

# Trail Etiquette & tips for your Safety



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Ozark National Scenic Riverways

## Area Veterinarians & Veterinary Hospitals

### MOUNTAIN VIEW

Mountain View Animal Clinic  
1615 CR2990  
417-934-2323

Barn Hollow Veterinary Services  
1309 West 4th Street  
417-934-0234

### POPLAR BLUFF

Hicks Animal Hospital  
1600 Hwy. 53  
573-686-1281

### HOUSTON

Texas County Veterinary Clinic  
8102 N. Hwy 63  
417-967-3857

Texas County Veterinary  
532 N. Hwy 17  
417-932-6925

### THOMASVILLE

Eleven Point Equine Clinic  
Junction Hwy. 99 & Co. Rd. 424  
East 1/4 Mile  
417-764-3691

**As horse riders . . . you have the responsibility of protecting this beautiful landscape for you and future generations!**

**Know the regulations and practice responsible, safe trail etiquette:**

- *Stay on designated ONSR marked trails or unpaved roads which are open to horse use.* Trails are marked with color coded plastic blazes. Gracious local landowners have given permission to cross private property, but on the trail only. Please do not cut across switchbacks, ride around water bars or puddles, or alter the route. These features maintain the trail while protecting the land it crosses.
- *Horses are not allowed in campgrounds or other developed areas.* Horses are allowed on designated horse trails and at the two park staging areas (Shawnee & Broadfoot). Horse camping in the park is not permitted.
- *Ride responsibly.* Although you may be an accomplished horseperson, there may be green horses or riders on the trail or at staging areas. Use respect when passing or meeting another group on the trail.
- *Please use hitching posts* which have been placed in areas of high horse use. Tying your horse to a tree is not permitted. If hitching posts are not available, *cross-tie your horses between two trees* to avoid damaging vegetation.
- Some of the trails are steep and rocky. *Know your horse's ability* before heading out on the trail.
- *Always* avoid crossing the rivers during periods of high water. Streams in the Ozarks are prone to flash flooding. And remember, even under normal conditions the Current and Jacks Fork Rivers have very strong currents, and water may be deeper than it appears. Undo tie-downs before entering the river, even at normal water levels.
- *Respect* wildlife by observing from a distance, including the free roaming horses.

## Crossing Rivers & Streams... you can make a difference!

### **BE AWARE**

*Cell Phone Service is Limited.  
You may need to move to  
higher ground for service.*

**In An Emergency :**

**CALL 911**

You will be dispatched to the nearest local Sheriff Department

OR

Park Dispatch. . . 1-888-692-1162

### **Park Contact Information:**

**Ozark National Scenic Riverways**

Ozark NSR Headquarters ..... 573-323-4236

Or Visit Us Online: [www.nps.gov/ozar](http://www.nps.gov/ozar)

### **PLEASE DO NOT LITTER**

- *Pack it in and pack it out*
- *Bury human waste at least 100 feet from water or trails*
- *Recycle your trash*

**Horse activity in or near streams can affect water quality.**

**Recent research** shows that during periods when there are hundreds of horses and riders on the trails, the water quality deteriorates. Heed the following tips and you can help protect the water quality in our Missouri streams:

**Stopping** your horse at least 100 feet from the stream and allowing it to relax and *urinate or defecate* prior to crossing **will** help to prevent stream water contamination.

**Crossing** streams only at designated fords, moving quickly to the other side and away from the stream's edge, will help to prevent soil erosion and disturbance to sensitive stream bank environments. Limiting the horse's time in the water minimizes water contamination. Do not linger or ride on gravel bars or in the river streams.

**Horses are prohibited from entering springs and spring branches.**

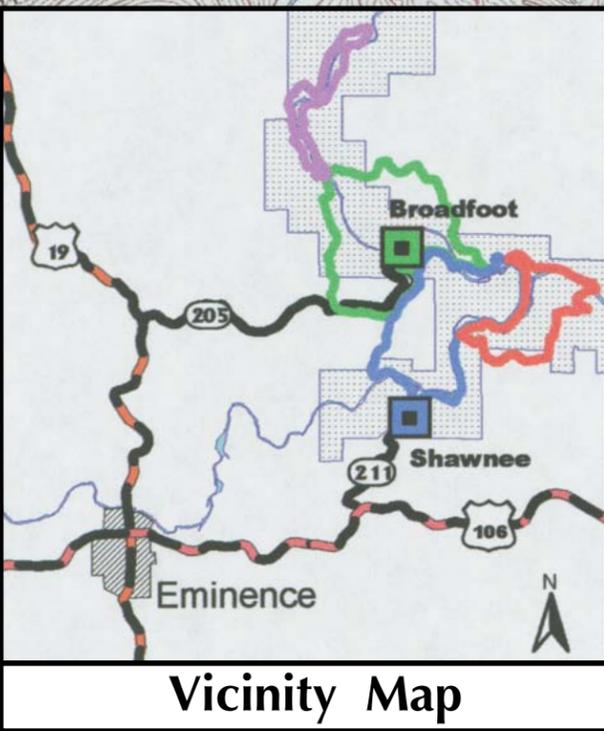
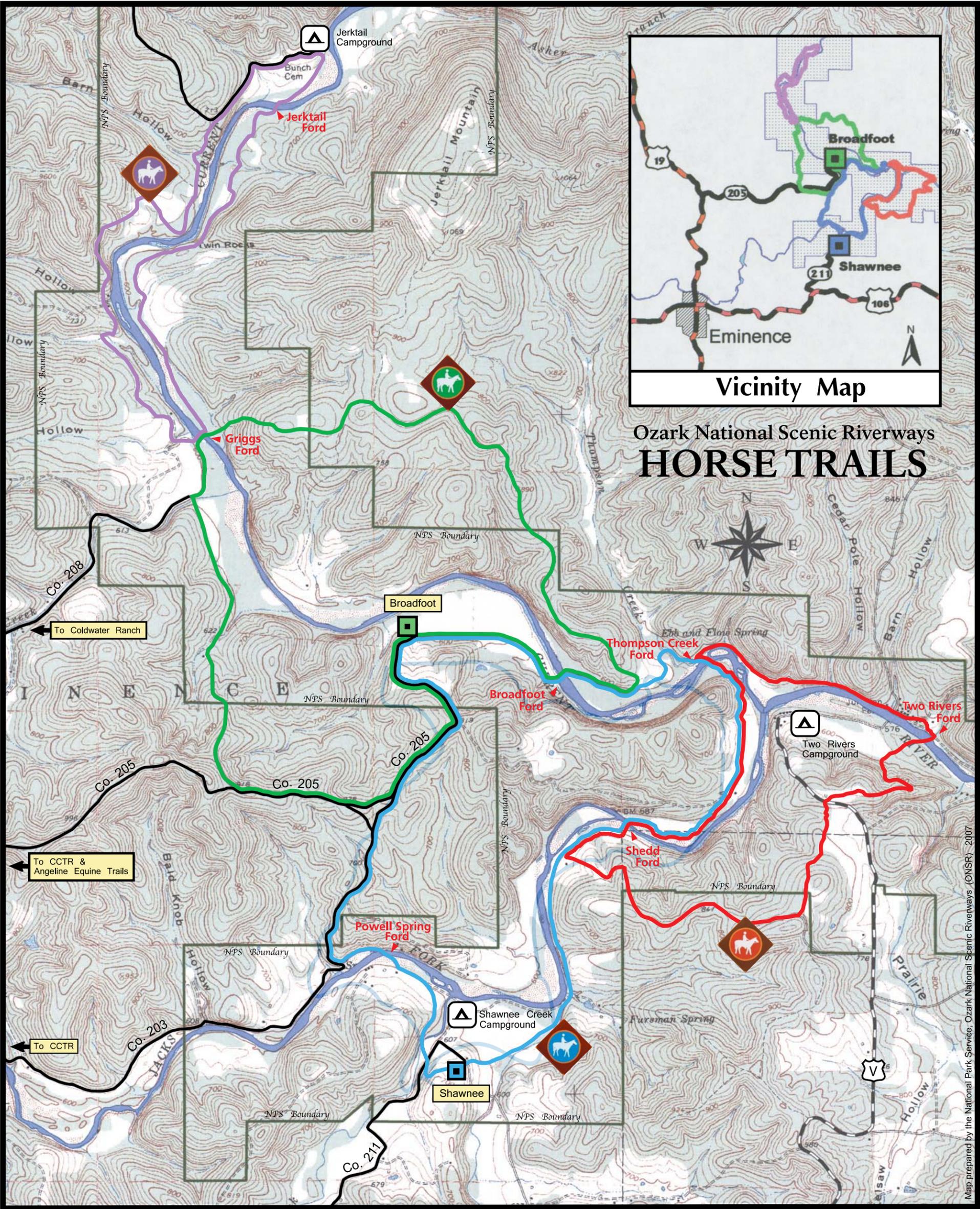
Bathing or swimming horses in the rivers is not permitted. These activities contaminate the water and may harm delicate aquatic habitats.

**Consideration** for other visitors is common sense. Do not linger in river corridors with swimmers and floaters. Manure causes complaints.

**Broadfoot and Shawnee Trailheads have a restroom, hitching posts, maps, and ample parking for large horse trailers.**

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

*The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.*



Ozark National Scenic Riverways  
**HORSE TRAILS**

**Responsible Trail Etiquette...** can help keep the park open to horses. Preserve the resources you are here to enjoy.

- ◆ Please stay on designated ONSR marked trails and unpaved roads which are open to horse use.
- ◆ Do not linger in the water or on gravel bars. Trampling stirs up bacteria in the river sediment where it may come in contact with humans.
- ◆ Bathing or swimming horses in the rivers and springs is not permitted. Harm to delicate aquatic habitats in the springs could occur.
- ◆ Cross rivers and streams only at designated fords. *(Refer to map.)*
- ◆ Horses are not allowed in developed areas.
- ◆ Think Safety! Avoid crossing swift rivers and streams during high water.
- ◆ Practice LEAVE NO TRACE principles.

	Broadfoot Trailhead			
	Shawnee Trailhead			
	Two Rivers Loop Trail - 5.4 mi.			
	Broadfoot Loop Trail - 5.9 mi.			
	Shawnee Loop Trail - 7 mi.			
	Jerktail Loop Trail - 5.2 mi.			
	ONSR Boundary Line			
CCTR: Cross Country Trail Rides				
	County Roads			
	State Highway			

Map prepared by the National Park Service, Ozark National Scenic Riverways (ONSR) 2007