

WILDERNESS RIDER CODE OF CONDUCT

Our Wilderness Riders are governed by the Wilderness Rider Steering Committee that insures each member adhere to the Code of Conduct.

In the performance of duty as members of the Wilderness Riders, volunteers should: 1. Be polite at all times when dealing with the public, agency contact and the media; 2. Treat other volunteers, agency employees and other organizations with courtesy and sensitivity; 3. Through proper risk management practices ensure that the activity being undertaken is suitable for the age, experience and ability of the individual and educate them as to their responsibilities in contributing to a safe environment; 4. Take the personal initiative to learn, respect, communicate and adhere to the rules of the agency contact.

Personal Behavior Wilderness Riders agree to: 1. Consistently display high personal standards and project a favorable image of the program; 2. Strive to achieve the highest quality, effectiveness and dignity in both the process and products of volunteer work without promoting self-interests; 3. Refrain from public criticism of fellow volunteers, management committee or users; 4. Abstain from the use of alcohol products while on duty; 5. Not abuse alcohol or drugs; 6. Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language in the conduct of any duties; 7. Avoid harm to others; 8. Be honest and trustworthy; 9. Respect the privacy and opinions of others; 10. Regularly seek ways of increasing professional development and self-awareness; 11. Be passionate about the program and become an advocate in their community.

Volunteers Must: 1. Ensure the safety of the people with whom they work. 2. Ensure that they do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. 3. Respect the dignity of others; verbal or physical behaviors that constitute harassment or abuse are unacceptable.

Public Comment While in uniform and/or performing volunteer duties they are in effect representatives of the federal land management agencies and the Backcountry Horsemen. As such they should not offer personal opinions or publicly criticize government policies or other organizations and must respect information given in confidence. As interested citizens Wilderness Riders should feel free to comment orally or in writing on public land management issues, but should do so as citizens, not as representatives of the Wilderness Rider program.