

NH Recreational Trail Etiquette

General User Guidelines

Why is trail etiquette needed?

New Hampshire is one of the best places in the country to recreate. With a variety of ways to recreate, New Hampshire promotes sharing the trail with other users so that everyone can equally enjoy their experience. Trail etiquette is a tool to help inform other users of the courteous way to interact on recreational trails. This is not a complete list, nor are these rules or laws. When in doubt, smile and use common sense.

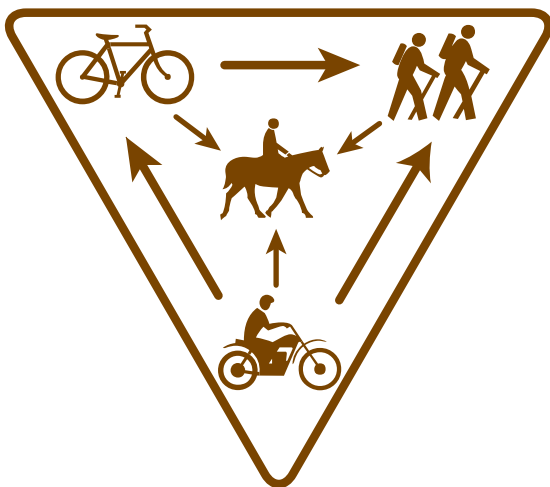
General guidelines for all users

- Be courteous of all other users regardless of their sport, speed or skill level.
- Keep pets under control.
- Enjoy and respect wildlife; do not disturb.
- Stay to the right and pass on the left when safe and appropriate.
- Train yourself and your animals.
- Be polite and a good steward of your recreational use; educate others.
- Travel at a safe and reasonable speed.
- Faster users yield the right of way to slower users.
- All users yield the right of way to horses and mushers.
- Users should be single file when in groups and approaching other users.
- Stay on trail, avoid trail widening when trail is wet/muddy and stay off trails during mud season.
- When parking, do not block gates, and park only in designated areas.

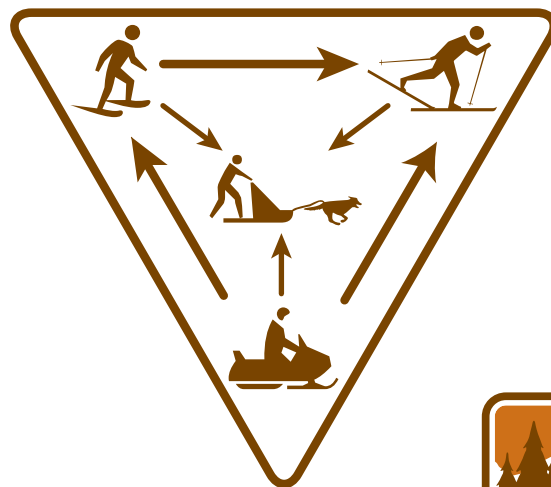
General guidelines for all users encountering equestrians and mushers

- When passing a horse or musher from behind, call out that you want to pass, and proceed slowly and safely.
- Speak in a calm tone to alert horse and rider/musher of your presence.
- Ask the rider and musher to advise you on passing and always proceed slowly around horses and dogs.
- Motorized vehicles should stop and wait for rider and musher to advise what to do next.

YIELD TO (HORSES)



YIELD TO (MUSHERS)



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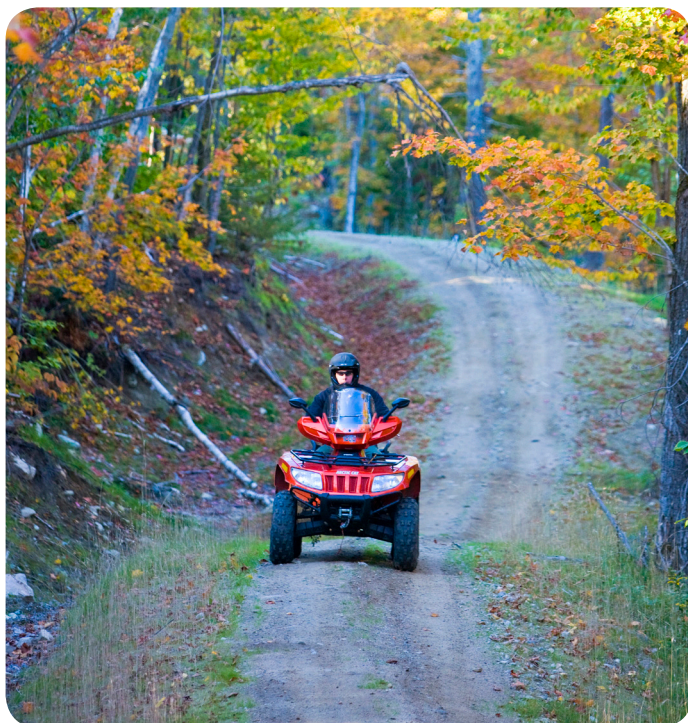
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User Specific Guidelines (motorized)



OHRV'ers

- Yield to non-motorized users.
- Know the local laws, rules and stay on designated trails.
- Do not operate vehicle in a careless way that may endanger people or property.
- When approaching an oncoming equestrian or musher, pull off to the right, stop your vehicle and let the horse or musher pass.
- When passing a horseback rider or musher, alert the rider to your presence by calmly calling out you wish to pass. The horseback rider or musher should pull the horse or dogs over. If the rider has the horse under control, proceed on. If not, allow the rider to move the horse or dogs to a safe spot on the trail and then proceed.
- Be aware of other users nearby and be careful not to kick up dust and debris.
- Keep noise levels to a minimum where practicable; no throttle revving.
- Avoid riding after heavy rains.
- Park your ATV and walk to sensitive, historic, scenic, and cultural areas.



4x4'ers

- Yield to all users.
- Know the local laws, rules and stay on designated trails.
- When approaching an oncoming equestrian or musher, pull off to the right, stop your vehicle and let the horse or musher pass.
- When passing a horseback rider or musher, alert the rider to your presence by calmly calling out you wish to pass. The horseback rider or musher should pull the horse or dogs over. If the rider has the horse under control, proceed on. If not, allow the rider to move the horse or dogs to a safe spot on the trail and then proceed.
- Keep speed and wheel spin to a minimum.
- Keep noise levels to a minimum where practicable.
- Be aware of other users nearby and be careful not to kick up dust and debris.
- Keep headlights on for visibility.



Snowmobilers

- Yield to non-motorized users.
- Keep noise levels to a minimum where practicable, especially around residential areas.
- When approaching an oncoming equestrian or musher, pull off to the right, stop your vehicle and let the horse or musher pass.
- When passing a horseback rider or musher, alert the rider to your presence by calmly calling out you wish to pass. The horseback rider or musher should pull the horse or dogs over. If the rider has the horse under control, proceed on. If not, allow the rider to move the horse or dogs to a safe spot on the trail and then proceed.
- Park your snowmobile and walk to sensitive, historic, scenic, and cultural areas.

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