NEW YORK STATE HORSE COUNCIL MULTIPLE-USE TRAIL POLICY

The New York State Horse Council (NYSHC) recognizes that trails on public land should be available to all responsible users regardless of their mode of travel. Seasonal sharing of our State's trail systems between multiple user groups, both motorized and non-motorized, as long as the activities are safely compatible, makes the most effective use of our natural resources and provides outdoor experiences to the widest possible segment of the population.

SAFETY: Our primary concern is for the safety of all users on shared trails. Shared trails must be wide enough or have frequent "pull-offs" to allow safe passing and two-way use, and should have sufficient sight lines to avoid collision. Safety information and educational material, including signs indicating permitted uses, help ensure the safety of all trail users.

EDUCATION: The NYSHC is dedicated to educating its members as well as other trail user groups with regard to sharing trails. Trail courtesy combined with knowledge of other users' mode of travel ensure pleasant encounters.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE: Trail user groups, such as this Council should actively assist land managers in planning and maintaining trails and trail systems. The NYSHC advocates that organizations building, monitoring and maintaining the trails use appropriate standards to protect the resource from likely damage by their users as well as by nature, and provide users with a safe experience.

Communication, education, and cooperation among the user groups, landowners and land managers enhances the opportunities for outdoor recreation. NYSHC is willing to work with all trail user groups.

For further information contact:
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