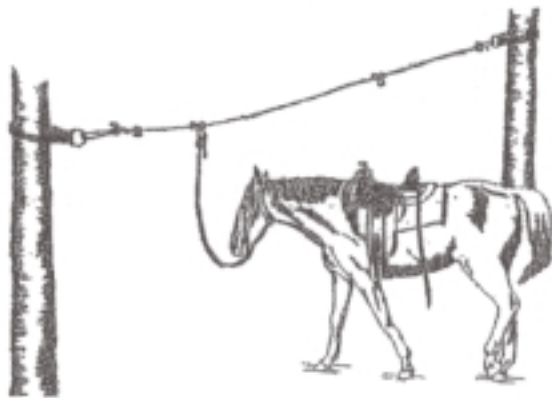




Cross Tie



High Line



Hobbles

We hope you enjoy your trail riding experience. If you have any questions regarding trail opportunities, special rules and regulations, or any other Forest information please contact us.

For More Information:

Shawnee National Forest Website:  
[www.fs.fed.us/r9/shawnee](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/shawnee)

Shawnee National Forest Supervisor's Office  
Harrisburg, IL 62946  
Voice: (800) 699-6637  
TTY: (618) 253-1071

Vienna-Elizabethtown Ranger District  
(618) 658-2111

Jonesboro-Murphysboro Ranger District  
(618) 833-8576

This brochure was written in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service, Shawnee National Forest and the following participants to develop Education and Interpretation information for the public: The Shawnee Trail Conservancy, Horseman's Council of Illinois, Illinois Trail Riders Association, Southern Illinois Ranch and Campground Owners Association, Shawnee Riders, SIU Department of Forestry, River-to-River Trail Society, and Jackson County Hiking Club.

The USDA Forest Service is a multicultural organization and committed to the goal of ensuring equal opportunity for all in employment and program delivery.

# Trail Riding Stewardship



Welcome to a rich riding experience on the Shawnee National Forest! With new horseback riders discovering the Forest every year it becomes the responsibility of all riders to protect and preserve the natural resources within. By being good land stewards with strong ethics we can help ensure that future generations will have the same experience that draws riders here today.

**Shawnee**  
National  Forest

# Please Observe the Following to Minimize Stock Impacts:



## Respect And Courtesy

All trail users should demonstrate respect and courtesy to others.

## Avoid Wet or Muddy Trails

Prevent resource damage and ride when soils are dry.

## Please Stay On The Trail

Prevent trail braiding, ride through muddy areas and over water bars, logs and small rocks. Avoid the temptation to shortcut trails or switchbacks.



## Protect Trees

Limit soil compaction and protect tree bark by being prepared to cross tie, put up a highline or

use existing highlines if you plan on stopping along the trail for any length of time. Also, consider hobbling if your animal is prone to pawing while standing.

## Protect Sensitive Vegetation

Avoid riding along the drip line of bluffs where fragile plants grow.

## Respect Natural Area Boundaries

Natural Areas protect habitats for a diversity of plants and animals, and the integrity of unique geologic features. Horseback riding is prohibited in most Natural Areas. Please access these areas by foot travel only.



## Be Prepared

When heading into the Forest take a compass and a map or go with someone who is familiar with trail locations. Contact the Shawnee National Forest Headquarters for maps and other information such as rules and regulations.



## Pack In/ Pack Out

Remember to remove your trash and carry out any litter you see.

## Do Not Deface Rocks, Trees, Cave Walls Or Signs

## Respect Private Property

The Shawnee National Forest is a fragmented forest. Private and public land boundaries may be encountered and unsigned. Take care to know your course and destination. Respect ownership where trails enter private land.



## Minimize Impacts of Fire

Extinguish all cigarettes and campfires properly. Avoid building fires under shelter bluffs.

## TRAIL MARKERS



Hiker/Equestrian Trail (white diamond)



Hiker Only Trail (blue diamond)



River to River Trail (white diamond with blue "i")



River to River Spur Trail (white diamond with orange dot)



Yellow oak leaves painted on trees and carsonite posts indicate Natural Area Boundaries.

## Respect Wilderness Integrity

A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is recognized as an area where the earth and it's community of life are untrammelled by man; where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. Many outdoor recreation activities can be enjoyed in the wilderness. Motorized and mechanized uses are not allowed.