Trail Partners is a collaboration of Marin County Bicycle Coalition, Marin Horse Council, and Marin Conservation League.

Our Common Goals are Trail Safety and Resource Protection.

Contact Us
If you have questions, comments, or would like to support our efforts with a donation:
www.safetrailsmarin.org
info@safetrailsmarin.org

YOU ARE A VISITOR IN WILDLIFE’S HOME.

Enjoy your experience!
Tune in to nature and your surroundings. Be aware of the wildlife that surrounds you.

Dogs and wildlife don’t mix! Have fun with your dog but always be in control.

Appreciate the beauty!
Stay on designated trails to avoid damaging rare plants and sensitive habitats in grasslands, wetlands, streams, and woodlands.

“Leave no trace!” Pack out your trash and dog waste.

Protect park resources!
Close any gates you open after you pass through.

Be alert for, and avoid, small creatures on the trail.

Keep off wet roads and trails. Deep tracks or prints mean it’s too wet and damages the trail. Today’s erosion is tomorrow’s stream pollution.

Let’s leave a legacy of wild lands and healthy ecosystems for future generations to also enjoy, appreciate and protect!

Slow and Say Hello is a slogan to promote safe encounters between trail users and protect the environment. The key concept is to interact with others while passing:

to establish what would be safe at that moment and at that place on the trail.

Promoting Safe Trails in Marin.

Marin’s Public Lands have rules to protect the environment and the people.

BE SAFE–BE LEGAL

Supported by:
WALKERS+HIKERS+JOGGERS

SHARING THE TRAIL
Stay alert. Be on the lookout for faster trail users – bikers, runners, and equestrians.
Allow room for others to pass. If necessary, walk in single file and don’t block the trail.
Yield to horses. All trail users are expected to yield to equestrians.
Train your dog to be accustomed to trail walking and other trail users.
Control your dog and obey 6-foot leash law where required.

SAFE COMMUNICATION
Don’t tune out. Wear only one ear bud so you can hear others coming.
Avoid startling other trail users. If you are a runner, make your presence known, particularly when approaching from behind.
Say “hello” to approaching bikers. Let them know when and how it’s safe for them to pass.
Ask for an equestrian’s direction to pass. Stop, stay visible, and ask the rider if it is okay to pass. Your voice says you’re a human, not a predator.

EQUESTRIANS

SHARING THE TRAIL
Yield when it’s safer to do so. All other trail users are expected to yield to equestrians, but sometimes it’s safer to yield to others.
Pass Slowly. Horses can be intimidating to others.
Train your horse to be accustomed to trail riding and other trail users.
Stay calm. It helps your horse remain calm.

SAFE COMMUNICATION
Pay attention to your horse. He will hear and sense others before you do. Call out, “I’m on a horse; please say ‘hello.’”
Direct others how to pass. Others may be unfamiliar with horses and horse safety, so take the lead to direct a safe passing.
Help others to act safely. Ask them to move to the downhill side of the trail so you can pass; horses perceive upslope creatures to be predators.
Look ahead, look behind. Be alert to other trail users behind as well as ahead so you can help others act safely around your horse.

MOUNTAIN BIKERS

SHARING THE TRAIL
Yield to all other trail users. If you’re riding downhill, you should also yield to uphill cyclists.
Obey speed rules. Obey the 15 mph speed limit, and maintain control of your bike; slow to 5 mph when approaching other users and blind turns.
Expect to encounter others moving slowly. Always reduce your speed and stop if necessary for safe passing.
Move to the side of the trail when passing on narrow trails. Stop, if necessary before passing.

SAFE COMMUNICATION
Don’t tune out. Wear only one ear bud so you can hear others coming.
Avoid startling other trail users. Make your presence known, particularly when approaching from behind. Bells help at a distance, but your voice is better.
Ask for an equestrian’s direction to pass. When you approach an equestrian, stop and say “hello”, stay visible, and ask the rider if it’s okay to pass. Your voice tells a horse you are human, not a predator.