

Aspen Ranger District  
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United States Department of Agriculture



## ***HORSEBACK RIDING***

Most hiking trails on the Aspen Ranger District are suitable for horse use. Consult the hiking and/or 4WD trail information sheets concerning specific trails and horse use on them.

Horses are NOT allowed in any campground!

For horse trips heading out of Maroon Valley, the horse unloading stations are East Maroon Portal and West Portal. From East Maroon Portal you can go directly up the East Maroon drainage or up Maroon Creek trail past Maroon Lake and into the Wilderness.

Some trails are not suitable for horse use such as Conundrum Trail and Hunter Creek Trail, so please see specific trail descriptions.

## **REGULATIONS**

The following acts are prohibited:

1. Bringing or having pack or saddle animals within 200 feet from the shoreline of lakes or streams, except for the purpose of watering or through travel on a designated trail. 261.53 (E)
2. Having more than ten pack or saddle stock in one party or group in the Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness area. 261.58 (F)

## **WILDERNESS ETHICS FOR HORSE USE**

1. Please use hobbles, rotating pickets, and hitch lines as opposed to tying horses to trees
2. Trails are maintained to minimize erosion and protect the fragile Wilderness environment- DON'T SHORTCUT!
3. Pitch camp in a wooded area on hard, unvegetated ground away from lakes and streams to reduce impact- camp away from the trail to respect the privacy of others
4. Gas stoves are recommended in the high country, especially above 10,000 feet where wood is being burned faster than it is produced
5. Pack your trash out with you!

Remember that you are only a visitor in the Wilderness- govern your actions accordingly and leave the Wilderness as you found it.