Trail Etiquette

*Motto and logo courtesy of Clemson University, South Carolina

Be an educated participant.

With the high demand for multiple trail use, be responsible for the passing of good will towards all that may come in contact with a horse and rider. On well used multiple trails, consider both you and your horse's experience and ability. Green trail horses and inexperienced riders do not belong on trails where other user's safety may be at risk. It takes only one bad experience for people to concern themselves with encountering horses on the trails.

- 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.