

Trails Etiquette



Rules & Policy

- Trail hours are dawn to dusk, unless posted otherwise
- Show courtesy to other users at all times
- Pets must be on leashes; limit leash length for the safety of others
- Remove pet feces from trail
- No fires or overnight camping unless specifically noted
- Alcohol, fireworks, and discharge of firearms are prohibited
- No hunting
- Leave no trace; pack out all waste
- With the exception of emergency and service vehicles and mobility devices, motor vehicles are prohibited
- Read trailhead guidelines; there may be specific rules for the trail you're on

When Bikers or Hikers Encounter a Horse on the Trail

- Call 'hello' to each other when you are aware the other is there; speak in a friendly, relaxed tone
- Hikers and bicyclists must yield to horses
- Hikers and bicyclists should move to the low side of the trail, as the horse will move away from perceived danger
- The horseman will indicate if you should stop and wait, or if it's okay to proceed
- The horseman will keep talking while they're passing to help the horse stay relaxed
- If passing the horse from behind, do not ride up on the horse quickly; ask the horseman if it's okay to pass and slow down if given the okay

Shared Trail Guidelines

For All Users

- Use the trail in single file in congested conditions, reduced visibility, and other hazardous conditions
- Stay to the right and allow faster trail users to pass safely
- Always pass on the left
- Keep the volume down on audio devices to ensure you're able to hear others approaching
- Stop at all stop signs
- Give an audible signal at least two seconds prior to passing
- Move off the trail when you need to stop
- Yield the right of way to those passing you from behind or traveling uphill

For Bicyclists and Other Wheeled Users

- Show courtesy to other users at all times
- Bicyclists should yield to pedestrians
- Honor a speed limit of 15 mph
- Do not travel faster than is reasonable and prudent under the existing conditions
- Use helmets for safety
- Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks

For Pedestrians

- If possible, walk alongside the paved portion of the trail to enable bikers to use the smooth surface
- Stay to the right and allow faster trail users (runners and bicyclists) to pass safely
- Always pass on the left
- Keep the volume down on audio devices to ensure you're able to hear others approaching

10 Essentials to Bring on the Trail

When setting out on wilderness and backcountry trails, it is crucial for your own safety that you carry the 10 essentials. These include:

1. Map and compass
2. Sun protection
3. Extra clothing, such as a wind jacket
4. Head lamp or flashlight
5. First aid supplies
6. Matches or fire starter
7. Pocket knife
8. Extra food
9. Extra water
10. Emergency shelter, such as a space blanket



Other Things to Keep in Mind When Hitting the Trails

Recreating on the trails in Snohomish County can be enjoyable, invigorating, and quite rewarding. However, it's important to be well-prepared before setting out. Here are some tips to keep in mind:

- Know the weather conditions for your route, and keep in mind that weather can change quickly.
- Know your altitude; higher altitudes can make breathing difficult and can impact your body's performance.
- Wear proper footwear. For groomed trails, walking or running shoes should be sufficient, but good hiking boots are a must on wilderness trails and uneven terrain.
- Consider your fitness level before setting out. Be sure that you're capable of completing the hike. Give yourself sufficient time to complete and enjoy your hike.

