

Special Tips for Hikers, Runners & Dog Walkers

- Stay to the right of the trail and pass on the left.
- Safe multi-use requires cooperation.
- Always yield to equestrians.
- Announce yourself when overtaking other trail users.
- When hiking or jogging with a dog, obey posted leash regulations. Keep a short leash on your dog when passing or being passed by other trail users.
- Remember - Other trail users may be frightened by dogs and unsure of how to pass safely.
- Please clean up after your dog. It is common courtesy and it's the law.

Special Tips for Cyclists



- Be prepared. Wear a helmet at all times.
- Approach and pass other trail users with care. **You are obligated to yield to all other trail users.**
- Slow down when biking through villages or past park buildings.
- Reduce your speed to pass safely.
- When approaching from behind, announce yourself and the number of cyclists in your group so you do not startle other trail users.
- Use appropriate hand signals for turning and stopping.
- Approach blind curves with caution and ring a bell or announce yourself.
- Be careful when approaching horses and consider walking your bike to avoid agitating the horse. Wait for the rider to tell you it is okay to pass.

Special Tips for Equestrians



- Make sure your horse has the temperament and training for riding on a congested public trail. This is not the place to train a horse.
- Use common sense in crowded areas and walk or trot to keep everyone safe.
- Pass on the left only and move to the right to allow faster trail users to pass.
- Announce your intentions to pass other trail users, and reduce your speed to pass safely.
- Remove your horse from the trail if you experience behavior problems.
- As a courtesy to others in your group, use appropriate hand signals for turning, slowing etc. and give verbal warnings for dangers on the trail (e.g. holes, low branches.)

For more information about the Delaware Canal, contact the State Park Headquarters located at 11 Lodi Hill Rd., Upper Black Eddy, PA 18972

Phone: 610-982-5560

Email: delawarecanalsp@pa.gov

www.dcnr.pa.gov

OR

contact the Friends of the Delaware Canal located at 145 S. Main St. New Hope, PA 18938

Phone: 215-862-2021

Email: friends@fodc.org

www.fodc.org

Sharing the Towpath Trail

Trail Etiquette and Safety Guidelines for the Delaware Canal Towpath



A publication of the



FRIENDS OF THE DELAWARE CANAL

The Canal towpath is a multi-use trail

The scenic beauty and diverse landscape of the 58.9-mile-long Delaware Canal State Park attracts thousands of visitors every year. Those who use its towpath trail do so in many ways - walking, hiking, jogging, bicycling, horseback riding.



Users Guide to the Delaware Canal Towpath

BE COURTEOUS

All trail users including bicyclists, walkers, joggers, people with disabilities and equestrians should be respectful of other users regardless of their speed or level of skill.

GO SLOW

There's so much to see along the Delaware Canal. Don't miss it by speeding by too quickly. Enjoy the scenery and wildlife.

SHARE THE TRAIL

Cyclists should yield to all other trail users. Hikers and joggers should yield to equestrians. Remember, pass on the left.

BE INFORMED

Please check trail signs and use maps. Get to know your State Park staff.

SIGNAL WHEN PASSING

Let your fellow trail users know you are coming and give a clear warning signal before passing on a bike. A friendly greeting or bell is considerate and works well. Indicate "On your left" when passing on the left.

LOW BRIDGES AND BLIND SPOTS
Be mindful of low bridge clearances and limited lines of sight and be prepared to walk a bicycle under these structures when necessary.

DON'T BLOCK THE TRAIL

When in a group, including your pets, use no more than half of the trail so as not to block the flow of other users.

STAY ON THE TRAIL

For nearly all of its length, the Delaware Canal State Park property is only 60 feet wide. Please do not wander onto adjoining private properties. Respect the rights and privacy of the owners.

KEEP THE CANAL CLEAN

The Park's policy is "Carry in-Carry out." Pick-up along the way, if you choose.

