



In the spring of 2025, PA Parks & Forests Foundation conducted an online survey of “Your Favorite Trail to ...”. Here are some resulting ideas for horseback riding.

All State Parks/Forests Mentioned

- French Creek State Park
- Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center
- Michaux State Forest
- Moraine State Park
- Susquehannock State Forest
- Allegheny National Forest
- Cook Forest State Park
- Loyalsock State Forest
- Pymatuning State Park
- Swatara State Park
- Tyler State Park



Photo Credit: Jill Givler, Marsh Creek State Park

Horseback Riding Trail Etiquette

- Practice Leave No Trace! Remove animal waste from park or forest trail and trail head
- Avoid muddy and wet areas when possible but do not go off trail
- Ride at the level of the least experienced rider in your group
- Do not let horses graze on trees or brush
- Do not crowd the horse in front of you and be sure to keep at least a horse length distance between riders
- Follow all proper signage and postings

Benefits of Horseback Riding

1. Physical: riding can improve core strength, balance, and coordination all while still burning calories
2. Mental: Reduces stress and anxiety levels, while building confidence at the same time
3. Emotional: bonding with the horse can promote a sense of belonging, empathy, and mindfulness
4. Social: riding with other can encourage teamwork, problem solving skills, and communication

Moraine State Park

County: Butler County

- Offers 20 miles of designated horseback riding trails
- Riding is generally open from late April through mid-November
- Trails are marked with red blazes
- Equestrian trails are located in the southwest and east sides of the park
- Combination of loops with out and back spurs
- Multiple trailheads: Porter Cove, Swamp Run Road, North Country Club Road

Shared Use Trails

What Are They?

Shared use trails, also known as multi-use paths, are trails that are specifically designed for non-motorized users. They are separated physically from motorized traffic and designed for use by pedestrians, cyclists, equestrians, and other non-motorized users.

SHARE THE TRAIL



RESPECT:

OTHER VISITORS - Slow Down & Communicate When Passing.
THE LAND AND WILDLIFE - Leave NO Trace.
TRAIL RULES - Be Responsible.

French Creek State Park

Counties: Located in both Berks and Chester counties

Horseshoe Trail

- Trail runs for 140 miles from Valley Forge National Historic Site to the Appalachian Trail near Harrisburg
- 7 miles of this trail are located within French Creek State Park

Mill Creek Trail

- Spans a total of 6 miles and winds around Hopewell Lake
- Intermediate yet enjoyable trail for all riders

Boone Trail

- Slightly more advanced ride
- Trails stretches 7.5 miles through diverse terrain



Photo Credit: Jill Givler, Marsh Creek State Park

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