**MINIMUM IMPACT TRAIL USE**

*TIPS FOR ALL TRAIL USERS*

Take only photos and leave no trace

This brochure has been prepared by the Trails Alliance of SA and is printed on recycled paper
PLAN THE TRIP

- Plan your trip in advance. Some trails have special access conditions or restrictions.
- Only use trails sign posted for your activity. If unsure, check with local land managers what you can do on the trail.
- Respect the rights of all landowners. Do not enter private land without permission.

RESPECT CULTURAL HERITAGE

- Many places and items have spiritual or cultural significance for Indigenous communities. Treat such places with consideration and respect.

PROTECT NATIVE VEGETATION & FARM CROPS

- Stay on the trail. Walking or riding on track edges or cutting corners on steep ‘zigzag’ tracks increases erosion.
- Staying on the trail protects native vegetation.
- Reduce the spread of weeds and disease by staying on trails.
- Avoid using trails in wet conditions.
- Clean all equipment of soil and vegetation before and after trail use.
- In Phytophthora prone areas observe all regulatory signs. Sterilise and remove all soil from shoes, wheels and hooves before entering and leaving the area.

PROTECT NATIVE ANIMALS & FARM ANIMALS

- Avoid trampling small creatures by staying on the trail.
- Avoid disturbing wildlife and farm animals. Where necessary, pass quietly. Avoid feeding or touching the animal(s).
- Pets are not permitted in some bushland areas and when permitted must be kept on a lead at all times.
- Avoid damage to farm fencing - only use gates and stiles.

LEAVE NOTHING BEHIND

- Leave the environment as you find it. Take all rubbish home with you or bin it.
- Do not burn or bury rubbish.

KEEP WATERCOURSES POLLUTION FREE

- Use toilets where available. If no toilets are available, bury faecal wastes at least 100 metres from a water supply.
- Avoid polluting watercourses with soaps, detergents, foodstuffs and wrappings.

BE FIRE SAFE!

- The fire danger season in South Australia normally extends from 1st November to 30th April. During this time Total Fire Bans may be declared in some districts or across the State.
- The Country Fire Service (CFS) declares and broadcasts Total Fire Bans on television and radio. Listen to the radio or call the CFS hotline (Ph: 1300 362 361) to find out if a ban is in place.
- Many parks are closed on fire ban days. Some have year-round bans on wood-fires, although gas or liquid fuel stoves may be used. Contact the land manager for further information on fire restrictions.

TIPS FOR HORSE-RIDERS

The Horse SA website provides a horse-riders Code of Practice and general safety information for trail users. Learn how to tie-up, feed and water your horse in an environmentally friendly manner before embarking on a trip.

TIPS FOR BIKE RIDERS

The Bicycle SA website provides a Mountain Bike Code of Practice and general safety information for potential trail users. Plan your ride and follow the code. Ride within your own ability and show courtesy to other trail users. Be safe to yourself and others by controlling your bike. Reduce the need for braking and avoid skidding, which damages the trail.

TIPS FOR BUSHWALKERS

When choosing a trail it’s important to consider your fitness level and experience. Set a realistic timeframe to complete the trail, check weather reports and ensure you have ample food and water. For more information on trail safety, download the brochures ‘Safety on the Trail’ and ‘A Guide to Better Bushwalking’ available on the Trails SA website.

SEE THE TRAILS SA WEBSITE FOR A LIST OF TRAILS IN YOUR LOCAL AREA.