

Rules of the Trail

Trails are usually designed with a number of different users in mind and cater to a wide range of age groups. To ensure everyone's safety and enjoyment when on a trail in farm or ranch areas, please respect the following:

- Always keep to the trail and avoid going onto private farmlands.
- Leave gates and livestock alone.
- Keep dogs under control at all times.
- Help prevent fire, vandalism and other damage.
- Keep away from farm equipment.
- Leave no litter and avoid the spread of weeds.
- Be prepared for limited washroom facilities along the trail.
- Respect farm families and their privacy.

If you would like to learn more about using trails in agricultural areas see:

A Guide to Using and Developing Trails in Farm and Ranch Areas

The guide outlines the reasons why taking special care to follow trail rules in an agricultural area is so important. It discusses how to avoid potential conflicts in farm and ranch areas. For those developing trails it considers practical solutions and the importance of involving the farm community in the planning of trails.

The Guide can be found on the Ministry's web site at:

<http://www.al.gov.bc.ca/resmgmt/sf/trails/index.htm>

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Trails through Agriculture Areas



A Walk in the Country

British Columbians and visitors to the province love the outdoors. One of the most popular and quickly growing outdoor activities is the use of recreational trails.

Each year our network of trails in BC is growing. Cycling on an abandoned rail bed, walking a sea wall, horseback riding on a dike trail or walking your dog along a quiet forest path can be enjoyed by young and old. And in most cases the admittance fee is a good sturdy pair of shoes or a bike.

Inspired by the gradual development of the Trans Canada Trail system, our network of trails is only going to expand in the future.

Trails are as varied as they are numerous in BC. Many of the most popular trails, however, are found running along farmland, through an orchard or across interior rangeland.

A Place to Live and...

Farms and ranches in BC are special places. They produce about half of all our food needs. BC farms ensure a supply of fresh, nutritious food that is important to maintaining the health of British Columbians.

Agricultural businesses make significant contributions to local economies beyond just the farm gate. Many BC products—such as apples, wines and hot-house tomatoes—find their way to markets around the world.

But our farms and ranches are also the homes of farm families, their place of work and place of agri-business.

a Place to Work

Farms and ranches use heavy machinery. Many farms have sensitive livestock. Others grow crops that must not be tampered with to ensure a healthy product gets to market.

For these reasons, when you are enjoying one of the many BC trails that go near a farm or ranch, special care must be taken.

Trails and farming can co-exist. But when you are out for a walk in the country it is important to observe a few common sense rules—what might be thought of as “Rules of the Trail”.

