



Sharing Our Trails and Paths

Portola Valley is fortunate to have more than 36 miles of unpaved trails and paved paths that are enjoyed daily by our residents as well as by visitors. Several uses are permitted on some trails and paths while other trails restrict usage to pedestrians and equestrians and, in one case, to pedestrians only. Every trail has a post with a sign indicating permitted usage; the Town website (www.portolavalley.net) also has a trails map which designates permitted uses.

For the safety of all users as well as to preserve our open spaces please follow the trail etiquette guidelines listed below.

- **Please be courteous to others using the trails and paths.** Everyone should yield to equestrians and bicycles should also yield to pedestrians. Allow other users to pass and if you are in a group don't block the trail or path. Do not smoke on any of our trails or paths.
- **Be alert.** Horses and slower moving pedestrians may be startled by runners or faster moving trail users, especially if they are approaching from behind. Make your presence known well in advance of meeting/passing other users.
- **Stay on designated trails and paths.** Many trails, especially the wilderness trails, are on easements through private properties. Please respect private property and minimize damage by remaining on marked trails. Do not cut corners on hillside trails.
- **Observe speed limits.** Bicycles must remain below 15 miles per hour on all paths and trails where they are authorized. This is especially important on the heavily used Dwight Crowder path where there are many pedestrians, toddlers, dogs and strollers.



Pedestrians are welcome on all trails and paths. Runners should slow down, allow oncoming hikers and equestrians to pass and, if approaching from the rear, should alert others to their presence. All pedestrians should yield to equestrians.



Equestrians

Equestrians are permitted on all trails except Toyon Trail on Coal Mine Ridge. During the rainy season some wilderness trails are closed to horses in order to prevent damage to the trail; please respect trail closures. Trail closures are posted on the Town website. Riders are responsible for maintaining control over their horse at all times.



Bicycles are permitted on all paved paths as well as on certain unpaved trails near schools. Bicycle speed limit is 15 mph and 5 mph when passing other users. Bicyclists should always yield to all other users and if approaching from behind should make their presence known well in advance. Bicycles are not permitted on any wilderness trails.



Dogs on leash are permitted on all trails and paths with the exception of some trails on Coal Mine Ridge (see Town Trails map and trail usage signs for restricted trails). Dogs need to be leashed for safety purposes and also to comply with the San Mateo County leash law. Because some dogs are unpredictable you should step to the side of the trail with your dog to allow other users to pass. Do not allow your dog to be off-leash on any trail or path. Please pick up and remove dog waste.