- Bicyclists
 - Municipal Code 11.44.120, County Code and State Code. You are responsible for the safe operation of your vehicle under City, County, and State Codes.
 - Yield to pedestrians.
 - Give audible warning when passing pedestrians or other bicyclists.
 - Ride at a safe speed. Slow down and form a single file in congested conditions, reduced visibility, and other hazardous conditions.

- Pedestrians
 - Stay to the right side of the trail except when otherwise designated.
 - Watch for other trail users.
 - Be especially alert when running.
 - Listen for audible signals and allow faster trail users (runners and bicyclists) to pass safely.
- See selected provisions of the Seattle traffic code for more information.

Source: <http://www.ci.seattle.wa.us/transportation/biketrail.htm> (accessed April 21, 2006)

City of Shelton Trails

Trail Etiquette

- "Take only pictures, leave only footprints." Leave all plants and animals where you find them for others to enjoy.
- Keep your voices down, especially around Hope Lake on Nell's Rock Road, because loud voices travel across the lake and bother everyone else along the shoreline.
- Bikers traditionally yield to pedestrians. Having said that, it would be gracious for hikers to step aside for bikers because it is harder for bikers to get off their bikes and walk.
- Pick up trash others have left behind.
- Keep dogs under control, remove droppings from trails.
- No ATVs, dirt bikes or other motorized vehicles - they tear up the trails and disrupt the park.
- Use a map, pay attention, and be sure to stay on public property. Learn how to follow simple trail markings. Don't carelessly wander into neighbor's yards and ask where you are. Respect 'No Trespassing' signs.
- Give fishermen plenty of space and some peace and quiet so the fish aren't scared away.
- Avoid talking on cell phones. Preferably, turn them off.
- Paugussett (Blue Dot) Trail: This trail is maintained by CFPA and is located partly on private property with the property owners' permission. For that reason, it is especially important to stay on the trail and respect nearby home owners, or they could close the trail at any time! Mountain bikes, ATVs and dirt bikes are prohibited from this trail.
- City of Shelton Open Space rules prohibit fires, ice skating, swimming, camping (unless you get special permission from the City), hunting, paintball, ice fishing and alcohol.

Source: http://borntoexplore.org/trails/ettiquet_and_rules.htm (access April 21, 2006)

City of St. George

Trail Rules

- No motorized traffic.
- No fires, or firearms.
- No alcoholic beverages.
- Stay on trails; do not take short-cuts.
- Littering is prohibited.
- Pets must be leashed and their waste removed.
- No soliciting or sales.
- Speed limit is 20 m.p.h.
- Obey all posted signs.

Source: <http://www.sgcity.org/parks/sgtrailsinfo.php> (accessed April 29, 2006)

City of St. Albert

Trail Etiquette

- Keep Right
 - All users must keep right except when passing or turning left. Move off the trail to the right when stopping.
- Caution
 - Follow trail travel, passing and speed guidelines as per cyclists. Be aware of proper skating and braking techniques before going on the trails.
- Share Responsibility
 - Red Willow Park trails provide opportunities for all. Lead by example; help teach each other proper trail etiquette.
- Yield
 - Yield to slower moving traffic: cyclists to pedestrians, joggers to walkers. Move off to the side of the trail for less mobile users.
- Leash Your Dog
 - In designated On Leash areas, all dogs must be kept on a leash and under complete control of their handlers. These areas include all Red Willow Park Trails (including one metre on either side of the improved surface), School Grounds and Tot Lots, and all other spaces marked as On Leash Areas.

Source: <http://www.stalbert.ca/admin/contentx/default.cfm?PageId=193> (accessed April 24, 2006)

Colorado State Parks

Sharing the Trail

- Keep right and pass on the left. Stay as far to the right side of the trail as comfortable, except when passing another trail user. Give an audible signal with a horn, bell or voice before passing.
- Downhill traffic yields to uphill traffic.
- Slower traffic has the right-of-way. Faster traffic is responsible for yielding to slower or oncoming traffic.
- Use caution when using headphones. You may not hear warnings from others.
- Use lights at night. Collisions can be avoided if trail users can be seen. Use reflective clothing for extra protection.
- Yield when entering or crossing paths and roads. Don't count on others stopping for you.
- Stay on the trail. Trails are created to preserve precious outdoor resources. By staying on the trail, you lessen your impact and disturbance of wildlife. Step to the side and stop walking to prevent the trail from being widened excessively and limit impact on adjacent vegetation.
- Respect private property. Do not cross fences. You may be trespassing.
- Do not pick flowers or collect natural items. The rocks, flowers or berries you take from the trail area could be food or shelter for wildlife. Never peel bark, carve initials or break branches from living or dead trees.
- Leave no trace. Food scraps, empty cans, bottles and other debris are unsightly and dangerous. Help protect our natural resources and wildlife by keeping the trail free of litter.
- If you encounter wildlife stand still and let it pass. Watch. Don't chase.

Source: http://parks.state.co.us/trails_program/sharing.asp (accessed April 25, 2006)

Connecticut Horse Council

Trail Etiquette

- Do not cross private property without permission.
- Respect property owners. Make sure that "you" have their permission to ride on or cross over their land. Do not gallop across open fields, leaving hoof prints behind or destroying crops. Use common sense and stay to the edges. Again, it takes one bad experience to ruin it for everyone else.
- Protect our environment.
- Stay on the trail; never cut switchbacks
- Avoid using trails when harmful conditions exist (mud season)
- Avoid bringing your horse in bodies of water for a "swim"
- Water crossings should be made where there are safe footings and avoid muddy bottom crossings whenever possible.

- Cross tie your horse between trees to avoid damage caused by chewing and rubbing.
- Be aware and sensitive about "road apples"
- Train your horse to curb off to the side of the trail
- Keep your horse moving rather than leaving the whole load in one spot
- In some cases, on well used multiple use trails and Greenways, it's a good idea to dismount and move the manure over to the side, or go back & clean up.
- Be aware of what you may leave behind, that others will see. Clean up after yourself and your horse at your break or lunch stops and your horse trailer at the trailhead.

Source: <http://www.cthorsecouncil.org/trailettiquette.html> (accessed April 24, 2006)

Deer Valley Resort

Code of Conduct

- Familiarize yourself with the trail systems and select routes within your ability level.
- Don't ride or hike alone. Be prepared for emergencies.
- Area not patrolled. Be self-sufficient and aware of changing weather and terrain conditions. Water, extra clothing, gloves, STURDY SHOES and sunscreen are recommended.
- Always yield to vehicles or horses.
- Obey all trail signs and markings and only ride or hike on designated mountain biking and hiking trails.
- Notify the lift operator for first-aid assistance, or call 435-645-6625.
- Don't stop where you obstruct a trail or are not visible to others.
- Respect the environment and wildlife.
- Prior to using any lift you must have the knowledge and ability to load, ride and unload safely.
- HELMETS ARE REQUIRED FOR BIKING.
- NO SMOKING ON THE MOUNTAIN.
- NO DOGS ON THE MOUNTAIN.
- PLEASE DO NOT LITTER.

Source: <http://www.deervalley.com/summer/hiking-scenic-rides/code-of-conduct.jsp> (accessed April 26, 2006)

Devon County Council – Horseback Riders

Guidance for horse riders on the Tarka Trail between Servis and Petrockstow

- The use of the Tarka Trail by horse riders does not create bridleway rights.

- Riders should give way to other users of the Tarka Trail.
- The route extends from the bridleway at Servis to Petrockstowe Station. Use of the Tarka Trail beyond these points is not permitted.
- The route may only be joined or left at the public highway (or the bridleway at Servis). Other gates and access points may not be used.
- All gates across the route should be left in a closed position.
- Canter or gallop is not permitted.
- Jumps are not to be erected.
- Riding in a group of more than 3 horses is not permitted.
- The parking of horse boxes or vehicles used to bring horses to the Tarka Trail is not permitted in Tarka Trail car parks.
- Hunting or following a hunt is not permitted.
- Lights shall be worn after dark.

Source:

http://www.devon.gov.uk/advisory_code_of_conduct_for_tarka_trail_users_2.pdf (accessed April 26, 2006)

Devon County Council – Multi-use Trails

Advisory code of conduct for Tarka Trail users

- Be sensitive to the needs of others and follow this simple code.
- Give Way! Cyclists always give way to walkers, people in wheelchairs and prams. Pass them slowly. If you cannot get past safely, stop and dismount.
- Ring! Ring! Fit a bell on your bike. Special Tarka Trail bells are available from the Railway Carriage Visitor Centre at Bideford Station. Make sure other Tarka Trail users are aware of your presence. Ring your bell or call out a warning.
- Relax! Take it easy! Keep your speed down; the Tarka Trail is not a racing track. Slow down and enjoy the scenery.
- Watch out! The Tarka Trail is used by many more cyclists than walkers. Take care and be aware.
- Two's Company! When the Tarka Trail is busy, especially in the summer months, keep to just two abreast so as not to hinder other users.
- Take the lead! Please keep your dogs under control at all times. The Tarka Trail is a haven for wildlife, which is vulnerable to disturbance. Cyclists in particular do not like being chased by dogs. If necessary, put your dog on a lead.
- Mucky pups! Dog mess is unpleasant for everyone. Take a plastic bag and clean up after your dog. There are red dog bins along the Tarka Trail where it can be deposited.
- Hoofing it! The Tarka Trail is used by horses between Servis and Petrockstowe. Approach considerately at all times. See Separate guidance for Horse Riders.

- Please be considerate to other users.
- Follow the Country Code and close all gates after you pass through.

Source:

http://www.devon.gov.uk/advisory_code_of_conduct_for_tarka_trail_users.pdf
 (accessed April 26, 2006)

Du Page County

Trail etiquette

- Slower traffic should stay to the right. Pass only on the left and only when your line of vision is unrestricted. Passing on a blind curve or hill is risky. A polite call of "Passing on your left" can help warn others of your approach from behind.
- Please leave room on the trail for others to pass. Single file is the best procedure for groups of people on a busy day.
- Be extra careful when approaching horses. They startle easily, so slow down and give them as much room as possible.
- When snow covers the ground, make every effort to avoid walking or riding in ski tracks. Classic cross country skiers are encouraged to use the outside of the trail, with all others using the inside.
- Be aware of wildlife both on and off the trail. Remember, you are a visitor in their habitat.
- Dogs are welcome on trails, but they must be leashed at all times. As a courtesy to other trail users, please clean up after your dog.
- Practice "leave no trace" policies by packing out what you pack in.
- To preserve nature's quiet and solitude, refrain from yelling or making any loud sounds.

- Bikers
 - Wheels can be a great way to enjoy the beauty of the forest preserves, but cyclists should observe these special considerations:
 - Ride only on multipurpose trails that are at least 8 feet wide. If a forest preserve road or trail is posted with a sign showing a bike symbol with a slash, the trail is off-limits to bicycles due to dangerous conditions or ecologically sensitive areas.
 - Always ride single file on the right hand side of the trail except when passing on the left from behind. Always announce yourself by saying "Passing on your left."
 - Travel in a consistent manner.

- Do not pass horses on a bridge. A bridge may cause even an experienced horse to be nervous.
 - Ride under control. Watch your speed, especially on curves and in parking lots.
 - Be aware of changing trail conditions.
- Equestrians
 - As with cyclists, special care must be taken by horseback riders when using forest preserve trails:
 - Horses must be kept under control at all times. Horse racing is strictly prohibited.
 - Horses are prohibited in all picnic areas, campgrounds, off-leash dog areas, model airfields and other areas as posted.
 - Horse-trailer parking is permitted in designated areas only.
 - Please refrain from riding horses on trails during wet or muddy conditions.

Source: <http://www.dupageforest.com/RECREATION/trails.html#Trail> (accessed April 24, 2006)

East Coast Trail Association

Trail etiquette:

- Do not litter. There are no garbage cans along the Trail. Volunteers should not have to clean up after you.
- Out houses are located at campsites; elsewhere go at least 50 metres off the trail and far from streams or ponds. Dig a cat hole for solid waste and carry out paper.
- No fires. Use a small camping stove.
- Practice low impact camping. Camp in designated camp sites when possible. If camping elsewhere, please do so off the trail.
- Keep dogs under control. Leash when meeting other parties and at trailheads. Practice stoop and scoop on or near the trail.
- Respect other hikers, private property and the trail.
- Respect the wilderness quiet, keep disturbance to a minimum.

Source: http://www.eastcoasttrail.com/pdf/newsletter_spring_2005.pdf (accessed April 29, 2006)

Essex County Trail Association

Trail Etiquette

- Obey ALL posted signs and trail regulations
- Greet and thank landowners for allowing use of their property
- Respect landowners' privacy (talk softly when passing residences)
- Leave all gates in the position you find them
- Do not smoke in the woods or on private land
- Share the trails. If we don't share, we all will lose!
- Riders
 - Let mountain bikes pass when it is safe to do so. As a rule, they go faster than horses.
 - Stay off trails when they are wet; if you leave a hoof print, it is too wet.
 - Ride on the edge of fields only unless otherwise indicated
 - Alert other trail users when you approach from the rear and ask permission to pass
 - Approach and pass other trail users at a walk
 - Walk by stabled or pastured animals
 - Ride single file on the road
 - Stay off cross country ski tracks
 - Do not bring your dog when riding
 - Acknowledge motorists who slow down or stop
- Walkers
 - Let mountain bikers and horses pass. Please do not hide in the trees. It scares the horses.
- Mountain Bikers
 - Say "hello" when you come up behind horses and hikers. You don't realize how quiet you are. When meeting horses face on, please stop and say "hi." It helps the horses to not be afraid of you.
- Absolutely no motor vehicles should be used where prohibited.
- If you are leaving prints (hoof, tire, or boot), it is too wet to be where you are.
- Whatever you take onto the trails, PLEASE take it out when you leave. No trash
- If you bring your dog (where allowed), please make sure it is well behaved. Pick up after your dog. Don't let it harass wildlife.

Source: http://www.ayerfamily.org/ectaonline/trail_etiq.htm (accessed April 24, 2006)

ForestrySA

The Forest Trail Code

- Keeping to existing trails. Going cross country damages vegetation and can cause erosion.
- Let someone know when and where you are going, and what time you'll be back. Ensure you have enough clothing, water & food for the activity.
- When riding wear a helmet and ride at a safe speed according to your experience, track conditions and terrain.
- Consider other users. Walkers give way to cyclists and both should give way to horse riders. Courtesy is the key.
- Avoid steep, muddy or loose surfaced trails as the tracks formed channel rainwater and contribute to erosion.
- For your safety avoid forestry operations areas where tree felling or machinery are in - use keep an eye and an ear out for the signs.

Source: <http://www.forestry.sa.gov.au/pdf/mtcrawforest-a3.pdf> (accessed April 26, 2006)

Forillon National Park of Canada

Code of Conduct (Cross-Country Skiing)

- Please obey the signs on the trails.
- Keep at reasonable distance from the skier in front of you.
- On down-slopes, wait until the person in front of you has reached the bottom before starting down.
- Move off the trail promptly if you fall or decide to stop.
- Offer your assistance to anyone in difficulty, and notify a park warden if necessary. Phone: (418) 892-5553 or 368-6440 (outside of office hours).

Source: http://www.pc.gc.ca/pn-np/qc/forillon/activ/activ4_e.asp (accessed April 26, 2006)

Friends of the Delaware Canal

Trail Etiquette & Safety Guidelines

- Be Courteous
 - All trail users including bicyclists, walkers, joggers, people with disabilities, and equestrians should be respectful of other users regardless of their speed, or level of skill.

- Share The Trail
 - Cyclists yield to all other trail users and hikers yield to equestrians.
- Signal When Passing
 - Let your fellow trail users know you're coming. A friendly greeting or bell is considerate and works well: don't startle others. Give a clear warning signal and reduce speed before passing. Signal may be produced by voice, bell, or horn. Indicate "On your left" when passing on the left.
- Low Bridge - Everybody Down
 - There is very little clearance under many of the Canal bridges. Duck when necessary.
- Bridge Blind Spots
 - Canal bridges block your view of the towpath ahead. Make sure that the trail is clear before heading under the bridge.
- Don't Block The Trail
 - When in a group, including your pets, use no more than half the trail, so as not to block the flow of other users.
- Stay On The Trail
 - For nearly all of its length, the Delaware Canal State Park property is only 60 feet wide. Please do not wander onto adjoining private properties. Respect the rights and privacy of the owners.
- Keep The Canal Clean
 - The Park's policy is carry in - carry out.
- Be Informed
 - Please check trail signs and use Park maps. Get to know your Park staff. Visit the Delaware Canal State Park Headquarters, 11 Lodi Hill Road, Upper Black Eddy, PA 18972 (phone 610-982-5560) or the Friends of the Delaware Canal Visitors Center, 145 South Main Street, New Hope, PA 18938 (phone 215-862-2021).
- Special Tips For Hikers/Joggers
 - Stay to the right of the trail - pass on the left.
 - Safe multiple use on the towpath requires your cooperation.
 - Always yield to equestrians.
 - Announce yourself when overtaking other trail users.
 - When hiking or jogging with a dog, obey posted leash regulations. Keep a short leash on your dog when passing (or being passed by) horses, cyclists, or other pedestrians. Remember that other trail users may be frightened by your dog, and be unsure how to pass safely.

Please be considerate to other trail users and always clean up after your dog.

- Special Tips For Cyclists
 - Approach and pass other trail users with care - you are obligated to yield to all other trail users. When approaching from behind, announce yourself (and the number of other cyclists in your group) well in advance so that you do not startle other trail users. Reduce speed in order to pass safely.
 - Approach blind curves with caution-assume someone is coming in the opposite direction.
 - Use the appropriate hand signals for turning, stopping, etc.
 - Should your approach cause a horse to spook or become frightened, be considerate and stop. Wait for the rider to tell you it is okay to pass.
 - Be prepared for your trip. Wear a helmet at all times. The key to successful and enjoyable ride requires a knowledge of regulations, an understanding of one's personal ability, equipment, and preparedness for the unexpected.

- Special Tips For Equestrians
 - Make sure your horse has the temperament and training for riding on congested public trails. Busy multi-use trails are not the proper place for schooling green horses.
 - Use common sense in crowded areas (cantering/galloping on crowded trails endangers everyone).
 - Move to the right to allow fellow trail users to pass.
 - Announce your intention to pass other trail users, and reduce speed in order to pass safely. Pass on the left only.
 - Remove your horse from the trail if you begin experiencing behavior problems.
 - As a courtesy to others in your group, use appropriate hand signals for turning, slowing, etc., and give verbal warnings for dangers on the trail (e.g. holes, low branches.)
 - Remember that other trail users may not be familiar with horses or their reaction to new experiences. Your horse may be another trail users first introduction to horses, what you do may be a reflection of the local horse community. Carefully answer questions about your horse. You are an ambassador for the entire equestrian community.

Source: <http://www.fodc.org/info/fodctrl1.htm> (accessed April 24, 2006)

Gap Creek Trail Alliance

Mountain Biking Offroad Code

- Minimise conflict
 - Be courteous and respect other users of the Reserve. Inform others you are behind them and how many are in your group.
 - Pass safely. Horses and walkers can be startled by the approach of a bicycle.
 - Always give way to horses, walkers, runners and other users of the track.
 - Keep left. Apply the road rules where possible.
 - Slow down approaching blind spots like corners. Other users may be ahead.
- Minimise Risk
 - Maintain control of your bicycle. Ride at a safe speed.
 - Ride within your ability and ride according to the track conditions.
 - Look after yourself. Always take a spare tube, bicycle pump and tyre levers.
 - Carry water and food as necessary. Carry a mobile phone and tell someone your intended route.
- Minimise Environmental Impact
 - Avoid skidding. Skidding reduces your control and damages the track.
 - Stay on the track. Cutting corners and track widening degrade the bush environment.
 - Avoid riding on wet tracks.
 - Carry your rubbish with you, including punctured tubes.

Source: http://www.qorf.org.au/01_cms/details.asp?ID=476 (accessed April 26, 2006)

Glasgow City Council

Code of Conduct

- Don't litter. Always leave the trails carrying at least as much as you arrived with.
- Ride only in the direction indicated. Pollok's mountain bike trails are designed to allow you to ride narrow trails without meeting riders coming the other way, but watch out for other park users.
- Don't block the trail. If you need to stop on the circuit, make sure that you and your bike are clear of the trail and visible to oncoming riders.
- Ride with consideration for others. The circuits are designed to allow riders of varying abilities to develop their skills or just enjoy the trails.
- Fast moving riders should wait until it is safe to overtake and let slower riders know which side they're passing on.

- Slower riders should signal their intentions to move over and allow passing where safe.
- If in doubt, always brake and give way to slower riders.
- Stay in control. Off-road surfaces and gradients can vary quickly, and losing concentration for even a second can cause problems. Do not attempt to ride terrain beyond the capabilities of you or your bike. If in doubt, dismount and walk or use an easier part of the circuit to continue to build your skills safely.
- Ride light. Aim to ride with as little impact on the trail as possible. Stick to existing trails and don't cut corners or ride around boggy areas.
- Think ahead. Bring what you need to enjoy your riding. Carry a drink, snacks, tools and spares for the time you'll be out, and for your trip home. Bring spare clothes to protect against feeling cold after your ride.
- Wear a helmet. When mountain biking always wear a helmet and consider other protective equipment. Proper cycle clothing will make your riding safer and more comfortable. Do not wear clothing that can catch in your bike and always wear shoes that will grip your pedals.
- Maintain your bike. Only ride on the circuit if your bike is well maintained and of a suitable type. Poor quality or un-serviced bikes can break easily and be difficult to control.
 - If in doubt, contact your local cycle shop for advice. A well maintained bike is much more fun to ride and is less likely to need parts replaced.
- Look after the environment. By keeping the circuit and woodland around it in good condition we can protect its future and continue to enjoy it. Please use signed entrance and exit points.

Source:

http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/en/Residents/Parks_Outdoors/Activities/Cycling/glasgowmountainbikecircuitcodeofconduct.htm (accessed April 29, 2006)

Greene County Greene Ways

Trail etiquette

- Remember the trail may be shared by hikers, bikers, horses, walkers and other users.
- Use only non-motorized forms of transportation*
- Bicyclists should yield to all other users.
- All users should yield to horses.
- Keep right, except to pass.
- Announce passing to other users.
- Pass with caution.
- Move off paved trail when stopped.
- Please yield to emergency vehicles.
- Respect private property.
- Clean up after your pet.
- Observe the speed limit.
- Heed all signs.
- Please don't litter.
- Read and obey all rules and regulations posted at staging areas.

* Persons requiring motorized wheelchairs have access to the trail.

* Vehicles restricted 42" wide and 96" long.

Source: http://www.co.greene.oh.us/parks/bike_trails.htm (accessed April 24, 2006)

Greenwood Village, Colorado

Trail Etiquette

- Village trails are for walking, hiking/jogging, biking, and horseback riding. Remember to yield right-of-way to pedestrians and horses. See the diagram below.
- Trail users are the eyes and ears of the trail system. Report problems, e.g., downed trees, holes (prairie dog holes or holes in asphalt), or broken fences to Greenwood Village City Hall at 303-486-5773, or fax 303-804-4120.
- Watch for cars turning from driveways and cross streets. Make sure to obey all traffic lights and signs.
- The maximum trail speed is 15 mph. Motorized vehicles are not allowed on Village trails.
- Respect the trails. Littering, dumping, and misuse of any public property is not allowed. No glass bottles are allowed on Village trails.
- Use common courtesy and stay on the trails. Bicyclists should not ride on athletic fields or residential lawns.

- When hiking/jogging with a dog, obey posted leash regulations. Keep a short leash on your dog when passing (or being passed by) horses, cyclists, or other pedestrians. Please pick up any dog waste and discard in trash receptacles. Dog Bag stations are located throughout the trail system and are supplied with bags for your use.
- Bicyclists should remember that they are subject to the same regulations and penalties as a motor vehicle operator on the street.
- If you choose to wear a stereo/headphone set, make sure that the volume neither prevents you from hearing what is happening around you nor disturbs other trail users.
- If you come upon an injured rider (horse or bicycle), get help immediately. If you come upon a riderless horse, do not approach the horse if you are uncomfortable with horses, seek professional help (e.g., the Village Police Department). If you choose to approach the horse, speak softly to let it know you are there, do not chase it. Approach the horse from the side.
- Animals on the trail may act unexpectedly.
- If you are unsure about approaching someone with a horse or dog, ask the handler for guidance.

Etiquette for cyclists

- Horses have the right-of-way over bicyclists. Yield appropriately.
- Wear a bicycle helmet and use guard clips on trouser cuffs if your bike has no chain guard.
- Inspect your bike for loose or worn parts before riding on trails.
- Use the appropriate hand signals for turning, stopping, and say “on your left” when passing hikers/joggers or equestrians.
- Never carry a passenger unless your bicycle is equipped for two riders.
- Equip your bike with a horn or bell. Install a light and reflectors to enhance the visibility of your bike at night.
- Be mindful of horses and pedestrians, use extra caution around them.
- Invest in a high quality security lock. Lock both wheels and the frame and do not leave the bicycle outside at night.

Etiquette for Equestrians

- Wear shoes or boots with heels so they do not slide through the stirrups.
- Always wear a riding helmet to prevent head injuries in case of a fall.
- Make sure your horse has a good temperament and proper training for riding on public trails.
- Advise other trail users, i.e., bicyclists or joggers, of your horse’s temperament, e.g., a horse with a tendency to kick should always wear a red ribbon on the trail or a stallion should wear a yellow ribbon. Assume that not everyone will know

what these ribbons mean, so be prepared to explain or take the necessary precautions while using Village trails.

- Stay on equestrian approved trails. Horses are permitted on all asphalt trails; however, dirt trails are preferred for the safety of the horse and rider.
- Obey posted speed/gait limits and use common sense in crowded areas, e.g., slow down when you pass others on the trail and never gallop past another trail user.
- Pass on the left only and use appropriate hand signals for turning, slowing, etc., and give verbal warnings for dangers on the trail (e.g., holes, low branches).
- Be courteous to other users of public trail heads/parking areas and do not clean out your trailer at these locations.

Source:

<http://www.greenwoodvillage.com/documents/Park%2C%20Trails%2C%20Recreation/etiquette.pdf> (accessed April 24, 2006)

Heartland Trail Riders

Code of Ethics

- I will be a good sportsman.
- I realize that people judge all OHV's by the way that I ride.
- I will use my influence with others to promote safe sportsman like conduct.
- I will not damage trees, shrubs or any other land forms.
- I will not litter any trails, camping areas, lakes or streams.
- I will respect the rights and properties of others.
- I will always lend my helping hands for whoever is in distress.
- I will always make myself and my OHV available in any search or rescue procedures.
- I will know and uphold any and all local, state and federal laws regarding the safe operation of my OHV whenever and wherever I may ride.
- I will respect the rights of all other sportsman to enjoy their recreational activities as I do mine.
- I will not ride where prohibited or without permission.
- I will not harass, only enjoy our wildlife.
- I will not operate any OHV under the influence of drugs, alcohol or medications.
- I will have a great time!!!

Source: <http://htrc.org/ethics.htm> (accessed April 20, 2006)

Heritage Rail Trail

Trail Etiquette

- The trail is only open during daylight hours.
- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.
- Use only non-motorized forms of transportation.
- Persons having motorized wheelchairs have access to the trail.
- Remember the trail is shared by many different users - hikers, bikers, skaters and walkers.
- Bicyclists should yield to other users.
- Keep right except to pass.
- Announce passing to other users and pass with caution.
- Move off paved trail when stopped.
- Please yield to law enforcement, maintenance and emergency vehicles.
- Respect private property.
- Clean up after your pet.
- Observe speed limit.
- Heed all signs.
- Don't litter.
- Read and obey all rules and regulations posted at staging areas.

Source: http://www.heritagetrail.org/trail_etiquette.htm (accessed April 24, 2006)

Ice Age Park and Trail (US National Park Service)

Trail Ethics and Use

- The Ice Age Trail relies heavily on the support of private landowners. Please respect their rights and stay on the Trail at all times.
- As the Trail evolves toward completion, hikers should be on the lookout for possible new Trail additions, closures or re-routes not shown on the map.
- The Ice Age Trail is primarily for walking, hiking and backpacking. Snowshoeing and cross-country skiing are popular winter uses. Only where clearly marked are other types of activities such as biking, horseback riding, snowmobiling or all-terrain/off-road motorized vehicle use allowed on the Trail.
- Camping is only allowed in designated areas. Where primitive, dispersed camping is allowed, set up your tent at least 100 feet from all rivers, lakes, streams, roads and trails. Always do a final camp-sweep before departing your site to ensure you've left no trash or belongings behind.
- Camp fires are allowed only in designated fire rings.
- Never feed wild animals. Feeding wildlife damages their health, alters natural behaviours, and exposes them to predators and other dangers.
- Leave only footsteps. Take only pictures. Carry out all your garbage, including used toilet paper, hygiene products and leftover food.

- Most sections of the Ice Age Trail are closed during deer gun season. Please use caution and wear bright colors during all other hunting seasons.
- Don't bypass switch-backs as you hike the Trail.
- The IAT is marked by yellow blazes. [Visit the National Park Service for more information on trail signs.](#)
- Thank a volunteer for the existence and maintenance of most Ice Age Trail segments. Consider joining them sometime for a work party on the Trail.

Source: <http://www.iceagetrail.org/infocenter/ethics.html> (accessed April 19, 2006)

Idaho ATV Association Inc.

Our Code of Riding Ethics

- I will respect the rights of all recreationalists to enjoy the beautiful outdoors.
- I will respect public and private property.
- I will park considerately, taking no more space than needed, without blocking other vehicles, and without impeding access to trails.
- I will keep to the right when meeting another recreationalist. Yield the right-of-way to traffic moving uphill.
- I will slow down and use caution when approaching or overtaking another.
- I will respect designated areas, trail-use signs and established trails.
- When stopping, I will not block the trail.
- I will not disturb wildlife.
- I will avoid areas posted for the protection of feeding wildlife.
- I will not litter and will pack out everything I pack in.
- I realize that my destination objective and travel speed should be determined by my equipment, ability, the terrain, weather, and traffic on the trail. In case of emergency, I will volunteer assistance.
- I will not interfere with or harass others. I recognize that people judge *all* trail users by my actions.
- Motorized trail users should pull off the trail and stop their engines when encountering horseback riders. It is also a good idea to take off your helmet and greet the riders.

Source: http://www.idahoatv.org/ATV%20Assoc%20%20Folder/code_of_ethics.htm (accessed April 20, 2006)

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Hiking: A Few Simple Rules

- Stay on designated hiking trails.

- Don't pick any flowers.
- Confine your pet to a leash.
- Wear comfortable walking or hiking shoes.
- Take water with you on long hikes.
- Use insect repellent to help ward off mosquitoes and other insects.
- Be sure to protect yourself from wood ticks, carriers of Rocky Mountain spotted fever, and deer ticks, carriers of Lyme disease.

Source: <http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/Landmgt/Programs/hiking/> (accessed April 20, 2006)

International Mountain Biking Association

Rules of the Trail

- Ride On Open Trails Only.
 - Respect trail and road closures (ask if uncertain); avoid trespassing on private land; obtain permits or other authorization as may be required. Federal and state Wilderness areas are closed to cycling. The way you ride will influence trail management decisions and policies.
- Leave No Trace.
 - Be sensitive to the dirt beneath you. Recognize different types of soils and trail construction; practice low-impact cycling. Wet and muddy trails are more vulnerable to damage. When the trailbed is soft, consider other riding options. This also means staying on existing trails and not creating new ones. Don't cut switchbacks. Be sure to pack out at least as much as you pack in.
- Control Your Bicycle!
 - Inattention for even a second can cause problems. Obey all bicycle speed regulations and recommendations.
- Always Yield Trail.
 - Let your fellow trail users know you're coming. A friendly greeting or bell is considerate and works well; don't startle others. Show your respect when passing by slowing to a walking pace or even stopping. Anticipate other trail users around corners or in blind spots. Yielding means slow down, establish communication, be prepared to stop if necessary and pass safely.
- Never Scare Animals.
 - All animals are startled by an unannounced approach, a sudden movement, or a loud noise. This can be dangerous for you, others, and the animals. Give animals extra room and time to adjust to you. When passing horses use special care and follow directions from the horseback riders (ask if uncertain). Running cattle and disturbing wildlife is a serious offense. Leave gates as you found them, or as marked.
- Plan Ahead.

- Know your equipment, your ability, and the area in which you are riding -- and prepare accordingly. Be self-sufficient at all times, keep your equipment in good repair, and carry necessary supplies for changes in weather or other conditions. A well-executed trip is a satisfaction to you and not a burden to others. Always wear a helmet and appropriate safety gear.

Source: http://www.imba.com/about/trail_rules.html (accessed April 19, 2006)

Indy Parks and Recreation

Greenway/Trail Etiquette

- Trail hours: Dawn to dusk
- Keep to the right; communicate before passing. Let other trail users know when you are approaching from behind. Signal by saying "passing on your left" and give others time to respond accordingly.
- Maintain control and safe speed. Adjust your speed to accommodate for other users, traffic and trail conditions.
- Pedestrians have the right-of-way on the Greenways. Bicycle riders and in-line skaters must yield to all other trail users. Parents: please keep children from wandering into oncoming trail lane to avoid accidents.
- Share the trail and be courteous. Indy Parks Greenways are multi-use recreational trails appropriate for walkers, joggers, in-line skaters and bicycle riders. Please Respect others, regardless of their mode of travel.
- Do not trespass or cut through adjacent properties or yards to access a Greenway.
- Stop for cross traffic and obey all signage.
- Respect the trail environment. Do not disturb the wildlife or the many native plants and wildflowers that grow along the Greenway.
- Pick up litter and place in trash bins. Please remove all pet waste.
- Keep pets on short leashes (4-6 feet max.) If using a retractable leash, please keep pets near you.

Source: <http://www.indygov.org/eGov/City/DPR/Admin/rules.htm> (accessed April 24, 2006)

International Bicycle Fund

User Guidelines For Multi-use Trails

- Be Courteous. All trail users, including bicyclists, joggers, walkers, wheelchairs, skateboarders, bladders and skaters, should be respectful of other users regardless of their mode, speed or level of skill.

- Be Predictable. Travel in a consistent and predictable manner. Always look behind before changing positions on the trail.
- Don't Block The Trail. When in a group or with your pets, use no more than half the trail so as not to block the flow of other users.
- Keep Right. Stay as near to the right side of the trail as is safe, except when passing another user.
- Pass On The Left. Pass others, going your direction, on their left. YIELD TO SLOWER AND ON-COMING TRAFFIC. Use hand signals to alert those behind you of your moves. Look ahead and back to make sure the lane is clear before you pull out and pass. Pass with ample separation and do not move back to the right until safely past. REMEMBER: KIDS AND PETS CAN BE UNPREDICTABLE.
- Stopping. When stopping, move off of the trail. Beware of others approaching you from behind and make sure they know you are pulling over.
- Give Audible Warning BEFORE Passing. Give a clear signal by using voice, bell or horn before passing. Give the person you are passing time to respond. Watch for their reaction. So that you can hear these signals, don't wear headphones on the trail.
- Obey All Traffic Signs And Signals. Use extra caution where trails cross streets. Stop at all signs and intersections and be cautious when crossing driveways. When entering or crossing a trail yield to traffic on the trail.
- Use Lights At Night. Be equipped with lights when using a trail at any time from dusk to dawn. Bicyclists should have a white light visible from five- hundred feet to the front and a red or amber light visible from five-hundred feet to the rear. Other trail users should have white lights visible from two-hundred fifty feet to the front, and a red or amber light visible from two-hundred fifty feet to the rear.
- Don't Use A Trail Under The Influence Of Alcohol Or Drugs. Don't overestimate the safety of any trail. You may need all of your reflexes quickly -- don't have them impaired.
- Be Respectful Of Private Property. Trails are open to the public, but often the land on the side of the trail is private property. Please respect all property rights.
- Clean Up Litter. Do not leave glass, paper, cans, plastic, or any other debris on or near a trail. If you drop something, please remove it immediately.
- Have You Outgrown Trails? Trails have engineering and design limits. If your speed or style endangers other users, check for alternative routes better suited to your needs. Selecting the right location is safer and more enjoyable for all concerned.
- Always Exercise Due Care And Caution.

Source: <http://www.ibike.org/education/trail-sharing.htm> (accessed April 18, 2006)

Island Rock Crawlers Four-Wheel Drive Society

Code of Conduct

- The Law -Obey the laws, even off-road. Don't consume alcohol or drugs while driving, and transport and store your firearms safely.
- No Littering - Pack out what you packed in! Pick up litter even if it isn't yours. Encourage others to do so.
- Preserve the Heritage - Don't disturb old mining camps, ghost towns, or other historical artifacts. Leave rocks, flowers, wood, and antlers in their natural state for others to see and enjoy.
- Be Courteous - to all others on the trail and in camp. Don't make excessive noise. Supervise your kids and pets.
- Respect Private Land - Get owner's permission before entering their land. Don't assume public access. Leave all gates as you found them, respect trail signs, and do not harass or spook wildlife or livestock.
- Preserve the Environment
 - Stay on existing roads and trails, use local maps.
 - Don't create new trails, cut switchbacks or drive through meadows, alpine tundra, rivers or streams.
 - Leave the land and its vegetation as you find it.
 - If you can't make it, winch! Don't dig pits with your tires!
 - If you rock-pile, put them back when you're done, don't make permanent changes to the trail.
 - If driving somewhere will ruin the road or the environment - don't go there!
 - Cross streams only at recognized crossings, and don't stir up the water unnecessarily.
- Campsites - Camp at an existing campsite whenever possible. Camp away from stream banks and lakeshores. Leave camp cleaner than it was found. In the wilderness, leave no traces of your presence.
- Fires - Be aware of forest fire hazards, use a fire ring, and avoid wasteful, dangerous bonfires. Use a shovel and water to make sure a fire is completely out before you leave. Cigarettes cause fires if discarded carelessly. Use your ashtrays.
- Toilets - Carry a shovel to dispose of human waste, and don't dispose of it near streams, lakes, or campsites.
- Vehicles
 - Maintain your vehicle. Leaks are bad for the environment.
 - If you spill, clean it up.
 - Carry basic tools, a shovel, jack, water, a first-aid kit, fire extinguisher, spare oil, tire, CB radio, etc.
 - Know your vehicle and what it can do. Don't drive a trail that is beyond your limits, or your vehicle's.
 - If a trail gets too difficult - turn back.
 - Use a spotter to help you get through the tough spots, and remember this:

- You are responsible for any damage to your vehicle or done by your vehicle.
- Winches - Make sure your winch and cable are in good condition. Know how to use it. Read the owner's manual. Always use gloves, and keep spectators well away. Drape something over the cable in case it breaks.
- Always Observe, Record, and Report - Poaching, illegal dumping, vandalism, littering, careless use of firearms- all these things should be reported to the CRD, the local Conservation Officer, or the RCMP.
- Common Sense - Avoid travelling alone. Keep the people you are travelling with in sight. Tell someone where you are going and when you'll be back. Stick to your plan!
- Have Fun! *We are very fortunate to live in such a beautiful place. Explore it, Protect it, Share it and Enjoy it!*

Source: <http://www.can4x4.com/irc/portfolio/conduct.html> (accessed June 6, 2006)

Jefferson County Open Spaces

Trail Etiquette: Be Courteous & Communicate!

- Mountain Biker Responsibilities
 - You are required to yield to all other trail users. Downhill riders should yield to uphill traffic. Anticipate other trail users around corners and blind spots and be prepared to stop and pass safely.
 - Pass with care and alert other users in advance with a vocal warning.
 - Keep your bike under control and travel at a safe speed.
 - Always wear a safety helmet.
 - Don't ride in the mud or on trails where ruts can be created. Try to use an alternate trail. Skidding and sliding around turns damages the trail.
 - County law requires that dogs be on a leash. Responsible bicyclists will not ride with dogs, since this can be dangerous.
- Hikers Responsibilities
 - Listen for and be aware of other trail users and yield with care to equestrians. Pass equestrians with care.
 - Keep your dog on a leash and under control at all times.
 - Avoid stepping off trails.
- Equestrian Responsibilities
 - Travel at a safe speed. Be especially careful when visibility is limited.
 - Communicate with other trail users. Let others know if your horse is safe to pass.

- Don't ride in the mud. If the trail is muddy, try to use an alternate trail. Deep hoof prints make it difficult for others to use the trail.

Source: http://www.co.jefferson.co.us/jeffco/openspace_uploads/trail_Etiquette.pdf
(accessed April 24, 2006)

Kansas Trails Council

Common Sense, Guidelines, and Etiquette for Trail Use

- Know your limits in terms of endurance and ability and do not be tempted to exceed them.
- Never forget that the trail that you are on exists only because of the hard work and efforts of many volunteers and the support of local, state and federal agencies. Enjoy and appreciate these efforts and respect the trail at all time.
- Whatever you carry in, you carry out. Please be careful not to leave trash anywhere on the trail. The next trail user has no wish to view your refuse and sooner or later trail volunteers will donate their time and efforts to clean up the carelessness or indifference of inconsiderate trail users. If you find trash on the trail, please do your good deed for the day and carry it out to an appropriate container.
- If there are limbs or other obstructions on the trail take the time to remove them. If they are too large to move and interfere with safe passage along the trail then please take the time to notify the appropriate authority of its existence after you have left the trail.
- These trails are on public land and you should constantly remind yourself that there may be others on the trail at the same time that you are and that you need to respect their rights and expectations on the trail.
 - Allow faster riders or walkers to pass you on the left.
 - If you wish to pass someone on the trail let him or her know that you are on the trail behind him or her and that you are going to pass on the left.
 - Please avoid shouting and making excessive noise while on the trail. Most people are on the trail to enjoy a degree of serenity and solitude offered by the trail.
 - Do not alter or remove signs and trail markings. Replacing signs and markings is expensive and time consuming for volunteers. Even more importantly anything that you might do of this nature could have a serious, adverse or even dangerous affect for someone else on the trail.
 - Many trails are multi-use trails. Be aware of this and watch for bikers, hikers and/or horses. Be especially careful to not surprise and spook horses on the trail since this creates potential danger to both the horse and the rider.

- Do not attempt to alter a trail in any way. Formal trails have been laid out with careful consideration given to the possibilities for erosion and respect for the ecology and natural beauty of the area.
- Observe and obey all signs and instructions that may be associated with a particular trail. Make certain that the trail is designated for your particular interest and usage before entering it.
- Many trails are adjacent to private property. Observe no-trespassing signs and avoid entering private property.
- Whenever possible avoid frightening or disturbing wildlife or livestock that may be in close proximity to you.
- Mountain bikers should wear a helmet at all times. Mountain bikers still have something to prove to the more conservative elements in the trail community. Prove yourself worthy of the trails designated for mountain biking by staying on the trail, by not creating ruts by riding into muddy areas, by being aware of and careful of hikers and horses, and by practicing minimum impact cycling leaving nothing more than a vague waffle print. Since mountain biking is new to many trails there is a prevailing attitude of "you abuse it you lose it"--the privilege of riding the trail that is. The plain truth of the matter is that responsible mountain bikers probably do less to harm or disturb the ecology of an area than anyone else does.
- If you live near a trail that you love to ride or hike, volunteer to help maintain the trail. Whether you believe it or not every trail needs your help to keep it in the best possible condition.
- Regard every trail as a privilege granted to you, not as an irrevocable right that you have.

Source:

<http://www.terraworld.net/kansastrails/archived%20web%20pages/Trail%20Notes.htm> (accessed April 21, 2006)

Kickapoo Valley Reserve

General Guidelines & Etiquette Tips

- Respect the trails - clean up your litter (pack out what is packed in); protect the trail environment, e.g., do not remove things that belong on trails or blaze new trails.
- Become the eyes and ears of the trail system. Report problems, e.g., washed out bridges or downed trees and debris to the Kickapoo Valley Reserve Office.
- Give back to the trails you use--get involved with trails maintenance.
- Share the trails - cyclists yield to all other trail users and hikers yield to equestrians. Stay right on multi-use trail segments.
- On crowded trails, proceed single file.
- Slower traffic should keep to the right of the trail; faster users pass on the left.

- Do not pass on narrow bends--pass only when you can clearly see the trail and traffic approaching from the opposite direction.
- When passing other trail users, provide adequate warning and reduce speed.
- Animals on the trail may act unexpectedly. If you are unsure about approaching someone with a horse or dog, ask the handler for guidance.
- Dogs must be on leash from April 15 thru July 31 to protect nesting birds and under voice command or leash control at all other times.
- Do not ride during rain or when the trails are wet or muddy; footprints, bicycle ruts, and hoof prints can damage the trails.
- If you choose to wear a stereo/headphone set, make sure that the volume neither prevents you from hearing what is happening around you nor disturbs the other trail users.
- If you come upon an injured rider (horse or bicycle), get help immediately. If you come upon a riderless horse, do not approach the horse if you are uncomfortable with horses--seek professional help. If you choose to approach the horse, speak softly to let it know you are there--do not chase it. Approach it from the side.

Etiquette for Equestrians

- Make sure your horse has the temperament and training for riding on public trails. Busy multi-use trails are not the proper place for schooling green horses.
- Advise other trail users of your horse's temperament, e.g., a horse with a tendency to kick should always wear a red ribbon on the tail or a stallion should wear a yellow ribbon. Assume that not everyone will know what these ribbons mean, so be prepared to explain or take the necessary precautions to avoid trouble.
- Dogs must be kept on a leash from April 15 through July 31 to protect nesting birds and under owner voice or leash control at all other times.
- Move to the right to allow faster trail users to pass.
- Announce your intentions to pass other trail users and reduce speed in order to pass safely. Pass on the left only.
- Move to the side of the trail if you begin experiencing behavior problems.
- Stay on equestrian approved trails.
- As a courtesy to others in your group, use appropriate hand signals for turning, slowing, etc., and give verbal warning for dangers on the trail (e.g., holes, low branches).
- Remember that other trail users may not be familiar with horses or their reactions to new experiences. Your horse may be another trail user's introduction to horses; what you do is a reflection of the horse community. Cheerfully answer questions about your horse. You are an ambassador for the entire equestrian community.
- Do not clean out your trailer in the parking area.
- On multiple use trails, step off the trail (if possible) if your horse needs to relieve himself or kick the droppings off the trail.

Etiquette For Cyclists

- Approach and pass other trail users with care--you are obligated to yield to all other trail users. When approaching from behind, announce yourself (and the number of other cyclists in your group) well in advance so that you do not startle other trail users. Reduce speed in order to pass safely. Pass horses as far to the left as possible to avoid unintentional contact. Red ribbons in a horse's tail are an indication that it may kick if approached too closely from behind.
- Stay on approved bicycle trails.
- Obey posted speed/gait limits and use common sense in crowded areas.
- Approach blind curves with caution--assume someone is coming in the opposite direction.
- Dogs must be kept on a leash from April 15 through July 31 to protect nesting birds and under owner voice or leash control at all other times.
- Use the appropriate hand signals for turning, stopping, etc.
- Should your approach cause a horse to spook or become frightened, be considerate and stop. Wait for the rider to tell you that it is okay to pass.
- Be a positive reflection of the local cycling community.

Etiquette for Hiker/Joggers

- Stay to the right of the trail--pass on the left.
- Always yield to equestrians.
- If you wish to approach a horse, ask the rider for guidance.
- Announce yourself when overtaking other trail users.
- When hiking/jogging with a dog, obey posted leash regulations. Keep a short leash on your dog when passing (or being passed by) horses, cyclists, or other pedestrians.
- Remember that your dog may frighten other trail users, and they may be unsure how to pass safely.
- Dogs must be kept on a leash from April 15 through July 31 to protect nesting birds and under owner voice or leash control at all other times.

Source: http://kvr.state.wi.us/home/trail_etiquette.htm

Leave No Trace

Leave No Trace Principles

- Plan ahead and prepare.
- Travel and camp on durable surfaces.
- Dispose of waste properly.
- Leave what you find.
- Minimize campfire impacts.

- Respect Wildlife.
- Be considerate of other visitors.

Source: <http://www.lnt.org/programs/lnt7/index.html> (accessed April 18, 2006)

Little Miami Scenic Trail

Trail Etiquette

- Remember: the Trail is shared by hikers, bikers, horses, walkers, and other users.
- Use only non-motorized forms of transportation. (Persons requiring motorized wheelchairs have access to the trail.)
- Bicyclists should yield to all other users.
- All users should yield to horses.
- Keep right except to pass.
- Announce passing, to other users. Pass with caution.
- Move off paved trail when stopped.
- Please yield to law enforcement, maintenance and emergency vehicles.
- Respect private property.
- Clean up after your pet.
- Observe speed limit.
- Heed all signs.
- Don't litter.

Source: <http://www.yellowsprings.com/bikepath.html#te> (accessed April 24, 2006)

Manitoba Recreational Trails Association Inc.

Trail Etiquette

- Plan ahead – be aware of local trail conditions.
- Wheels yield to heel.
- Stay on the trail, and respect private property including crops, livestock and equipment. Close all gates, and keep your pets on a leash.
- Take only photos, leave only footprints.
- Camp and light fires only in designated areas.
- Avoid taking shortcuts or creating braided trails around wet areas.
- Bury human waste at least 100 metres from water bodies.
- Grain and alfalfa pellets are recommended for horses as hay can introduce noxious weeds. Scatter manure. Avoid soft or marshy edges when watering horses.
- Do not leave horses unattended.

- Cyclists and horses avoid soft trail when wet.
- Fall is hunting season in much of Manitoba. Consult Manitoba Conservation regarding hunting areas and wear blaze orange if on the trail.
- Do not drink the water unless purified by filters or tablets
- Enjoy the trail!

Source: http://www.mrta.mb.ca/b_etiquette.html (accessed April 24, 2006)

Maynard Trails (Maynard, Massachusetts)

Trail Etiquette

- Remember to stay on trails.
- Respect private property. If property is marked or obviously private, avoid trespassing.
- Carry out your own trash. Feel free to pickup after others who are less considerate.
- Do not pick any vegetation.
- Do not feed the wildlife.
- Keep dogs on a leash or under control and clean up after them.
- No motorized vehicles.
- No campfires without special permits.
- Share the trails - be courteous.

Source: <http://web.maynard.ma.us/gov/conscom/trails/trail etiquette.htm> (accessed April 21, 2006)

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

Sharing the Trails

- Please be courteous to other trail users.
 - Always yield to equestrians. Allow other trail users to pass. When in a group, avoid blocking the trail.
- Stay alert.
 - Horses and slower moving individuals may be startled by faster moving trail users. Make your presence known to other trail users well in advance, particularly when approaching from behind.
- Stay on designated trails.
 - Prevent injury to yourself and damage to natural resources by staying on designated trails.

- Observe trail speed limits.
 - A 15-mph speed limit is enforced on all trails (5-mph when passing). At no time may a trail user operate at a speed greater than is reasonable, prudent, or safe, as conditions warrant.
- Observe District regulations.
 - You are responsible for knowing open space preserve regulations. A complete list of all District ordinances is available at the District office.
- Bicyclists
 - Bicyclists are required to wear ANSI- or Snell-approved bicycle helmets on all District lands.
 - Control your speed at all times and obey the 15-mph speed limit. Slowly approach blind turns in anticipation of other trail users and obstacles that are beyond your view.
 - Always yield to all other trail users. On wide trails, slow down and pass with care (5-mph speed limit when passing).
 - Ride only on trails designated for bicycle use. Off-trail use is strictly prohibited.
 - Racing and reckless riding are prohibited.
 - Horses and slower moving individuals may be startled by faster moving trail users.
 - Make your presence known to other trail users well in advance, particularly when approaching from behind.
 - When encountering equestrians and hikers on narrow trails, stop and wait for them to pass or signal you through.
 - Yield to other bicyclists traveling uphill.
- Runners
 - Slow down and allow oncoming hikers and equestrians to pass on one side of the trail.
 - If you are approaching from behind, alert other trail users of your presence and pass carefully.
 - Stop and wait for equestrians to pass or signal you through.
 - When approaching bicyclists, slow down and pass when it is safe.
- Hikers
 - Always yield to equestrians.
 - Be alert for approaching bicyclists and runners.
 - If you are approaching from behind, alert other trail users of your presence and pass carefully.
- Equestrians
 - Some visitors may be intimidated by horses.
 - When you meet other trail users, inform them of the safest way to pass.
 - You are responsible for maintaining control over your horse at all times.
 - If your horse is high-spirited, please warn other trail users.

- Ride only on trails designated for equestrian use. Off-trail use is strictly prohibited.
- Trail users with dogs
 - Dogs are currently allowed on all trails at the following open space preserves: Coal Creek, Foothills, Fremont Older, Pulgas Ridge, including an off-leash area, Sierra Azul (Kennedy-Limekiln Area), St. Joseph's Hill, and Thornewood, as well as designated trails at Windy Hill and Long Ridge Open Space Preserves. Contact the District for maps and further information on preserves accessible to dogs.
 - Dogs must be on a maximum six-foot leash at all times. Contact the District for guidelines on retractable leashes, and please clean up after your dog.
 - Some trail users are frightened by dogs; communicate with others and always keep your dog under control.
 - Because some dogs are unpredictable, step to one side of the trail with your dog to allow enough room for other trail users to pass.

Source: http://www.openspace.org/activities/downloads/sharing_the_trails.pdf
(accessed April 21, 2006)

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Snowmobilers' code of ethics

- I will be a good sports enthusiast. I recognize that people judge all snowmobile owners by my actions. I will use my influence with other snowmobile owners to promote fair conduct.
- I will not litter on trails or camping areas. I will not pollute lakes or streams.
- I will not damage living trees, shrubs, or other natural features. I will go out only when there is sufficient snow so that I will not damage the land.
- I will respect other people's property and rights.
- I will lend a helping hand when I see someone in distress.
- I will make myself and my vehicle available to assist search and rescue parties.
- I will not interfere with or harass hikers, skiers, snowshoers, ice anglers, or other winter sports enthusiasts. I will respect their rights to enjoy our recreation facilities.
- I will know and obey all federal, state/provincial and local rules regulating the operation of snowmobiles in areas where I use my vehicle. I will inform officials when using public lands.
- I will not harass wildlife. I will avoid areas posted for the protection or feeding of wildlife.

- I will stay on marked trails or marked roads open to snowmobiles. I will not snowmobile where prohibited.

Source: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/snowmobiling/ethics.html> (accessed April 19, 2006)

Missouri Conservationist

The ATV Operator's Pledge

- I will respect public and private property.
- I will use only ATV-designated areas and established trails.
- I will respect the rights of all outdoor users.
- I will not litter.
- I will not operate an ATV in a river or stream.
- I will respect stream-side vegetation and its importance to the stream.
- I will respect all natural areas and minimize my impact.
- I will obey all laws pertaining to the use of off-road vehicles.
- I will always think about safety.

Source: <http://www.mdc.mo.gov/conmag/2002/06/60.htm> (Accessed April 20, 2006)

The Mountain Bay Trail

Code of Ethics / Rules for Trail Users:

- I will be a good sports enthusiast. I recognize that people will judge all trail users by my actions. I will use my influence with other trail users to promote fair conduct.
- I will not pollute streams. I will not litter trails or camping areas. I will place refuse in containers provided.
- I will not damage living trees, shrubs, or other natureal features.
- I will stay on marked trails.
- I will respect other peoples property and rights.
- I will not interfere with other ttrail users. I will respec their rights to enjoy our recreational facilities.
- I will not harrass wildlife.
- I will lend a helping hand to persons in distress.
- I will know and obey all federal, state, and local laws and rules regulating recreational trail useage.
- I will not allow my pets to run freely on the recreational trails.

Source: <http://www.mountain-baytrail.org/shawano.htm> (accessed April 29, 2006)

Musketawa Trail

Basic Trail Etiquette

- Obey all trail use rules posted on the trail. \
- Stay to the right except when passing.
- Pass slower traffic on the left, yield to oncoming traffic when passing.
- Give a clear warning signal when passing: I.E. call out "Passing on your left".
- Travel at a reasonable speed.
- Keep pets under control on a leash, and clean up after them.
- When you stop for any reason get off the paved/main trail.
- Do not litter.
- Respect private property.
- Campfires and camping are not allowed on the trail right of way.
- Do not disturb vegetation or wildlife.

Source: <http://www.musketawatrail.org/etiquette.htm> (accessed April 26, 2006)

New Hampshire Trails Bureau

Trail Etiquette for Multi-use Trails

- All trail users are responsible for watching and listening for others. Traveling on the right side of the trail removes indecision about the proper side on which to pass. Always ask for and get permission if you must pass on the left. Slow down significantly and use caution at curves and junctions. Surprises are not safe - it doesn't matter what you are riding.
- Yield to a horse and rider. Be sure the horse has seen and heard you; give the horse adequate room to pass.
- A hiker should call out a friendly hello and request that s/he would like to pass. The horse rider may need to pull over, to provide the safest position to the hiker. If the rider has his horse under control, proceed; if not, allow the rider to move his horse beyond you.
- Motorized recreation vehicles can usually be heard coming, and the horse rider may be well out of the way. If not, please shut off the motor and allow the rider to get a distance beyond you before starting up. Turn off engines any time a horse appears nervous. Ask the rider what you can do to help.
- Bicycles are quiet and not heard by horse or rider. Speak out so the horse hears a human voice. It may be necessary for the bicyclist to remain stopped, allowing the horse and rider the opportunity to get out of the way, before proceeding.
- Promote a positive relationship with a friendly greeting. Calm, pleasant conversations reassure the animal that all is ok.

- A horse rider may choose to move his horse on without stopping. This is not a lack of courtesy but a decision on how best to control the animal. Or the rider may request that you continue past. Ask the rider to advise you.

Source: <http://www.nhtrails.org/Trailspages/TrailEtiquette.html> (accessed April 21, 2006)

New River Gorge National Park

Trail Etiquette

- Pack it in, Pack it out. Pocket all your trash, including cigarette butts and candy wrappers, and dispose of it properly.
- Wildflowers, wildlife, and historic objects all contribute to the beauty we came to see. Leave them undisturbed.
- Keep pets on a leash at all times.
- Bicycles are only permitted on designated bike trails.
- Courtesy and common sense on the trail can help provide an enjoyable experience for all. Respect the rights of others.

Source: <http://www.nps.gov/neri/trails.htm> (accessed April 25, 2006)

New Zealand Department of Conservation

Environmental Care Code

- Protect plants and animals.
 - Treat New Zealand's forests and birds with care and respect. They are unique and often rare.
- Remove rubbish.
 - Litter is unattractive, harmful to wildlife and can increase vermin and disease. Plan your visits to reduce rubbish, and carry out what you carry in.
- Bury toilet waste.
 - In areas without toilet facilities, bury your toilet waste in a shallow hole well away from waterways, tracks, campsites, and huts.
- Keep streams and lakes clean
 - When cleaning and washing, take the water and wash well away from the water source. Because soaps and detergents are harmful to water-life, drain used water into the soil to allow it to be filtered. If you suspect the water may be contaminated, either boil it for at least 3 minutes, or filter it, or chemically treat it.
- Take care with fires

- Portable fuel stoves are less harmful to the environment and are more efficient than fires. If you do use a fire, keep it small, use only dead wood and make sure it is out by dousing it with water and checking the ashes before leaving.
- Camp carefully
 - When camping, leave no trace of your visit.
- Keep to the track
 - By keeping to the track, where one exists, you lessen the chance of damaging fragile plants.
- Consider others
 - People visit the back country and rural areas for many reasons. Be considerate of other visitors who also have a right to enjoy the natural environment.
- Respect our cultural heritage
 - Many places in New Zealand have a spiritual and historical significance. Treat these places with consideration and respect.
- Enjoy your visit
 - Enjoy your outdoor experience. Take a last look before leaving an area; will the next visitor know that you have been there? Protect the environment for your own sake, for the sake of those who come after you, and for the environment itself.

Source: <http://www.doc.govt.nz/pdfs/Environmental-care-code-checklist.pdf>
(accessed April 26, 2006)

North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department

ATV Riders Code of Ethics

- I will learn all the mechanical controls and safety devices of my ATV by reading the owner's manual, and I will check them each time before I ride.
- I will wear a helmet at all times and other protective clothing suitable to the environment when I ride.
- I will ask an instructor or qualified rider to teach me proper riding skills, and I will practice until my skills are well developed before entering an unfamiliar area.
- I will ride in the company of others, never alone.
- I will not carry passengers on my ATV.
- I will be courteous to other riders and persons by offering right-of-way and respecting areas that are posted closed.
- I will not modify the ATV exhaust system to create more noise, nor will I ride an ATV on the street.
- I will not use alcohol or other drugs when I ride.
- I will not litter the area nor damage plant life where I ride.
- I will only lend my ATV to someone I have personally instructed in its safe and appropriate use.

- I will not let young or inexperienced riders ride unsupervised.
- I have made this pledge because I am a thoughtful ATV rider. I accept my responsibility for preserving the sport and the safety of its enthusiasts.

Source: <http://www.ndparks.com/trails/atv/atvtips.htm> (accessed April 20, 2006)

North Idaho Centennial Trail

Rules of the Trail

- Keep to the right of trail and pass on the left
- Alcoholic beverages prohibited.
- Pedestrians have right-of-way.
- All users remain on designated trails.
- Do not block the trail
- Bicycle speed limit: 15 mph
- Maximum of two bicycle riders abreast at any time. If pedestrians are present, only single file riding allowed.
- Pets must be on a leash.
- Do not disturb plants or animals.
- Pack-it-in / pack-it-out.
- No structures, including vendor equipment, or organized events without required permits.
- No motorized vehicles allowed on trail.
- Camping is prohibited.
- Marking or painting on trail is prohibited.

Source: <http://www.northidahocentennialtrail.com/RulesoftheRoad.htm> (accessed April 25, 2006)

Nova Scotia Trails

Basic Trail Etiquette

- Be aware of other trail users.
- Stay to the right of the trail (except when passing).
- Slow down at corners.
- Always clean up after yourselves.
- Obey all the trail rules.
- Give a clear warning signal when passing: call out passing on your left.
- Always look ahead and behind when passing.
- Travel at reasonable speed.

- Keep pets on a leash.
- Move off the trail when letting others pass.
- Yield to other trail-users when entering and crossing trail.
- Do not disturb wildlife.
- Stay on the trail (respect the environment, do not venture off the trails).
- Do not litter.
- Do not drink or contaminate water sources (wash 100 feet away from any nearby water source).
- Use provided toilet facilities (If you are unable to find a facility, dig a hole 6 inches deep at least 200 feet from any open water).
- Do not make fires (Use picnic areas and grills if provided).
- Respect wildlife. Your surroundings are home to many plants and animals: you are the visitor.
- Obey all posted signs. These indicate special restrictions that apply to the trail you are on.

Hiking with Animals

- Clean up after your animals.
- Keep them on a leash or lead.
- Give larger animals right of way
- Do not let your animal disturb wildlife or others.
- Keep them on the trails.

Basic Trail Etiquette: Hikers, Walkers, Backpackers

- Move off the trail whenever possible for other trail users.
- When meeting someone riding a horse, step off the trail and speak calmly.
- Avoid ski tracks in the winter time.

Basic Trail Etiquette: Mountain Bikers, Bikers

- Know your ability, equipment and the area.
- Move off the trail for less mobile users.
- Do not ride under conditions where you leave evidence of passing, i.e. after rain or snow.
- Stay on the trail.
- Do not ride through streams.
- Make presence known at corners or blind spots.
- Control your bicycle.
- Always yield trail.

Basic Trail Etiquette: Equestrians

- Practice minimum impact techniques.

- Observe speed limits.
- Always clean up after your horse.
- Avoid campsites used by other trail users.
- Keep horses in campsite only long enough to unpack or pack them.
- Stock tied to trees ruins trees and turf: do so only for a short time. Use tie lines.
- Never tie horses within 200 feet of lakes, streams or springs.

Basic Trail Etiquette: ATVs, Four Wheelers

- Approach pedestrians slowly, pull over and turn off your engine.
- When passing someone, follow at a safe distance until you reach a safe place to pass: pass slowly.
- Minimize noise with proper care and operation of your vehicle.
- Respect trail closures.
- Stay on the trail.
- Do not ride on areas that are either wet, have loose soil, steep slopes, meadows or swamps.
- When camping, ride directly to and from your campsite or turn off your vehicle and push it.

Basic Trail Etiquette: Cross Country Skiers

- Ski on the right side.
- Yield to those coming downhill or who are faster. To step out of the track, lift your skis so you don't disturb the track.
- When breaking trail, keep skis wider than normal.

Basic Trail Etiquette: Snowmobilers

- Operate at appropriate speeds.
- Do not ride on tracks made for skiers.
- Avoid running over vegetation.
- Respect trail closures.
- Avoid late night riding near populated areas or lodges.

Source: <http://www.novascotiatrails.com/page.cfm?pid=258&tid=1&hid=99> (accessed April 20, 2006)

Oklahoma City Trails

Etiquette and Safety

- For your safety, helmets and other protective equipment are recommended for cycling, rollerblading, and skateboards.

- Please be courteous to all other trail users.
- Keep to the right of the path except when passing.
- Use a bell or your voice to warn others when passing.
- Slow down when approaching other trail users or street crossings.
- To prevent injury to yourself and damage to natural resources, please stay on the designated trails.
- Weapons of any kind are prohibited.
- Fires are prohibited.
- Please leave plants and animals undisturbed.
- Leash and pick up after your dogs.
- Do not litter. Do your part to keep the trails clean.
- Glass bottles and containers are prohibited.
- Be aware of trail conditions and proceed with care when conditions are poor, such as wet, snowy, icy or strong winds.
- Do not block trail. Groups move to the right or form a single line.
- Please use proper lights on bicycles front and rear and/or light colored clothing at night.
- Do not use trails while under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.
- No unauthorized motor vehicles allowed on the trails.
- Trail users are responsible for knowing and following trail guidelines. Parents, please educate your children on these guidelines

Source: <http://www.okc.gov/query.html?trails/index.html> (accessed April 21, 2006)

Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation

Oklahoma Trail Etiquette & Safety

Non-Motorized Trails

- Be courteous and respectful of fellow trail users and the surrounding environment.
- Stay on designated trail – don't create new trails by short cutting switchbacks.
- Develop a relationship with your land manager. Find out how you can help.
- Share the trails. Cyclists yield to all other trail users, and hikers yield to equestrians. Slower traffic should keep to the right of the trail; faster users pass on the left.
- Be aware. Do not pass on narrow bends; pass only when you can clearly see the trail and traffic approaching from the opposite direction. When passing other trail users, provide adequate warning and reduce speed.
- Watch out. Wildlife is wild -- keep your distance. Horses and dogs on the trail may act unexpectedly. Before approaching these animals, ask the handler for guidance. Tread lightly.
- Stay off muddy trails. This causes erosion. Please allow 24-48 hours for the trail to dry.

Motorized Trails

- Know where you're permitted to ride. Respect closed areas and private property.
- If you must cross water, ride carefully and only at designated spots.
- It is your responsibility to ensure that your vehicle is trail-worthy and reliable.
- No alcohol on trail rides. Open container laws apply on the trail.
- Noise annoys. Maintain your exhaust system. Remember, noise doesn't equal horsepower.
- When meeting oncoming vehicular traffic, vehicles traveling uphill have the right of way.
- When meeting oncoming non-vehicular traffic, slow down and yield the right of way.
- Ensure you have the minimum mandatory equipment — full-size spare, recovery strap, frame-mounted recovery points (front and rear), jack and lug wrench, fire extinguisher, first-aid kit, area maps, and trash bag.
- When traveling in a group, keep the vehicle behind you in sight at all times. If it falls out of sight or seems to need help, slow down or wait, and inform the vehicles in front of you.
- If you feel uncomfortable about an obstacle, please ask for a spotter. The driver should designate who the spotter is, and follow the spotter's direction. To avoid confusion, there should be only one person spotting a vehicle over an obstacle. As a spectator, if you wish to help, talk to the spotter, not the driver.
- If you stack rocks to help clear an obstacle, put them back where you found them.
- Give the vehicles around you plenty of room to maneuver on the trail. Do not tailgate.
- If the vehicle is going up/down a steep hill or through an obstacle, wait until they are clear before you start.
- Be considerate of the drivers behind you. Do not spend an excessive amount of time trying to conquer an obstacle. Not only does it make everyone wait, but also deteriorates the trail, and increases the likelihood of vehicle damage. Three attempts per obstacle is a good rule of thumb.
- Safety always comes first. Please know your vehicle limitations and think of your safety and the safety of others. When traveling in a group, please respect your trail leader's direction.
- Keep your vehicle as level as possible, allowing all tires to be in contact with the ground. This prevents wheel spin, digging holes and trail erosion.

Source: <http://www.travelok.com/trails/safety.asp> (accessed April 24, 2006)

Old Plank Road Trail

Trail Etiquette

- Motorized vehicles are prohibited
- Stay on the designated trails
- Be courteous to all trail users
- Announce your intention to pass
- Keep right and pass left
- Move off the trail when stopped
- Bicyclists yield to walkers
- Dispose of trash properly
- Pets must be leashed
- Remove pet waste from trail

Source: <http://oprt.org/> (accessed April 24, 2006)

Old Quarry Nature Center

Basic Trail Etiquette

- Keep the trails and grounds free of litter.
- Subscribe to the motto: "Carry in - Carry Out".
- Leave all aspects of the natural surroundings as you find them, for others to enjoy. "Take only photographs - Leave only footprints".
- Maintain the tranquility of the surroundings by refraining from generating exceptionally loud noise.
- Do not block trails, move to the side and allow others to pass, as necessary.
- Treat others you meet on the trails with kindness and respect.
- Keep pets under control, preferably leashed.
- Aid in keeping the trails clear and hazard-free, by moving aside any large, naturally fallen debris. Report any exceptionally large trail obstructions to Nature Center or City officials.

Source: <http://www.danbury.org/oldquarry/trail%20etiquette.htm> (accessed April 24, 2006)

Oregon State University College Forests

Trail Etiquette

- Yield Right of Way
 - All users yield to motor vehicles.

- Hikers yield to horses.
 - Mountain bikes yield to all other user groups.
- Protect Yourself and Others
 - Greet others on the road or trail. Let others know when you are overtaking them.
 - Pass horses only after rider tells you it is safe.
 - Control your speed. Slow down on blind curves.
 - Be able to stop in half the distance you can see.
- Practice Good Stewardship
 - Leave research projects undisturbed. Traveling on unauthorized trails can disturb study sites and disrupt years of important research.
 - Respect private property and observe all posted signs. McDonald Forest is surrounded by many neighbors. Ask permissions from the owners before crossing their land.
 - Avoid disturbing wildlife. This saves animals from injury, but also protects research on wildlife behavior and habitat.
- Protect Natural Resources
 - Tread lightly.
 - Stay off muddy trails to reduce erosion damage.
 - Avoid trampling vegetation or cutting new trails.
 - Stay on roads and trails designated for your mode of travel.

Source: <http://www.cof.orst.edu/cf/recreation/etiquette.php> (accessed April 21, 2006)

Oregon-California Trails Association (Idaho Chapter)

Trail Etiquette and Precautions

- Do not take any archaeological and historical artifacts found along the trails. Not only is it illegal, it steals history from all of us. Archaeological and historical artifacts should be left undisturbed. There are substantial penalties for the removal, defacement, or destruction of these items.
- Do not drive on, or adjacent to, pristine ruts which do not show signs of vehicle use. Some ruts are obviously used for traffic, others are pristine and should only be walked upon.
- Do not drive on any ruts when they are wet or muddy.
- Do not drive across the desert. Stay on existing roads and trails.
- Do not leave litter or trash on the trails. Clean up trash that you find.
- Do not damage or remove trail markers or signs.
- Leave gates as you find them. Close them behind you if they were closed.
- Respect private property and landowner's rights. Heed no trespassing signs. Obtain permission of the landowner before crossing private land.
- Be extremely careful with cigarettes, fire, or driving over dry grasses.
- Desert rangeland is extremely flammable.
- Take only pictures. Leave only footprints.

- Travel across the Idaho desert can be rough and sometimes dangerous. Be prepared for emergencies by following these guidelines:
 - Take plenty of water and food with you.
 - Travel with others when possible.
 - Take extra spare tires and tools to deal with vehicle breakdowns.
 - Let people know where you will be going and when you should return.
 - Carry warm clothing and blankets for emergencies. Idaho nights are often chilly and the weather can change quickly.

Source: http://www.idahooccta.org/Trail_Etiquette.html (accessed April 24, 2006)

Otago Central Rail Trail

Code of Conduct

- Share the Rail Trail with others.
- Young children should be accompanied at all times.
- Move to the left when you meet other users.
- Private motorcycles and motor vehicles are not permitted on the Rail Trail.
- Cyclists are required to wear safety helmets.
- Mountain bikers must take special care when passing horses from behind.
- Give way to horses on bridges. Wait until they are safely across before proceeding. Horses are to be led across bridges.
- Where possible, horses must be ridden on the grass immediately to either side of the Rail Trail, rather than the gravel trail itself.
- Leave gates as you find them and do not disturb any stock along the Rail Trail (take extra care during lambing time - September / October).
- Always use toilets where available. The locations of public and trail toilets are indicated on your map. Toilet paper is not provided at trail toilets. In areas without toilets bury your waste away from waterways and to the side of the Rail Trail.
- Dogs are permitted on the Alexandra to Clyde section only and must be controlled on a lead at all times.
- Open fires and firearms are not permitted on the Rail Trail.
- Do not venture on to private property.
- Take all your rubbish away with you. Be a tidy Kiwi.
- STAY ON THE RAIL TRAIL

Source: <http://www.centralotagorailtrail.co.nz/index.htm> (accessed April 26, 2006)

Parks and Wildlife Service Tasmania

Minimal Impact Mountain Biking

- Plan your ride.
 - Take account of the group's riding ability and fitness level when planning the route you will follow. Let someone know your trip intentions before you go. Keep your bike in good condition and take a repair kit, even on short rides. Check the weather before you go. Keep your party size small to help minimise your impact. If you plan an overnight expedition, pick up the brochure *Camping Means Caring* for minimal impact camping advice.
- Keeping it clean
 - The root rot fungus *Phytophthora cinnamomi* is present in Tasmania. This fungus is transmitted in mud and soil and can kill native plants. To help stop the spread of *Phytophthora* make sure you start the ride with clean equipment including tyres, frame, gears and shoes. At the end of your ride wash down all equipment – it's better for your bike as well.
- Respect others
 - Give way to all other users on a trail. Slow down to their pace and let them know you're there well before you pass. Be particularly careful near horses on shared trails – stop and let the horses pass you. Ride at a pace that allows you to stop within the distance you can see. Ride in single file where the track is narrow or when passing other users. Riding at off peak times can decrease encounters with other users. Heed all directional and access signs, and leave gates as you find them.
- Pack it in – pack it out
 - Do the bush a favour and take your rubbish out with you. Rubbish looks terrible in the bush and spoils the experience for those who follow. Most rubbish won't decompose and animals often try to eat it. Rubbish includes food scraps and wrappers, twist ties and sanitary products.
- Respect the ride
 - Help preserve the riding conditions that you encounter today for tomorrow. Ride only on approved trails and try to stick to the middle of the track. Cutting corners, riding on the edge of a trail or riding beside steps can harm track-side vegetation and widen the trail. Try to avoid skidding or sliding, particularly on steep hills, as this can damage the trail itself. Keep your speed suitable to the conditions. Avoid riding in wet or muddy conditions.
- Respect yourself
 - For your own safety always wear a helmet when riding. Ensure everyone in the group carries plenty of water – it's easy to get dehydrated riding. Take high-energy food with you as well. A first aid

kit and sunscreen are essential, and take suitable clothing to cope with rapid changes in weather.

Source: http://www.tasforestrytourism.com.au/pdfs/mountain_biking_respect.pdf
(accessed April 26, 2006)

Parks and Wildlife Service, Forestry Tasmania, Tourism Tasmania, Sport and Recreation Tasmania, Tasmanian Recreational Vehicle Association.

The National 4WD Code of Ethics

- Obey the laws and regulations for Recreational Vehicles that apply to public lands.
- Respect the cultural, heritage and environmental values of public/private land, by obeying restrictions that may apply.
- Respect our flora and fauna. Stop and look, but never disturb
- Keep to formed vehicle tracks.
- Keep the environment clean. Carry your own, and any other, rubbish out.
- Keep your vehicle mechanically sound and clean to reduce the environmental impact.
- Adopt minimal impact camping and driving practices.
- Seek permission before driving on private land. Do not disturb livestock or watering points, leave gates as found.
- Take adequate water, food, fuel, basic spares and a first aid kit on trips. ...In remote areas travel with another vehicle and have Royal Flying Doctor Service, ...or equivalent, ...radio contact.
- Enjoy your recreation and respect the rights of others.
- Plan ahead and lodge trip details with a responsible person.
- Support four-wheel drive touring as a responsible and legitimate family recreational activity....Consider joining an affiliated four-wheel drive Club.

Source: http://www.tasforestrytourism.com.au/pdfs/cruisin_without_bruisin.pdf
(accessed April 26, 2006)

Path Trails: Metro Atlanta's Greenway Trail System

Trail Etiquette

- Yield to pedestrians.
 - Pedestrians always have the right-of-way.
- Keep right and pass on the left.
 - The trail is like a roadway.
- Announce yourself; for example, "On your left!"

- Warn trail users as you approach from behind.
- If you stop, get off the trail.
 - Always allow other trail users to pass on the left.
- Report crime and maintenance problems to PATH.
 - Watch out for maintenance and security needs while on the trail.
- Obey all signs and rules.
 - Stop at intersections.
 - Travel at safe speeds.
 - Keep right.
- Keep the trail clean.
 - Don't litter.
 - Recycle trash on the trail.
- Don't use the trail at night.
 - The trail is CLOSED from dusk to dawn.
- Keep animals under control.
 - Keep pets on a short leash.
 - Walk pets on the right-hand shoulder.
 - Clean animal waste from the trail.

Source: <http://www.pathfoundation.org/trails/etiquette.cfm> (accessed April 24, 2006)

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

ATV Trail etiquette

- Be considerate of others on the trail and keep to the right.
- Slow down when passing.
- Ride only where permitted.
- Leave gates as you find them.
- Yield the right of way to bikes, horses and hikers.
- Carry out what you carry in.
- Wave and say 'hello' as you pass.
- Report downed trees and trail maintenance needs to land managers

Source: <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/atv/etiquette.aspx> (accessed April 21, 2006)

Pittsburg Trail Advocacy Group

Proper Trail Etiquette

- Use Open Trails Only
 - Trails may be closed for a variety of reasons. Trail users should respect closures and avoid trespassing on private land.

- Leave No Trace
 - Be sensitive to the dirt beneath you. Recognize different types of soils and trail construction. Wet and muddy trails are more vulnerable to damage.
- Always Yield Trail
 - Yielding means to slow down, establish communication, being prepared to stop if necessary, then passing safely. Bikes yield to horses and hikers.
- Never Scare Animals
 - All animals are startled by an unannounced approach, a sudden movement or a loud noise. This can be dangerous for you, others and the animals.
- Plan Ahead
 - Know your equipment, your ability, and the area in which you are riding—prepare accordingly. Be self-sufficient at all times.
- Educate Others
 - Talk respectfully with other trail users about proper trail etiquette, especially new users.
- Maintain Trails
 - Find a local trail maintenance club by contacting land managers where you play. Spend a day or more each season giving back to the trails you already enjoy.

Source: http://www.porcmtclub.org/pdfs/trail_etq.pdf (accessed April 21, 2006)

Poudre River Trail Corridor

Trail Etiquette

- Stay with on the right with the flow of traffic
- Stay single file. Groups should be in single file when other trail users are present and should never use more than one-half of the trail to allow for the flow of traffic.
- Control your speed! Obey speed regulations when present. Slow down and use caution when approaching or overtaking other trail users.
- Who Yields the Trail? Before passing another trail user make your approach known well in advance. A friendly greeting "Hello, passing on your left," or ringing a bell is considerate and works well. All trail users bicyclists, skaters, walkers, or others yield to equestrians. Bicyclists and skaters yield to walkers. Bicyclists yield to skaters. Downhill users yield to uphill users. Faster users yield to slower users.
- Respect the resources: Look at wildlife from a distance, leave wildflowers and plants for others to enjoy, and stay on the designated trail
- Always look before changing positions on the trail.

- Be courteous-all trail users should be respectful of other users regardless of the type of recreation activity, speed, or skill level.
- Be respectful of private property-trails are open to the public, but most of the adjacent land is private property. In many cases, adjacent landowners were generous in donating the land which the trail is located on.
- Practice the "Leave No Trace" principles-be sensitive to the area, stay on existing trails and pack out at least as much as you take in.

Source: <http://poudretrail.org/etiqa.htm> (accessed April 21, 2006)

Prince Albert National Park of Canada

Trail Cycling Code of Ethics

- Cycle only on designated trails. Stay on the trail. Riding around mud holes damages trailside vegetation.
- Treat other trail users with courtesy, especially on downhill stretches. Slow down when approaching blind spots.
- Use a bell or call out to alert other users and wildlife to your presence.
- Choose a trail that matches your abilities. Park staff or staff at bike shops can help you choose a trail within your abilities.
- Dogs must be kept on a leash at all times. This is often awkward and uncomfortable for both the rider and animal. Consider leaving your pet at home or with friends.
- Horses have the right of way. In encounters with horse parties, dismount and stand a few feet off the trail (preferably on the downhill side) until the party has passed. When approaching from behind, stay a few metres back to avoid being kicked. Let horse riders know of your presence and wait for their instructions before you pass.
- Bicycles can take you further into the backcountry than you can walk in a day. You are responsible for your own safety and be prepared to make your own repairs.
- Don't litter! If you pack it in please pack it out.

Source: http://www.pc.gc.ca/pn-np/sk/princealbert/activ/activ9_e.asp (accessed April 19, 2006)

Railstrails Australia

- Trail Etiquette
 - When using rail trails, respect the rights of other users, the natural and cultural environment, and the local communities that care for trail.
- Sharing
 - Keep left and do not obstruct the trails.
 - Cyclists: alert other users of your approach and pass on the right at a reduced speed
 - Approach horses with care
 - Move quietly near stock
 - Park in designated areas where provided and don't block access tracks
 - Leave gates as you find them
 - Observe local signs and regulations
- Environment
 - Keep on the track
 - Many native plants are protected and generally should not be sampled
 - Clean bikes, walking boots and other equipment after your trip to minimise the spread of plant and animal diseases
 - Do not interfere with wildlife
 - Take your rubbish home with you
 - Observe local fire restrictions and be particularly cautious on total fire ban days
- Dogs
 - Dogs are allowed on most trails but may not be allowed where there is a risk to wildlife or livestock
 - Keep dogs under control at all times
 - Dogs should be kept on-leash except in specified off-leash areas
 - Clean up after your dog
- For your safety
 - Exercise caution at road crossings; young and inexperienced cyclists should dismount
 - Carry plenty of water and light snacks
 - Consider appropriate clothing for the conditions
 - Riders, wear an approved helmet and ride in control
 - Maintain your equipment, and carry repair and first aid kits in case of emergencies
 - Let someone know before you go

Source: <http://www.railtrails.org.au/trails/conduct.htm> (accessed April 26, 2006)

Riding Mountain National Park

Code of Conduct in Riding Mountain National Park

- Walk on the designated trails and do not step off the trail if possible.
- Be aware of stressing wildlife and do not approach an animal that is demonstrating signs of stress from your presence and ‘back off’ if your presence is causing them to show signs of stress. Retreating somewhat before seeing the signs of stress will often afford you a rewarding viewing experience.
- Respect the instructions of your guide. Your guide is experienced and aware of stressful situations your actions may cause wildlife, so please respect his or her decision to retreat or to completely avoid putting specific animal in stressful situations. For example, certain species of birds are easily disturbed during the incubation period and your presence may cause them to abandon their nests.
- When photographing wildlife use your longest lens.
- Do not feed wildlife, leave edible material unattended or dispose of edible material, except in proper refuse containers.
- Do not uproot plants or break branches.
- Please respect the habitat of wildlife by leaving things as you found them. Minimize plant disturbances when photographing plants, animals or landscapes. Stay on the trails or roadways if possible.
- Do not acquire souvenirs in the Park, such as stones, plants, seeds, feathers, bones, antlers or archaeological artifacts.
- Be extremely careful with fire, particularly if you are a smoker. Make sure matches and cigarette butts are extinguished and return them to the ashtrays in the vehicle.
- Use public washroom facilities when ever possible.
- Use the garbage bags in the vehicles or the public garbage bins in the Park and please do not litter. Picking up litter from others is always appreciated.
- Do not contaminate the environment with solid waste, soap or other chemicals or exotic species. It is very important to make sure your clothing and footwear are free of plant seeds to prevent the introduction of exotic species into the natural areas you will be visiting.
- Take only pictures and leave only foot prints.

Source: <http://www.ridingmountain.ca/codermnp.htm> (accessed April 20, 2006)

Royal National Park

The Cycling Code of Conduct

- Keep bicycles clean to avoid the spread of weeds and fungi.
- Stay on designated cycling routes, i.e. fire trails and designated (signposted) trails.
- Observe cycle route closures.

- Give way to walkers, slow down on blind corners, keep left and signal approaches using a bell.
- Not make new trails, move bush rock or logs or prune or cut native vegetation.
- Wear a helmet and appropriate clothing and carry water and a first aid kit.
- Not ride after heavy rain or skid the bicycle, to prevent track erosion.
- Observe park closures, generally after hours and during total fire bans.
- Make others aware of the code of conduct.

Source: http://www.dipnr.nsw.gov.au/notices/guide_pages_51_end.pdf (accessed April 29, 2006)

Rubicon Trail

Ethics and Tread Lightly Principles

- Stay on the trail. Never get off the trail. Do not camp some place where you have to make a new trail to get there.
- Leave no trace. Air down; drive slow; and don't spin your tires where you don't need to. Stay on the rocks.
- Follow the established route. Do not create a new route or bypass.
- Be courteous of other drivers. Don't hold up the line and upset those behind you when you don't need to or have an alternative (such as getting out of the way).
- Pick up trash you see along the trail.
- Talk to other riders/drivers about their bad habits if you see some.
- Never drive into or through wet areas or meadows. Stay on the trail that avoids these sensitive spots. Don't drive over vegetation. If you have to take a mud puddle, take the most used line and go slow.
- If your vehicle breaks down, try to limp it out of the way as soon as you can so as to not hold up those behind you. Every one is on a schedule these days. And no one likes to be held up. We all want to get as much fun in as we can in a short period of time. Be thoughtful.
- Obey the law.
- Don't drive over vegetation or make mud holes worse.
- Help a wheeler in need.
- Camp at least 30 feet from water sources (lakes, creeks, ponds).
- Don't shoot in camps or along the trail. There are too many folks up there, and you never know where the granite will send you glancing bullet.
- Drink responsibly.
- Have fun; be safe; but be smart about our future.

Source: <http://www.delalbright.com/Rubicon/ethics.htm> (Friends of the Rubicon) (accessed on April 19, 2006)

San Mateo County Horsemen's Association

Trail Etiquette

- Check all tack carefully before starting out on each ride.
- It is highly recommended that all riders wear boots with heels, helmets and user ID on their person.
- Follow all instructions of the trail boss (usually the lead rider).
- Do not ride ahead of the trail boss without his/her permission.
- Do not fall behind the designated drag rider (last rider).
- Do not separate yourself from the other riders.
- Maintain one horse length between your horse and the horse in front of you.
- Don't stop at the top of a hill or on a narrow section of trail if there are riders behind you. If you must stop, keep moving until there is a wide spot to get completely off the trail, so other riders can safely pass.
- Notify riders behind you of any trail hazards you observe, such as holes in the trail, wire, branches, etc.
- Do not hold on to branches when you go through trees or bushes.
- Do not gallop up to or away from other horses.
- Don't ride off from a gate or watering spot until all riders are mounted and ready to move on.
- Walk down into gullies or inclines at a safe distance from the horse in front of you. Never trot or gallop into or out of them.
- If you have a slow walking horse, or you are having problems with your horse, ride to the rear of the group, in front of the drag rider.
- If you must leave the main group, notify the trail boss or the drag rider.
- There will be no smoking on the trail. Smoking at rest stops and lunch stops will be at the discretion of the trail boss.
- Do not leave paper, cans or trash on the trails or at lunch sites

Source: http://www.smcha.org/trail_etiquette.htm (accessed April 24, 2006)

Santa Cruz Circle Trail

Trail Etiquette

- Respect the land -- don't make shortcuts.
- Protect wildlife and vegetation.
- Tread lightly and leave no trace by packing out litter and avoiding trails when they are muddy .
- Keep to the right of the trail -- save the left side for passing. Adjust your speed when approaching other users. When overtaking another trail user, announce your

intentions. When in a group, allow enough room for other users and don't block the trail.

- Bicyclists and skaters, keep your speed down to a reasonable pace. Approach each bend as if someone were around the corner.
- Know which areas are open to bicycles and always stay on approved trails. Riding and walking off-trail damages resources.
- Bicyclists yield to all other trail users. Hikers yield to horses.
- Pet owners, keep your pet on a leash.
- Respect adjacent private properties and stay on the trail.

Source: <http://www.ecotopia.org/trail/etiquette.html> (accessed April 21, 2006)

South Australian Trails

Trail Code - enjoy and respect the environment you are visiting

- Observe fire restrictions. In most areas fires are prohibited from November 1 to April 30.
- Conserve native habitat by using liquid fuel or gas stoves for cooking.
- Trails are closed on days when Total Fire Bans are declared via newspapers and radio.
- Leave your pets at home and take your rubbish with you.
- Camp only in designated areas. Permits and fees may be required.
- Permits are required to ride horses in Forest Reserves. Contact ForestrySA.
- Respect geological or heritage sites.
- Do not feed or disturb animals or remove native plants.
- Keep to defined trails or vehicle tracks and be considerate of other users.
- Respect private or leased land traversed by trails. Don't damage fences - use any stiles provided. Leave gates as you find them.
- Steer clear of farming infrastructure such as pumps, dams, sheds, electric fences and machinery. Avoid livestock and don't interfere with them.
- Take care not to spread pest plants or diseases.
- Remember to check your clothes for weed seeds, clean your boots, bicycle and other equipment to reduce transfer between areas.

Source: <http://www.southaustraliantrails.com/pdf/safety.pdf> (accessed April 26, 2006)

South Carolina State Trails Program

Trail User Etiquette

Rules of the Trail - guidelines for multi-use non-motorized trails and paths

- Keep right
 - Ride/Skate/Walk as far to the right as practical, except when passing another user going your direction (pass on the left). Control your speed, slow down and use caution when approaching or overtaking other trails or pathways users.
- Be predictable
 - Travel in a consistent and predictable manner. Always look behind before changing positions on the trail or path.
- Don't block the trail or path
 - Ride/Skate/Walk single file when other users are present. Use no more than half the trail or path so as not to block the flow of other users. When stopping, move off the trail or path.
- Obey traffic signs and signals
 - Use extra caution where trail or path crosses streets, driveways, or other trails and paths.
- Be courteous
 - Before passing, be courteous and announce your intentions by saying "passing on your left" or ringing a bell. All users, including bicyclists, joggers, walkers, wheelchairs, skateboarders, bladers and skaters, should be respectful of other users regardless of their mode, speed, or skill level.
- Be respectful of private property
 - Trails and paths are open to the public, but often the adjacent land is private property. Please respect all property rights.

Rules of the Trail for Mountain Bicyclists

- Ride on open trails only
 - Respect closures, avoid trespassing, obtain permission as required.
- Leave no trace
 - Be sensitive to the area, stay on existing trails, pack out what you take in.
- Control your bicycle
 - Pay attention! Anticipate problems, keep your speed under control.
- Bicyclists always yield!
 - Make your approach known, be courteous. Always yield to uphill users.
- Never spook animals
 - Animals startle easily and can cause a dangerous situation for you and others.

- Plan ahead
 - Know your equipment and ability, carry gear for changing weather conditions.

Rules of the Road for Bicyclists

- Rights & duties
 - Bicyclists have all the rights and duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle, and can be penalized for violating traffic laws.
- Signs and signals
 - Obey traffic signs and signals. Use hand signals to indicate left or right turns, slowing or stopping.
- Ride single file
 - You may ride two abreast when no motor vehicle traffic is approaching within 300 feet (front or rear). You may ride two or more abreast when all bicyclist are on the shoulder. On curving or hilly roads, play it safe and ride single file.
- Ride to the right - and never against traffic
 - Ride in the right-hand lane or on the paved shoulder except when passing another vehicle, preparing for a left turn, or avoiding road hazards.
- At night, use a light
 - At night, use a headlight, tail light, and reflectors.

Trail Etiquette for ATVs and Motorcycles

- Respect private property
 - Know where you're permitted to ride and where you're not. Respect private property and closed areas; that's good public relations.
- Be courteous
 - Always be courteous when you pass hikers on a trail or other vehicles on a dirt road. Remember, one little blip of the throttle can leave a shower of gravel or a cloud of dust and an enemy behind you.
- Be quiet
 - Even a quiet ATV or motorcycle can seem noisy; it depends on how and where you ride it. Keep the RPMs and speed low and steady when you're near houses and campgrounds, or anytime you're around non-riders.
- Meeting horses
 - When you meet a horseback rider, go slowly and stop on the outside of the trail. Shut off your engine. Take off your helmet and say hello. Speak in a calm, normal voice. The horse needs to recognize you as a human. Avoid any sudden movements.
- Stay on the trail

- Don't cut switchbacks or take shortcuts; it sends a poor message about your sport and causes environmental damage.
- Be a good citizen
 - Above all, think about yourself as an ambassador for ATV and motorcycle trail riding. Your actions speak for all riders so be sure that everyone you meet remembers trail riders as good citizens.

Equestrian Trail Etiquette Tips

- Know the local trail rules. Courtesy is the best safety on the trail.
- Minimize impact by staying on designated trails and avoiding muddy conditions. Don't cut switchbacks.
- Say hello. Tell other users how many are in your party. Pass with care. If uncertain, ask.
- Always speak when approaching horses. A horse's vision is restricted but it's hearing is acute.
- Leave gates as you find them. Obey gate closures and regulatory signs.
- Know your horse's limitations.
- Ride your horse at a safe and controlled speed. Be especially careful when visibility is limited.
- Let other trail riders know when it is safe to pass your horse.
- A hand out and down is a warning for others to slow down or stop.
- Keep trailhead and campgrounds clear of manure and trash.

Source: <http://www.sctrails.net/Trails/MISC/Etiquette.html> (accessed April 21, 2006)

Southern Arizona Hiking Club

Code of Conduct

- Respect all public and private property.
- Leave all gates as found unless signed otherwise.
- Build fires in a safe place and make sure they are put out before leaving.
- Carry out my litter, including apple cores, banana skins, and orange peels.
- On a trail hike, stay on trail and not cut switchbacks.
- Preserve wildlife and not contaminate any water supply.
- I will conduct myself in such a manner as not to impair the safety, health or enjoyment of others and myself.
- Accept the leadership and instructions of the guide.
- Bring no pets or firearms.
- Not participate in any outing which is beyond my physical capability.

- Bring food, water, clothing and equipment which is appropriate for each outing.

Source: <http://www.sahcinfo.org/code.htm> (accessed April 29, 2006)

Spokane Centennial Trail

Centennial Trail Rules & Etiquette

Rules:

- Trail hours: dawn to dusk, year-round
- No alcoholic beverages on the trail
- Speed Limit: 15 m.p.h. maximum
- Pedestrians have the right of way on the paved trail
- Horses have the right of way on soft trail
- No horses on asphalt paved trail
- Pets must be under control and on a six foot or shorter leash at all times
- Do not disturb the plants or animals
- Pack it in... Pack it out!
- No structures (including vendor equipment) allowed within the trail property boundaries

Etiquette:

- Observe trail rules and signs
- Keep on the right, pass on the left, and yield to faster moving users
- Signal slower moving trail users when approaching
- Wear a helmet when cycling or in-line skating
- Use caution where trail narrows and at high-use access points
- Bicyclists stay on designated trail, two riders abreast maximum (single file if pedestrians are present)
- Wheel Skiers/in-line skaters do not use sharp-tipped poles
- Skateboarders stay on paved trail; no jumps or demonstration-type skateboarding
- HAVE FUN AND ENJOY THE CENTENNIAL TRAIL

Source: <http://www.spokanecentennialtrail.org/rules.htm> (accessed April 24, 2006)

The Camel Trail Partnership

Code of Conduct

- Walkers have right of way
 - The Trail has many different users including older people & people with mobility problems who find the level surface suitable for their use.
- Please keep your dogs under close control
 - Dogs that leave the Trail can cause damage to adjoining private land, the river & its wildlife.
- Horse riders, please keep to a walking pace
 - This reduces damage to the surface & the likelihood of an accident involving other users.
- Cyclists, please keep your speed down
 - High speed makes it harder to avoid other users & thus causes accidents. Try to warn people of your approach.
- Please be considerate to all other users of the Trail
 - Inconsiderate behaviour whilst using the Trail can spoil people's enjoyment of it.
- Please clean up after your dog & do not drop litter
 - Litter is unsightly, takes years to biodegrade & can be very dangerous. Dog faeces are a particular nuisance.
- Please respect the privacy of adjoining properties & landowners
 - There is no public access to any adjoining land, or to the river, except on signed paths.
- Please use the Trail safely
 - Cyclists are advised to wear a safety helmet & to carry a puncture repair kit. Cycling with your dog on or off a lead is very dangerous.

Source: http://www.ncdc.gov.uk/media/adobe/q/1/CamelTrailCode_1.pdf (accessed April 26, 2006)

The Countryside Agency (UK)

The Countryside Code – advice for the public

- Be safe – plan ahead and follow any signs.
- Leave gates and property as you find them.
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home.
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people

Source: <http://www.countryside.gov.uk/WhoWeAreAndWhatWeDo/newcode.asp> (accessed April 19, 2006)

The Forestry Commission (Great Britain)

Follow the forest code

- Guard against all risk of fire.
- Protect trees, plants and wildlife.
- Leave things as you find them, take nothing away.
- Keep dogs under control.
- Avoid damaging buildings, fences, hedges, walls and signs.
- Leave no litter.

Source: <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/HCOU-4UFN9R> (accessed April 26, 2006)

Mesabi Trail

Trail User Guidelines

- A Wheel Pass is required for persons aged 18 years and older using wheels on the Trail or in the corridor, such as bikes or inline skates. Wheelchairs are exempt. Display this pass while on the Trail or within the corridor.
- The Mesabi Trail is a non-motorized trail, except in winter, when snowmobiles are allowed within the Trail corridor only where designated. ATVs are not allowed within the trail corridor at any time.
- The Trail corridor is defined as any land or water area and all facilities thereon within the right-of-way of the trail designated as the Mesabi Trail.
- Operate bicycles, inline skates, wagons, strollers and wheelchairs on the right-hand side of bikeways and roadways. Non-motorized vehicles and motorized wheelchairs shall not exceed 36 inches in width.
- Deposit litter or waste in receptacles or dumping stations.
- Keep pets on a leash no longer than six feet in length.
- Holes or trenches may not be dug within the Trail corridor.
- Signs or advertisements shall not be placed within the Trail corridor.
- Start fires only in officially designated fire rings, stoves or grills. Do not leave a fire unattended and be sure the fire is extinguished before leaving the area.
- Loaded weapons are not allowed within the Trail corridor nor can any missile or other projectile be discharged from a weapon upon, over, or across the Trail corridor.
- Alcoholic beverages are not allowed within the Trail corridor.
- Do not remove, alter, injure or destroy any tree, plant, rock, soil or mineral.
- Camping and horseback riding are allowed only in designated areas.

- Please follow basic "Rules of the Trail" at all times - keep to the right, announce yourself when approaching another trail user, use proper hand signals, and wear a helmet.

Source: <http://www.mesabitrail.com/trail/guidelines/> (accessed April 29, 2006)

The Virginia Creeper Trail Club

Rules of the Trail

- The trail is for non-motorized traffic only.
- Bicyclists and hikers meeting horses should yield the trail.
- Horseback riders should allow bicyclists overtaking them to pass.
- Horseback riders should dismount and lead their mounts across bridges and trestles.
- Bicyclists should use caution crossing bridges and should dismount and walk their bikes if conditions dictate.
- Pack out all litter, including cigarette butts.
- Camping is allowed, but please camp well off the trail, away from streams and springs.
- Never camp on private land without permission.
- On the Abingdon to Damascus portion of the trail, hunting or carrying firearms is prohibited at all times.
- On the Mount Rogers portion, hunting is allowed in season. Firearms may not be carried at any other time.
- Target shooting is prohibited.
- Helmets are not required for bicyclists or horseback riders, but are HIGHLY recommended.
- Fireworks are not allowed.
- Do not block gates or park on the trail.
- Dogs must be kept on a leash not to exceed 6 feet.

Source: <http://www.vacrepertrail.org/rules.html> (accessed April 25, 2006)

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Wisconsin Trail Etiquette & Safety Guidelines: Tips for Trail Users

- General Etiquette for all Trail Users
 - Treat all trail users with respect and courtesy regardless of their sport, speed, or skill level.

- Protect our environment. Stay on the trail. Do not cut switchbacks or use shortcuts.
 - Stay to the right and pass on the left. Always look before changing positions on the trail.
 - Share the trail, watch and listen for others.
 - Learn and use appropriate hand signals. Motorized users often cannot hear voice signals.
 - Respect trail closures; use only trails posted open. Obey posted signs
 - Carry out all litter, including your pet's waste.
 - All users yield to horseback riders.
 - When encountering a horse, speak in a calm, pleasant tone so the horse hears a human voice. Do not hide.
 - The rider knows the horse the best. Expect the rider to advise you, not as a lack of courtesy, but rather with knowledge of the horse's temperament.
 - Downhill traffic yields to uphill traffic and faster users yield to slower users.
 - Do not approach, scare, harass, or feed wildlife or livestock.
 - Respect private property and the privacy of people living along the trail.
 - Dogs are a potential fright for both people and horses. Pets must be kept on leashes (less than eight feet in length) and under control.
 - Leave flowers and plants for others to enjoy. Do not pull bark off of, cut or otherwise damage live trees.
 - Practice low-impact trail use.
 - Wet and muddy trails are more vulnerable to damage. When trail is soft, consider other options.
 - Travel at a safe and controlled speed. Be especially careful when visibility is limited.
- Etiquette for Walkers, Hikers and Backpackers
 - Do not climb fences—use stiles.
 - Always yield to equestrians.
 - When a horse approaches, stop, and ask the rider for instructions.
 - If you meet a horse and rider while backpacking, leave your pack on and talk calmly with the rider.
- Etiquette for Runners
 - When a horse approaches, stop, and ask the rider for instructions.
 - Warn people when you are about to pass. Use your voice to warn equestrians.
 - When encountering oncoming users, advise them about the number of runners in your group.

- Etiquette for In-Line Skating
 - Avoid sudden stops and last minute turns. You don't want to surprise anyone.
 - Be aware of your surroundings by glancing over your shoulder.
 - Be careful around other users.
 - Don't swing your arms and leap wildly back and forth on your skates.

- Etiquette for Bicyclists
 - Ride single file. You can ride two or more abreast if you will not block other traffic. On curving or hilly trails, ride single file.
 - Control your speed. Trails are not an appropriate place for high speed riding.
 - Obey traffic signs and signals.
 - Use hand signals to indicate left or right turns, slowing or stopping.
 - When passing, go slow and give an audible signal.
 - At night, use a headlight, taillight, and reflectors.

- Etiquette for Mountain Bikers
 - Yield right-of-way to all other users. Always yield to uphill users.
 - Never pass a horse from behind. Calmly call out that you want to pass, so the rider can turn the horse around to face your bike. Then you can pass safely.
 - If there is a horse coming towards you, it is best to just stop your bike and allow the horse to pass you. Don't forget to say hello.
 - Control your bike; be ready and able to stop. Obey all bicycle speed regulations and recommendations. Riding a corner cleanly, without sliding, preserves the trail.
 - Slow down and use caution when approaching another user. Use your voice to make your presence known well in advance.

- Etiquette for Equestrians
 - Make sure your horse has the temperament and training for riding on congested trails.
 - Advise other trail users of your horse's temperament, e.g., a horse with a tendency to kick should always wear a red ribbon in the tail. Assume that not everyone will know what the ribbon means, so be prepared to explain or take the necessary precautions to avoid trouble.
 - Obey posted speed/gait limits. Avoid cantering or galloping on busy trails.
 - Know your horse's limitations.
 - Leave gates as you find them. Obey gate closures and regulatory signs.
 - Let other trail users know when it is safe to pass your horse.

- Announce your intention to pass others. Come to a walk and pass on the left.
- Always pick up after your horse. Keep the trail head clear of manure and trash. Try to keep the trail clean of manure. Individual trails may require that you pick up manure.
- Etiquette for Cross-Country Skiers
 - Don't ski on closed trails or foot trails.
 - Do not obstruct ski trails or intersections.
 - When stopped, step to the side, out of tracks.
 - Yield the trail to skiers that overtake you from behind.
 - If you fall, move off the track as quickly as possible.
 - Know the trail difficulty symbols and ski within your abilities.
 - Skate skiers should stay off classic tracks.
- Etiquette for Snowshoers
 - Snowshoe in designated areas and keep off groomed ski trails.
 - Give skiers the right of way.
- Etiquette for Snowmobile & ATV Riders
 - Ride quietly when around houses, campgrounds, and other non-riders. Keep the rpm's and speed low and steady. ATVs must have U.S. Forest Service approved spark arrestors.
 - Do not exceed 10 M.P.H. when traveling within 100' of a nonmotorized user or 150' of a dwelling.
 - Do not operate vehicle in a careless way that may endanger people or property
 - When approaching an oncoming horseback rider, stop your vehicle. Shut off your engine. Take off your helmet and calmly say hello. Avoid any sudden movements. Let the horse pass.
 - When passing a horseback rider, alert the rider to your presence by calmly calling out you wish to pass. The horseback rider should pull the horse over. If the rider has the horse under control, proceed on. If not, allow the rider to move the horse to a safe spot on the trail and then proceed.
 - Avoid riding after heavy rains.
 - Park your ATV/snowmobile and walk to sensitive, historic, scenic, and cultural areas.
 - Stay on the trail and stay away from areas posted closed. They may be sensitive, historic, or cultural areas such as burial sites.
 - Yield the right of way to hikers, bikers, and horses.
- Safety Tips for All Users
 - Have a pre-planned route; carry maps and a compass.
 - Inform someone of your plans.

- Be prepared for all kinds of weather. Know the symptoms of heat exhaustion, heat stroke, and hypothermia.
- Wear or bring appropriate attire, including a hat and sunblock. Always wear appropriate safety gear.
- Stay within the limits of your ability. Do not overexert yourself or ride too fast.
- Bring plenty of water. Treat stream, river, or lake water before use.
- Carry first aid supplies and insect repellent and know how to use them.
- Use a headlight, taillight, reflectors, and retroreflective clothing at night.
- Keep your equipment in good repair.
- Do not use trails when under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Source: <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/ORG/LAND/parks/trails/Etiquette.pdf>
(accessed April 25, 2006)

Wisconsin State Trails Council

Trail Etiquette

- Treat all trail users with respect and courtesy regardless of their sport, speed, or skill level.
- Stay right except to pass.
- Pass on the left. Clearly alert others before passing.
- Always look before changing positions on the trail.
- Stay on the trail.
- Do not block the trail.
- Pack it in, pack it out. Pick up litter.
- Control your speed.

Source:

http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks/trails/council/resolution/STC_Etiquette_Resolution.pdf (accessed April 25, 2006)

Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve

Outdoor ethics

- Walk dogs only on the North Beach and 5th and Iris Trail. Dogs must be kept on a leash at all times.

- All plants, animals and physical features (shells, rocks, etc.) Are protected and may not be removed or damaged.
- No weapons or fireworks are permitted on the Reserve.
- Please, no littering or dumping.
- Trespassing beyond special area closure signs is prohibited.
- Fishing, clamming, and shrimping are permitted from the beach area only.
- Use officially designated trails only for hiking, biking, dog walking, and horseback riding.
- Fires and camping are not permitted on the reserve.
- Alcohol and drugs are prohibited on the reserve.
- While walking through the reserve, please respect the animals and their homes. Speak softly, walk calmly, and stay on the trails for the best view of wildlife.

Source: http://www.tijuanaestuary.com/Trail_Map_6-03.pdf (accessed April 20, 2006)

Trail Riders Fellowship

The TRF Code of Conduct

- Use only vehicular rights of way. Trail riding is only lawful on public roads. If in doubt, check with the Highway Authority or the TRF. Motorcycles and riders must be road-legal. Green lanes are subject to the same laws as surfaced roads.
- Keep to the defined way across farmland. Wheels can damage crops and grass. Wandering from the road onto farmland or moorland is trespassing.
- Give way to walkers, horses and cyclists. As a courtesy, on narrow lanes, stop and switch off engines.
- Acknowledge the presence of other green lane users with a friendly wave or other suitable gesture.
- Fasten gates to safeguard stock. Except those tied open for farming purposes. An open gate invites animals to stray, endangering themselves, and crops or traffic.
- Travel at a safe speed. Ride at a reasonable speed, taking regard of conditions and visibility. This should not exceed the voluntary maximum of 25mph.
- Ride quietly. Machines must be effectively silenced. Use the throttle with discretion, as noise does offend. Green lanes are subject to the same laws as surfaced roads.
- Honour the country code. Respect the countryside and those who live, work and play in it. Green lanes can be valuable habitats, so take special care in spring and early summer.

- Identify yourself. Carry your membership card with you when trail riding, so that you may identify yourself as a current member of the TRF - and display a current membership sticker.

Source: <http://www.trf.org.uk/code.php> (accessed April 18, 2006)

Trails and Open Space Coalition (Pikes Peak Colorado)

Trail Etiquette

- Respect other users, expect other users.
- Be friendly and courteous.
- Share the trail. Ride, walk or run on the right, pass on the left.
- Stay on the trail. Creating your own trail or cutting switchbacks creates erosion, damages habitat and causes new trails which can't be maintained.
- Bicyclists yield to equestrians, runners and hikers. Keep your bike under control and at a safe speed.
- Runners and hikers yield to equestrians.
- Downhill traffic should yield to uphill traffic. When in doubt, give the other user the right of way.
- Use unpaved trails only when they are dry, not muddy or wet, to avoid leaving ruts or prints.
- Warn people when you are planning to pass. Use your voice to warn equestrians, not bells or horns. Bells or horns may frighten horses.
- Anticipate other trail users around corners and blind spots.
- Ride within your ability at all times.
- Respect wildlife.
- Use caution when using headphones. You may not be able to hear people trying to warn you.
- When a horse approaches, move off the trail and ask the rider for instructions.
- Leave no trace. Pack out your litter.
- Dog should be kept on leashes and under control.
- Respect private property.

Source: <http://www.trailsandopenspaces.org/trails/etiquette.htm> (accessed April 21, 2006)

Trails BC

Trails BC: Safety on the Trans Canada Trail

- All Trail Users

- Share the Trail: The Trans Canada Trail is a shared corridor for a variety of participants: hikers, cyclists, horseback riders, cross-country skiers and snowmobilers, where possible.
 - Be aware that on some sections of the trail, motorized equipment may be utilized for farming, forestry or other purposes.
 - Respect the rights of other trail users and adjoining land owners
 - Where the trail corridor is grazed, don't disturb the stock. Respect open and closed gating arrangements.
 - Where agricultural activities such as orchards are nearby, keep to the trail.
 - Use designated public services and access points. Never leave vehicles blocking adjacent properties or the trail route.
 - Obey all posted signs.
 - Please don't litter - pack out what you pack in.
 - Please keep your dog on a leash or at home. Dogs can be a nuisance to others, and may harass livestock and wildlife.
 - Please do not collect natural materials along the trail. Flowers, trees, plants and even rocks are part of the trail's natural resources.
 - Leave heritage features in place. BC law forbids the removal of archaeological material or historical artifacts.
 - Observe all fire restrictions and take all due care with fires.
- While cycling along BC's Trans Canada Trail:
 - Watch out for other trail users on the Trans Canada Trail, especially when approaching corners and blind spots.
 - Make sure your speed is appropriate for current trail conditions, crowding and visibility levels.
 - When passing other trail users, use a bell and give adequate warning.
 - In all circumstances yield to pedestrians.
 - Stay on marked trails. Riding off the beaten path can damage local vegetation.
 - Walk across bridges and trestles. Approach tunnels with care.
 - Don't trespass on private property.

Source: <http://www.trailsbc.ca/safety.html> (accessed on April 18, 2006)

The Trans Pennine Trail

User Code

- All users
 - where different paths, or sides of the path are signed for different user groups - please keep to your side

- if you are in a group, please do not walk or ride across the whole width of the path, leave space for others to pass you easily
- take great care where the Trans Pennine Trail crosses or follows roads
- take all your litter home and be careful with cigarette ends due to risk of fire
- dog owners - please clean up after your pet - dog mess spoils the trail and adjacent areas for other people and poses health risks
- keep close control of your dog - preferably on a short lead, especially where farm animals are present
- Horse Riders
 - use only sections of the trail where horses are allowed
 - do not use the trail unless you can control your horse - you may encounter walkers, people using wheelchairs and scooters, cyclists, dogs and bridges over road, rail and water
 - do not canter or gallop on shared sections of the trail
 - please avoid damaging trail surfaces and don't ride on the grass central dividing strip
- Horse riders and cyclists
 - warn others when you approach from behind so you do not startle people as you pass by - call politely or use a bell/hooter
 - slow down when approaching other users who are unpredictable, particularly children or animals; remember too, some people may have a hearing impairment
 - helmets and high visibility clothing will add to your safety
 - please ride in single file on narrow sections
- Cyclists
 - must not use this route for racing competitions or speed trails
 - on canal towpaths - read and abide by the British Waterways code for cyclists
 - please be prepared to dismount occasionally - on steep access ramps, or on limited sections (such as restricted width bridges)
 - where the trail is a designated bridleway, cyclists should give way to other users
 - be careful with your speed - especially on slopes or where visibility ahead is limited
- Please enjoy the Trans Pennine Trail and help others to do so too!

Source: <http://www.transpenninetrail.org.uk/template.asp?ID=484&parentID=483>
(accessed April 26, 2006)

Tread Lightly! Inc.

Responsible Cross-Country/Back Country Skiing

- Travel and recreate with minimum impact.

- Travel in areas open to cross country and backcountry skiing.
- Always avoid sensitive areas. Ski only where there is adequate snow cover, where you trees and plants are not visible.

- Respect the environment and the rights of others.
 - Be sensitive to the life sustaining needs of wildlife and livestock. In deep snow, stay clear of animals so that noise and close proximity do not add stress to animals struggling to survive. Never approach wildlife.
 - Respect and be considerate of other users so that all can enjoy quality experience in the outdoors.
 - Be aware of and follow trail etiquette for your area.
 - Always obtain permission to cross private land.
 - Comply with area signage.
 - When traveling with a dog, be especially considerate of others and wildlife. Leashing your dog protects others from unwanted contact and protects wildlife from being harassed.

- Educate yourself, plan and prepare before you go.
 - Check the weather forecast for your destination. Plan clothing, equipment and supplies accordingly.
 - Check avalanche conditions and be able to read weather charts. If avalanche danger is high it is best not to go out.
 - An avalanche awareness course will aid you in traveling in the outdoors safely.
 - Before venturing into the backcountry carefully plan a route that avoids terrain prone to avalanche.
 - Let someone know where you are going. Tell them your route and when you plan to return.
 - Sunlight in the mountains burns even on cold and cloudy days. Protect skin and eyes.
 - Obtain a map of the area and carry it along with a compass.
 - Always take emergency items such as a snow tent, first aid kit, and extra food.

- Allow for future use of the outdoors, leave it better than you found it.
 - The future and quality of cross country and backcountry skiing opportunities depend on how we sue it today.
 - Carry out what your carry in.
 - When finished with your campsite, demolish any snow walls or shelters you have built. Fill in areas where you have quarried snow blocks.

- Minimize the use of fire. If you must have a fire, use a fire pan.
- Discover the rewards of responsible recreations.
 - Cross country and backcountry skiing provides the opportunity to get away from the rush of everyday life and builds family traditions.
 - Help preserve the beauty and inspiring attributes of the great outdoors for yourself and generations to come by skiing responsibly.

Source:

<http://www.treadlightly.org/readedu.mv?edu=3D347E03000DA16100005F710000000> (accessed April 18, 2006)

Tread Lightly! Inc.

Responsible Hiking

- Travel and recreate with minimum impact.
 - Stay on the trail even if it is rough and muddy. Walking on the track edge and cutting switchbacks increase damage, cause erosion, and visual scarring.
 - Walk single file to avoid widening the trail.
 - Spread out in open country where there are no trails. Spreading out, rather than following each other's footsteps, disperses impact and avoids creating a new trail.
 - Avoid sensitive habitats, wetlands, streams, meadows, cryptobiotic soils of the desert, and tundra. Watch where you put your feet.
 - Flagging and marking trails is unsightly. If flagging is necessary, remove it as you leave.
 - Human waste should be disposed of in shallow hole (6"-8" deep) at least 200 feet from water sources, campsites, or trails. The hole should be covered and disguised with natural materials. Use toilet paper sparingly and pack it out.
 - Practice minimum impact camping. Use existing campsites when possible. Camp 200 feet from trails and water resources. Avoid building campfires except in well-established fire rings. Use a portable camp stove for cooking.
- Respect the environment and the rights of others.
 - Respect and be courteous to other users who also want to enjoy the lands you are using. Set an example of courtesy for all.

- Be considerate and honor other's desire for solitude and a peaceful outdoor experience.
- Be especially cautious around horses and bikes. Stay to the right of the trail and let them pass.

- Educate yourself, plan and prepare before you go
 - Check the weather forecast for your destination. Plan clothing, equipment and supplies accordingly.
 - If you will be using private property contact the land owner(s) for written permission.
 - Make a realistic trail plan and stick to it. Let someone know where you are going and when you expect to be back.
 - Carry a map, compass or a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit and know how to use them.
 - Choose appropriate footwear for the terrain. Solid, lightweight walking boots are best. Sandals can be used on trail in summer and around your campsite.
 - Dress in layers and always carry a jacket. Weather conditions can change unexpectedly.
 - Carry water and emergency supplies even on short hikes.
 - Repackage snacks and food in baggies. This reduces weight and amount of trash to carry out.
 - Your pack weight should not exceed 1/3 of your body weight.
 - Remember, designated Wilderness areas are reserved for the most primitive outdoor adventure.
 - Respect this primitive environment and keep it that way!

- Allow for future use of the outdoors, leave it better than you found it.
 - Avoid the spread of noxious weeds. Clean your gear and clothing after every hike.
 - Do not dig trenches around tents.
 - Leave natural surroundings as you found them.
 - Keep the area natural by leaving fallen logs, rocks, etc where you found them.
 - Carry out what you carry in. Don't burn or bury trash.

- Discover the rewards of responsible recreation.
 - Hiking provides the opportunity to get away from the rush of everyday life and builds family traditions.
 - Help preserve the beauty and inspiring attributes of the great outdoors for yourself and generations to come by camping responsibly.

- Respect the environment and other trail users. By using common sense and common courtesy, what is available today will be here to enjoy tomorrow.

Source:

<http://www.treadlightly.org/readedu.mv?edu=3D347E45000547600000604A0000000> (accessed April 18, 2006)

Tread Lightly! Inc.

Responsible Horseback Riding

- Travel and recreate with minimum impact.
 - Stay on designated roads, trails, and other areas open to horse use.
 - Ride single file to reduce trail damage, and don't cut switchbacks.
 - Water animals in areas where stream banks and water access can withstand hard use and are downstream from campsites.
 - Practice minimum impact camping: use established sites designated for horses, camp 200 feet from water resources and trails, and minimize fire use.
 - Observe proper sanitary waste disposal by burying waste 6-8 inches deep and at least 200 feet from trails, campsites, and water resources, or pack your waste out.
 - When selecting a campsite, first consider your stock; the site should accommodate your animals without damaging the area.
 - Inspect grazing opportunities before making camp.
 - Use yards, paddocks, and hitching rails where provided.
 - Use hitchlines, hobbles, and staking to confine animals. Erect hitchlines in rocky areas with established trees and use straps or tree savers to protect bark.
 - If you use temporary corrals, move the enclosures twice daily.
 - When breaking camp, remove or scatter manure; remove excess hay and straw; and fill areas dug up by animal hooves.
- Respect the environment and the rights of others.
 - Be considerate of others on the road or trail.
 - Ride only where permitted.
 - Avoid spooking livestock and wildlife you encounter.
 - Leave gates as you find them. Respect private land.
 - When riding, be especially cautious around hikers and bikers.
 - Always obtain permission to cross private land.
- Educate yourself, plan and prepare before you go.

- Check the weather forecast, and have the right information, maps, and equipment to make your trip safe.
 - Check with land managers to determine if an area is closed to pack animals due to overuse or fragile environments.
 - Keep groups small, and carry lightweight gear to reduce the number of animals needed.
 - Pre-plan camp locations that provide plenty of room and the proper environment for confining animals.
 - If possible, don't shoe horse(s) prior to a trip. New shoes cut the ground more than worn shoes.
- Allow for future use of the outdoors, leave it better than you found it.
 - Bring pellets, grain, or weed free hay to areas where feed is limited or grazing is not allowed. This reduces the chances of introducing noxious weeds.
 - Wash your gear and check your animal before and after every ride to avoid the spread of noxious weeds.
 - Carry a trash bag on your horse, and pick up litter left by others.
 - Avoid sensitive habitats, wetlands, steams, and meadows.
 - Discover the rewards of responsible recreation
 - Horseback riding provides the opportunity to get away from the rush of everyday life and builds family traditions.
 - Respect the environment and other recreationists. By using common sense and common courtesy, what is available today will be here to enjoy tomorrow.

Source:

<http://www.treadlightly.org/readedu.mv?edu=3D347F040005D0A8000064D50000000> (accessed April 18, 2006)

Tread Lightly! Inc.

Responsible Mountain Bike Riding

- Travel & recreate with minimum impact
 - Stay on designated roads and trails.
 - Avoid trails that are obviously wet and muddy.
 - Cross streams slowly, at a 90-degree angle to the stream.
 - When climbing, use a gear that provides comfortable momentum and maintains traction. Avoid going around water bars.
 - When descending, avoid locking your bike's wheels, which gauges the trail.

- Make your presence known when approaching others and going around blind corners.
 - Choose trails that match your ability.
 - Practice minimum impact camping by using established sites, camping 200 feet from water resources and trails, and minimizing use of fire.
 - Observe proper sanitary waste disposal by burying waste 6-8 inches deep and at least 200 feet from trails, campsites, and water resources or pack your waste out.
- Respect the environment and the rights of others.
 - Be considerate of others on the road or trail.
 - Ride only where permitted.
 - Leave gates as you find them. Respect private land.
 - Yield the right of way to those passing you or traveling uphill.
- Educate yourself, plan and prepare before you go.
 - Obtain a map of your destination and determine which areas are open to mountain bikes. Make a realistic plan, and stick to it. Always tell someone of your travel plans.
 - Contact the land manager for area restrictions, closures, and permit requirements.
 - If crossing private property, be sure to ask permission from the landowner(s).
 - Check the weather forecast.
 - Be sure your mountain bike is properly tuned.
 - Prepare for the unexpected by packing a small backpack full of emergency items.
 - Wear a helmet, eye protection, and other safety gear.
 - Buddy up with two or three riders as riding solo can leave you vulnerable if you have an accident or breakdown.
 - Don't mix riding with alcohol and/or drugs.
 - Know your limits and pace yourself. Don't overextend daylight hours.
 - Maintain a reasonable distance between you and your fellow riders.
- Allow for future use of the outdoors, leave it better than you found it.
 - Ride in the middle of the trails to minimize widening of the trails. Avoid sideslipping, which can lead to erosion.
 - Pack out what you pack in.
 - Avoid "spooking" livestock and wildlife.
 - Avoid sensitive habitats: wetlands, meadows and tundra.
 - Ride in the middle of the trail to minimize widening it.
 - Following a ride, wash your bike and support vehicle to reduce the spread of noxious weeds.

- Motorized and mechanized vehicles are not allowed in designated Wilderness areas, this includes mountain bikes.
- Discover the rewards of responsible recreation.
 - Mountain biking provides the opportunity to get away from the rush of everyday life and builds family traditions.
 - Careless operation of your bike can cause damage and may result in areas closed to mountain bikers.
 - Respect the environment and other trail users. By using common sense and common courtesy, what is available today will be here to enjoy tomorrow.

Source:

<http://www.treadlightly.org/readedu.mv?edu=3D347DB70000D76600005E8C00000000> (accessed April 19, 2006)

Tread Lightly! Inc.

Responsible Off-Highway Motorcycle Use

- Travel & recreate with minimum impact.
 - Stay on designated routes.
 - Travel only in areas open to off-highway motorcycle (OHM) use.
 - On slick trails, moderate the throttle and use the clutch to gain maximum traction with minimum tailspin.
 - On switchbacks, avoid roosting around the apex of the turn when climbing or brake-sliding during descent, both of which gouge the trail.
 - Don't ride around fallen logs; it is best to move them or ride over them.
 - When negotiating any obstacle, stay loose over the bike to allow for sudden direction changes.
 - Cross streams only at designated fording points or where the trail crosses the stream.
 - Avoid riding in meadows and marshy areas.
 - Protect the soundscape by preventing unnecessary noise created by your vehicle.
 - Practice minimum impact camping by using established sites, camping 200 feet from water resources and trails, and minimizing use of fire.
 - Observe proper sanitary waste disposal by burying waste 6-8 inches deep and at least 200 feet from trails, campsites, and water resources or pack your waste out.

- Respect the environment and the rights of others.
 - Be considerate of others on the road or trail.
 - Ride only where permitted.
 - Leave gates as you find them. Respect private land.
 - Yield the right of way to those passing you or traveling uphill. Yield to mountain bikers, hikers, and horses.
 - Keep the noise and dust down.
 - Pack out what you pack in.

- Educate yourself, plan and prepare before you go.
 - Obtain a map of your destination and determine which areas are open to OHMs. Make a realistic plan and stick to it.
 - Contact the land manager for area restrictions, closures, and permit requirements.
 - If crossing private property, be sure to ask permission from the landowner(s).
 - Check the weather forecast.
 - Prepare for the unexpected by packing a small backpack full of emergency items.
 - Wear a helmet, eye protection, and other safety gear.
 - Buddy up with two or three riders. Riding solo can leave you vulnerable if you have an accident or breakdown. Designate meeting areas in case of separation.
 - Know your limitations. Watch your time, your fuel, and your energy.
 - Don't mix riding with alcohol and/or drugs.
 - Understand how to operate your vehicle and its controls.
 - A DirtBike SchoolSM class provides a fast-paced, half-day, hands-on training session. Call 1-877- 288-7093 to enroll.
 - Make sure your vehicle is mechanically up to task. Be prepared with tools, supplies and spares for trailside repairs.

- Allow for future use of the outdoors, leave it better than you found it.
 - Carry a trash bag on your vehicle and pick up litter left by others.
 - Avoid "spooking" livestock and wildlife you encounter.
 - Avoid sensitive habitats, wetlands, steams, and meadows.
 - Following a ride, wash your OHM and support vehicle to reduce the spread of noxious weeds.
 - Motorized and mechanized vehicles are not allowed in designated Wilderness areas, this includes OHMs.

- Discover the rewards of responsible recreation.

- OHM riding provides the opportunity to get away from the rush of everyday life and builds family traditions.
- Careless operation of your OHM can cause damage to the environment and may result in closing of areas
- Respect the environment and trail users. By using common sense and common courtesy, what is available today will be here to enjoy tomorrow.

Source:

[http://www.treadlightly.org/readedu.mv?edu=3D347CA20007F7EB0000591800000000](http://www.treadlightly.org/readedu.mv?edu=3D347CA20007F7EB000059180000000) (accessed April 19, 2006)

Tread Lightly! Inc.

Responsible ATV Riding

- Travel and recreate with minimum impact.
 - Stay on designated routes.
 - Travel only in areas open to ATV use.
 - On slick trails, moderate the throttle and use the clutch to gain maximum traction with minimum tailspin.
 - On switchbacks, avoid roosting around the apex of the turn when climbing or brake-sliding during descent, both of which gouge the trail.
 - Cross streams only at designated fording points or where the trail crosses the stream.
 - Avoid riding in meadows and marshy areas.
 - When winching always inspect your equipment, use the right winch for the situation, find a good secure anchor, and never winch with less than five wraps of wire rope around the drum.
 - When using a tree as an anchor, use a wide tree strap to avoid damage to the trunk of the tree.
 - Protect the soundscape by preventing unnecessary noise created by your vehicle.
 - Practice minimum impact camping by using established sites, camping 200 feet from water resources and trails and minimizing use of fire.
 - Observe proper sanitary waste disposal by burying waste 6-8 inches deep and at least 200 feet from trails, campsites and water resources or pack your waste out.

- Respect the environment and the rights of others.
 - Be considerate of others on the road or trail.
 - Ride only where permitted.

- Leave gates as you find them. Respect private land.
- Yield the right of way to those passing you or traveling uphill. Yield to mountain bikers, hikers, and horses.
- Keep the noise and dust down.
- Pack out what you pack in.

- Educate yourself, plan and prepare before you go
 - Obtain a map of your destination and determine which areas are open to ATVs. Make a realistic plan, and stick to it. Always tell someone of your travel plans.
 - Contact the land manager for area restrictions, closures, and permit requirements.
 - If crossing private property, be sure to ask permission from the landowner(s).
 - Check the weather forecast.
 - Prepare for the unexpected by packing a small backpack full of emergency items.
 - Wear a helmet, eye protection, and other safety gear.
 - Buddy up with two or three riders. Riding solo can leave you vulnerable if you have an accident or breakdown. Designate meeting areas in case of separation.
 - Know your limitations. Watch your time, your fuel, and your energy.
 - Don't mix riding with alcohol and/or drugs.
 - Understand how to operate your vehicle and its controls.
 - The ATV RiderCourseSM provides a fast-paced, half-day, hands-on training session. Call the ATV Enrollment Express toll-free at 1-800-887-2887 to enroll.
 - Make sure your vehicle is mechanically up to task. Be prepared with tools, supplies and spares for trailside repairs.

- Allow for future use of the outdoors, leave it better than you found it.
 - Carry a trash bag on your vehicle and pick up litter left by others.
 - Avoid "spooking" livestock and wildlife you encounter.
 - Avoid sensitive habitats, wetlands, steams, and meadows.
 - Following a ride, wash your ATV and support vehicle to reduce the spread of noxious weeds.
 - Motorized and mechanized vehicles are not allowed in designated Wilderness areas.

- Discover the rewards of responsible recreation
 - ATV riding provides the opportunity to get away from the rush of everyday life and builds family traditions.

- Careless operation of your ATV can cause damage and may result in closing areas.
- By using common sense and common courtesy, what is available today will be here to enjoy tomorrow.

Source:

<http://www.treadlightly.org/readedu.mv?edu=3D3C2FC1000E1E0F00004ACF00000000> (accessed April 18, 2006)

Tread Lightly! Inc.

Responsible Snowmobiling

- Travel & recreate with minimum impact.
 - Travel only in areas open snowmobiling.
 - Avoid trails with inadequate snow cover.
 - When climbing a hill, approach the summit with caution.
 - Do not ride off cornices.
 - Avoid riding on frozen waterways when possible.
 - When approaching a corner reduce, your speed to avoid sliding.
 - Cross roadways at a 90-degree angle.
 - Pump your brake when going downhill to avoid locking the brakes.
 - Lean into turns with your upper body to enhance the sled's maneuverability.
 - Do not accommodate extra riders over the delineated limit.
 - Protect the soundscape by avoiding unnecessary noise created by your vehicle.
 - Dispose of all sanitary waste properly by packing it out or bury it in a shallow hole in the snow.
 - Avoid building fires.
- Respect the environment and the rights of others.
 - Be considerate of others on the trail.
 - Ride single file, keep to the right and pass on the left only when the trail is clear.
 - When stopping on the trail, pull your sled as far right and off the trail as possible.
 - Yield the right-of-way to those passing or traveling uphill.
 - Use common snowmobiling signals to communicate with your group and other riders.
 - Ride only where permitted. Respect private property.
 - Be respectful of wildlife's wintering habitats.
- Educate yourself, plan and prepare before you go.

- Obtain a map of your destination and determine which areas are open to snowmobiles. Make a realistic plan, and stick to it. Always tell someone of your travel plans.
 - Contact the land manager for area restrictions, closures, and permit requirements.
 - If crossing private property, ask permission from the landowner(s).
 - Always check the weather forecast and avalanche conditions.
 - Understand how to operate your vehicle and its controls.
 - Comply with local rules and laws.
 - Prepare for the unexpected by packing a small backpack full of emergency items.
 - Wear a helmet, eye protection, and other safety gear.
 - Layer clothing and wear a durable waterproof outer shell and footwear.
 - Buddy up with two or three riders; riding solo can leave you vulnerable if you have an accident or breakdown.
 - Travel at reasonable speeds.
 - Be aware of unmarked hazards or obstacles hidden beneath the snow.
 - When riding at night, use extra caution wear reflective clothing and reduce your speed.
 - If you suffer a breakdown, stay with your sled, and stay on the trail.
 - Avoid riding in potential avalanche areas. Use terrain to your advantage, avoiding steep slopes, cornices, and gullies or depressions; periodically check for clues to an unstable snowpack. Remember, one rider at a time on slopes.
 - An avalanche transceiver, shovel, and probe should be worn on your body at all times.
 - Don't mix riding with alcohol and/or drugs.
 - If a person develops hypothermia, warm the person up by rubbing them vigorously and getting them into dry clothes. Give them warm non-alcoholic liquids.
- Allow for future use of the outdoors, leave it better than you found it.
 - Pack out what you pack in.
 - Avoid “spooking” livestock and wildlife.
 - Leave gates as you find them and respect private lands.
 - To minimize harmful emissions, keep your engine in tune.
 - Motorized and mechanized vehicles are not allowed in designated Wilderness areas, this includes snowmobiles.
- Discover the rewards of responsible recreation.
 - Snowmobiling provides the opportunity to get away from the rush of everyday life and builds family traditions.
 - Careless operation of your snowmobile can cause damage and may result in closing areas.

- By using common sense and common courtesy, what is available today will be here to enjoy tomorrow.

Source:

<http://www.treadlightly.org/readedu.mv?edu=3D3480090001809700006A5A00000000> (accessed April 19, 2006)

United States Trail Ride Inc.

USTR Good Neighbor Code Of Conduct For Trail Riding

I will...

- Wear a hard hat while riding.
- Ride during the hours of daylight.
- Conduct myself over the trails of others, as I would have a good neighbor of mine conduct himself over my property.
- Maintain control of my horse, and provide horse sound and humane treatment on the trail.
- Attend an orientation ride to become familiar with the trail and the rules applying to the trail.
- Place the USTR identification tag on my person or tack to ascertain my identity.
- Ride only on the designated trail and not trespass onto the neighboring landowner's property.
- Not bring guests on the trail as the landowners have only given USTR members permission to ride.
- Not smoke, litter, bring/or consume alcoholic beverages or controlled substances on the trail or in the parking area.
- Not bring dogs, cats or firearms with me on the trail or to the parking area.
- Be safe and courteous when encountering others on the trail. Larger groups have right of way.
- Minimize damage to the trail, especially during wet periods where riding may not be allowed in certain areas.
- Securely close any gates or road barriers I am permitted to open.
- Not excite or chase livestock of landowners adjacent to the trail.
- Not damage crops.
- Supervise children at all times.
- Comply with Landowner Conditions that are not a part of the Trail Use Agreement.
- Report to the Trail Master, Landowner, or authorities apparent or possible vandalism, illegal acts, fires, trespassing by others, or injured livestock I observe while on the trail, including apparent violations of this Code of Conduct by other members of the USTR.

- Participate in affirmative trail or land improvement projects over the course of the year.
- Carry a current negative Coggins test results for each horse I ride on the trail.
- Forfeit my Trail Tag and all its privileges if I am found guilty of violating any of these rules.
- Ride only on trails designated for horse use.
- Avoid riding through standing water.
- Do not ride on the lake dam if covered by water.
- Disperse manure off the trails or take it with me.

Source: <http://www.cadcol.com/ustr/USTRCodeofConduct.pdf> (accessed April 26, 2006)

This code was developed by a committee of representatives from the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation; Michigan Department of National Resources; Minnesota Department of Natural Resources; Department of Lands and Forests, Ontario, Canada; U.S. National Park Service; and snowmobile manufacturers.

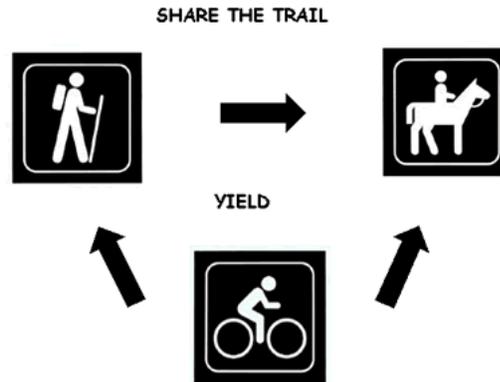
Snowmobile code of ethics

- I will be a good sport. I recognize that people judge all snowmobile owners by my actions. I will use my influence with other snowmobile owners to promote proper sports conduct.
- I will not litter any trails. I will not pollute streams or lakes.
- I will not damage living trees, shrubs, or other natural features.
- I will respect other people's property and rights.
- I will lend a helping hand when I see someone in distress.
- I will make myself and my vehicle available to assist search and rescue parties.
- I will not interfere with or harass hikers, skiers, snowshoed hikers or other winter sports enthusiasts. I will respect their rights to enjoy our recreation facilities.
- I will learn and obey all federal, state and local rules regulating the operation of snowmobiles in areas where I use my vehicle. I will inform public officials, as required, when using public lands.
- I will not harass wildlife. I will avoid areas posted for the protection or feeding of wildlife.
- I will only use marked trails, areas or roads open to snowmobiles.
- I will not travel cross-country when prohibited.

Source: <http://www.state.nj.us/mvc/snow/snowmobile2003.pdf> (accessed April 20, 2006)

Wake County Parks and Open Spaces

Trail Etiquette



- Bicyclists:
 - When meeting a horseback rider face-to-face on the trail, stop and allow the horse to pass before resuming pedaling.
 - When overtaking a horse from behind, call out and ask permission of the rider to pass.
 - Do not pedal past a horse without first getting the rider's attention. The horse could spook and endanger you, the rider, and other trail users.
 - Warn other trail users before passing from behind by calling out "passing on your left."
 - All bicyclists must wear ANSI or Snell approved safety helmets.
- Runners:
 - Communicate to other users before passing from behind, especially when overtaking a horseback rider. The horse could spook and endanger you, the rider, and other trail users.
- Dog Walkers:
 - Dogs should be on a leash at all times.
 - Remove animal waste from the trail. Mutt mitts are provided at trailheads.
 -
- Walkers:
 - Keep to the right side of the trail.
 - Allow bikers and faster moving traffic to pass.
- Equestrians:
 - Remove animal waste from parking area and pack it out.
 - If you cannot remove your animal's waste from the trail immediately, please join the volunteers on manure clean-up days. Call 919-387-2117 for more information.

- All users should allow horses to clear bridges and the tunnel before entering themselves.

Source: <http://www.wakegov.com/parks/atc/trail+etiquette.htm> (accessed April 21, 2006)

Waterton Lakes National Park

Trail Etiquette

- Check trail heads for designated uses.
- Stay on designated trails. Shortcuts can be dangerous and may increase erosion.
- Walk, ride, and cycle in single file to lessen trail widening, erosion or braiding.
- Hikers should move to the side of the trail when approaching horses. Allow skittish horses to pass.
- Cyclists – travel slowly and carefully. Allow wildlife to move off the trail before passing. Signal your approach well in advance when passing hikers. And indicate the side you intend to pass on. Pass slowly and with care. Dismount if approaching a horse and stand on the downhill side when possible.

Source: http://www.watertonpark.com/activities/hiking_trail.htm (accessed April 20, 2006)

Wallace Township

Code Of Conduct - Trail Etiquette

- Trails may be used for non-motorized use only
- Stay on the trail
- Respect property owners and other trail users
- Preserve and protect wildlife and other natural resources
- Carry trash out - Do not litter
- Don't smoke or drink alcohol
- Use personal electronics with headphones only
- No hunting or trapping
- No firearms or other weapons
- No loitering
- Never cut corners or cross planted fields or lawns
- Keep dogs under control
- Use caution and go slowly when passing fenced animals
- Report unsafe conditions and suspicious activities
- Never tread on soft sod

- Leave gates and trails as you find them
- Remember, trail use is a privilege — Be courteous

Source: <http://www.wallacetwp.org/WTPAMain.aspx> (accessed April 26, 2006)

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Winter Recreation Code of Ethics:

- I will respect all public and private property and the rights of all winter recreationists to enjoy the beauty.
- I will park considerately without blocking other vehicles or impeding access to trails.
- I will keep to the right when meeting other winter recreationists and yield the right of way to downhill traffic.
- I will slow down and use caution when approaching or overtaking another.
- I will respect designated areas, trail use signs, and established ski tracks.
- When stopping, I will not block the trail.
- I will not disturb wildlife and will avoid areas posted for its protection or feeding.
- I will not litter and I will pack out everything I packed in.
- I realize that my destination and travel speed are determined by my equipment, ability, terrain, weather and traffic on the trail. In case of an emergency, I will volunteer assistance.
- I will not interfere with or harass others, recognizing that people judge all skiers or snowmobilers by my actions.

Source: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/winter/> (accessed April 20, 2006)

Washington Trails Association

Trail Etiquette

- Practice Leave No Trace Principles.
- Practice Courtesy - Obey posted rules. Respect private property. Respect others. Let others enjoy quiet and solitude. Refrain from loud talking or swearing, and leave judgmental attitudes at home.
 - Yield Right of Way - Wheels yield to heels. Downhill yields to uphill. Everyone yields to horses. Get off the trail. Near horses, get off to the downhill side and talk gently.
 - Take Care when Passing - Slow down! Do not startle others, especially horses. Get off trail to let faster users pass. On wide trails, keep right and pass left.

- Take Breaks off Trail - and get your gear off trail too.
- Practice Safety - Bring the Ten Essentials. Know your limits. Leave an itinerary with a friend or relative. Don't let your carelessness become a burden to others.
- Be a Good Companion - Arrive on time. Share fairly.
- Control Pets - It is really better to leave your pet at home. But if you *must* bring Rover, control your dog. Use a leash. Near horses, grip your dog's throat to prevent barking. Your responsible behavior will help keep pets allowed in the backcountry.
- Winter Users - On multiple use trails, ski near the edge to make room for snowmobiles. Avoid ski tracks when hiking, snowshoeing or snowmobiling.
- Motorized Users - slow down near non-motorized users, and take particular care not to startle horses.

Source: <http://www.wta.org/~wta/cgi-bin/wtaweb.pl?3+hg+notebook+4> (accessed April 21, 2006)

The West Coast Trail

Trail Etiquette

- Pack it in and OUT! There are no garbage cans on the WCT. Do not bring glass, plastic and cans on your hike. EVERYTHING YOU BRING ON YOUR HIKE, YOU MUST TAKE BACK OUT. Do not bury or deposit garbage in outhouses.
- Cooking should be done on a lightweight stove. Do not rely on campfires for cooking, staying warm or drying out. FIRES ARE PERMITTED ON THE BEACH ONLY, NEVER IN FORESTED AREAS. If you must have a fire, keep it small, use only driftwood (do not cut any trees or other vegetation) and keep fires away from logs. Use previously established fire rings. Clean up all fire debris and unburned garbage after the fire is out so that no trace is left. Try for a campfire-free hike!
- Be water wise. Drinking water is available from rivers and creeks, best collected upstream. To be safe, it is recommended to treat, boil or filter all water collected.
- Insure safe water and health conditions. Use the outhouses and beach privies located at major campsites along the WCT, or bury human waste in the inter-tidal zone at the ocean's edge, not in the high tide drift log areas or in the forest. Dispose all toilet paper in toilets or burn it or pack it out; do not bury toilet paper. Wash yourself, your clothes and dishes in the ocean or at creek mouths. Dispose all dirty water at least 30 m away from drinking water sources. Please pay special attention to public health requirements.
- Consider food carefully. Bring an adequate supply and keep it simple, high-energy and lightweight and pack enough for emergencies and extra days. The WCT is closed to harvesting and consumption of all bivalves (clams, mussels,

oysters) due to regular occurrences of Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP) which can result in illness or death.

- Patrol Cabins along the WCT are available for public use. There are no shelters or accommodation for hiker use.
- First Nation Indian Reserves located along WCT are all private property. Please respect these lands and the structures and materials on them. First Nations and QUU'AS Guardians regularly patrol the reserves and cultural resources areas. Stay on the main Trail and obey all signs when on Reserve lands. Violators will be prosecuted.
- It is an offense under the National Parks Act to collect or remove any object or heritage resource within National Park boundaries. This means that destroying or damaging natural or cultural resources, cutting trees for firewood or makeshift shelters and collecting or removing marine life, fossils, artifacts, plants, etc. IS PROHIBITED. Please leave Pacific Rim National Park in as good or better condition than you found it.
- Maximum group size permitted on the WCT is ten total. Do not split the group up. Respect the capabilities of the slowest group members; regroup at regular stops.
- Camp on the beach above the high-tide line whenever possible. This will help reduce impacts and soil compaction in vegetated areas.
- Leave pets and firearms at home. They are not permitted on the WCT.

Source: http://www.westcoasttrailbc.com/trail_guidebook_map.htm#etiquette
(accessed April 20, 2006)

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

ATV Operator's Code of Ethics

- I will be a good sportsperson. I recognize that people judge all ATV owners by my actions. I will use my influence with other ATV owners to promote exemplary conduct.
- I will not litter trails or camping areas. I will not pollute streams or lakes.
- I will not damage living trees, shrubs, or other natural features.
- I will respect other people's property and rights.
- I will lend a helping hand when I see someone in distress.
- I will make myself and my ATV available to assist with search and rescue.
- I will not interfere with or harass hikers, skiers, snow-shoers, ice fishermen or other sportspeople. I will respect their rights to enjoy our recreation facilities.
- I will know and obey all federal, state and local rules regulating the operation of ATVs.
- I will not harass wildlife. I will avoid areas posted for the protection or feeding of wildlife.

- I will not ride off the trails or marked roads open to ATVs. I will avoid cross-country travel unless specifically authorized.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. 2005. Wisconsin All-Terrain Vehicle Laws. Madison Wisconsin.

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/es/enforcement/safety/ATVed.htm>

Wyoming State Parks and Cultural Resources

Trail Etiquette

- General Rules For All Users
 - Stay on existing trails. Don't short-cut switchbacks.
 - Avoid very wet and muddy conditions.
 - Do not spook horses.
 - Move to lower side of trail if possible.
 - Know the local trail rules, regulations and special concerns of the area.
 - Obey gate closures and signs.
 - Pass others with care.
 - Let others know you are about to pass.
 - Respect the rights of others, regardless of their mode, speed or skill level.
 - Do not block the trail.
 - Keep the trail clean.
 - Slower traffic has right-of-way.
 - Keep right, except when passing.
 - Get owners' permission on private land.
 - Do not disturb the wildlife.
- Rules for Multi-use Trails
 - Ride, skate, walk on the right.
 - Ride, skate or walk with the flow of traffic, as far to the right side of the trail as practical.
 - Ride, skate or walk single file.
 - Don't block the trail.
 - Groups should be in single file when other trail users are present and should never use more than one-half of the trail to allow for the flow of traffic.
 - Control your speed! Obey speed regulations. Slow approaching or overtaking other trail users.
 - Who yields the trail? Before passing another trail user, be courteous and make your approach known well in advance. A friendly greeting, "Hello, passing on your left," or ringing a bell is considerate and works well.

- All trail users (bicyclists, skaters, walkers or others) yield to equestrians.
 - Bicyclists and skaters yield to walkers.
 - Bicyclists yield to skaters
 - Downhill users yield to uphill users
 - Faster users yield to slower users
 - Never spook animals
 - Leave no trace
 - Plan ahead.
 - Stay on existing trails and don't create any new ones.
 - Be sure to pack out at least as much as you can pack in.
 - Always wear a helmet, drink plenty of water, and carry gear for changing weather conditions.
- Equestrians
 - Let other users know when it's safe to pass your horse.
 - Leave gates as you find them.
 - Do not ride on muddy trail.
 - Slow to a walk when approaching others.
- Motorized Vehicles
 - Travel and recreate with minimum impact.
 - Travel only where motorized vehicles are permitted.
 - Stay out of wilderness areas.
 - Respect the environment and the rights of others.
 - Educate yourself, plan and prepare before you go.
 - Allow for future use of the outdoors, leave it better than you found it.
 - Carry out our trash.
 - Always properly maintain your muffler to keep noise at a minimum.
 - Trails can be wet and muddy both early and late in the season. Save wet trails for dryer times.
- Bicyclists
 - Ride slowly single file when passing or when being passed.
 - Yield right-of-way to all other users.
 - Maintain traction; skidding causes damage to the trail.
 - Do not ride in the mud or on trails where ruts are created by your tires.
 - Stay out of designated wilderness.
 - Control your bike.
 - Be ready to stop.
 - Do not ride around waterbars.
 - Downhill riders yield to uphill riders.
- Rules of the Road for Bicyclists
 - Bicyclists have all the rights and duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle and can be penalized for violating traffic laws.
 - Ride on the right.
 - Never ride against traffic.
 - Ride in the right lane, except when passing another vehicle, preparing for a left turn or avoiding hazards.

- Always ride with the flow of traffic.
- Ride on the paved shoulder whenever a paved shoulder suitable for bicycle riding is present.
- Ride single file. You may ride two abreast only when no motor vehicle traffic is approaching within 300 feet (front or rear) or when all cyclists are on the shoulder. On curving canyon roads, play it safe and ride single file.
- Obey traffic laws, signs and signals.
- Use hand signals to indicate left or right turns, slowing or stopping.
- Use a headlight, tail light and reflectors at night.
- Make eye contact with drivers.
- Never assume motorists see you or that you have the right-of-way.
- Expect the unexpected; your first responsibility is to avoid a crash.
- Rules of the Road for Motor Vehicles
 - Scanning for pedestrians and bicyclists should be a normal part of your driving routine as is scanning for cars and trucks.
 - Always yield to pedestrians.
 - When passing a bicyclist: Allow at least three feet between your vehicle and the bicycle.
 - Be patient and wait until it is safe to pass, as you would any other slow moving vehicle. If you must toot your horn in advance of passing, please do it from a friendly distance (several hundred feet), not from directly behind the cyclist.
 - When you are turning right and a bicyclist is proceeding straight through an intersection, do NOT speed ahead of the cyclist and cut them off as you are turning. The cyclist may not be able to avoid crashing into the passenger side of your vehicle.

Source: <http://wyotrails.state.wy.us/trails/etique.htm> (accessed April 21, 2006)