



Where is Donald Park?

The park is located 15 miles Southwest of Madison, between Mount Vernon and Mount Horeb.

Do I need a permit to use the equestrian trails?

Yes. The 2007 rates are \$5 for a daily permit and \$16 for an annual permit. This permit is also good for the equestrian trails in McCarthy Park, Walking Iron and Token Creek. Annual permits can be purchased by calling Jean at 231-3962. The funds of all permits purchased through the Friends group will be used directly on the maintained and development of trails within Donald Park.

Each person who rides needs a permit. Permit holders must be at least 16 years or older.

How many miles of trails are there?

There are 3.5 miles of equestrian designated trails inside of Donald Park and 12.5 miles on the Devils Chimney Trail southeast of Donald Park on private lands. The total riding experience is about 16 miles with a new 6.5 mile loop being developed with a fall of 2007 opening date. We are currently working on this trail and can use volunteers. If you can help call Roger at 832-4460 or email him at rjparr@msn.com.

Where can I ride?

All of the trails are marked with signs for equestrian trails. Please stay on the trails

What are the trails like?

The trails are 12 feet wide, Class A, two way trails. The equestrian trails are multi-use inside the park. Hikers also use the trails during the riding season.

Is there a place to park?

Yes, there equestrian access is on Hwy G just south of Mt. Vernon. There is a large parking area there for horse trailers. Don't get confused with Pop's Knoll Picnic Area on Hwy 92, it is a no horse area and is for passenger vehicles only.

When do the trails open?

Trails open on May 1st if trail and weather conditions permit. Trails may be closed at anytime if usage will damage the trails.

How do I know if the trails are open?

If ground conditions are such that you could ride your horse on your lawn without causing damage, the trails will probably also be open, but call the Dane County Parks Info Line, 608-242-4576 for opening and closing information to be sure.

Are horse drawn vehicles allowed?

Yes, although one trail inside the park and one area outside the park are a little steep. You may want to proceed with caution.

Is there a place to water my horse?

Eventually there will be a watering place inside of the park. There is a water crossing about halfway along the Devil's Chimney trail on a 3/4 mile loop off of the main trail.

How can I help?

There are two ways you can help. You can volunteer to help with trail reconstruction and/or make a tax deductible contribution. New trail construction has begun on the North Trail. Contact Roger at 832-4460 or email him at rjparr@msn.com