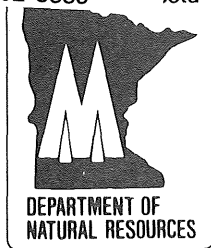




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# Minnesota's State HORSE TRAILS

Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources--Division of Forestry,  
Division of Parks and Recreation, Trails and Waterways Unit



## THE MINNESOTA RECREATIONAL TRAIL SYSTEM

The state of Minnesota offers a  
variety of horseback riding oppor-

Southwestern Minnesota there  
ly rolling hills covered with

prairie grasses and wildflowers and  
wooded ravines.

Southeastern Minnesota offers  
more rugged ridges and valleys,  
hardwood forests and many streams.

The central part of the state has  
many hills and lakes with a diversity of  
prairie, hardwood forests and pines.

Northwestern Minnesota's Red  
River Valley was formerly the lake  
bottom of Glacial Lake Agassiz, and is

consequently very flat. To the east of  
this flat land is a series of rolling hills.

Northeastern Minnesota is famous  
for its birch, pine and spruce forests and  
the rugged North Shore of Lake  
Superior.

Beyond the geographical features  
of the state, public trails also vary in the  
kinds of facilities and services that they  
have to offer horseback riders.

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## USING THIS GUIDE

The Department of Natural Resources administers nearly one thousand miles of horse trails. The trails in this guide are managed by the DNR's Division of Forestry, Division of Parks and Recreation and the Trails and Waterways Unit. Trails are all signed for horse riders.

Parking is understood as space sufficient for a truck and horse trailer. Parking is usually located at the trailhead. Drinking water is available from hand pumps, faucets or fountains. Toilets may be pit toilets, including portable toilets, or may be flush toilets.

Campsites listed in this guide are those which are usually separate from vehicle camping areas. They are usually rustic, or primitive sites that are adapted for use with horses. In some instances these campsites are also at the designated parking sites. Shelters, may be simple enclosures along the trail to protect people from wind and rain, or in some state parks they are modern trail centers with a variety of facilities.

Water for your horses is available in a variety of places on our trails. In addition to hand pumps, water may be obtained from streams, rivers and lakes.

Hitching posts, corrals, ramps and picket lines (cables about 7 feet off the ground between poles) are some of the special adaptations made at various facilities specifically for horseback riders.

This guide was designed to be a starting point in planning your horseback riding trip. You will need a highway map, trail map and county maps and topographic maps may also be helpful. All horse trails are marked.

The map shows approximate location for the horseback riding trails. The table gives the total mileage, locations, facilities and services available. It also gives a brief description of the area and relevant history. In many cases you do not have to travel the entire length of the trails, access points allow you to design your own trip.

## State Forest Horse Trails

State forests provide a variety of primitive trail and camping opportunities for horseback riders. The State Forest areas listed all include parking areas and trails that are marked for horseback riding. Most provide vault toilets and other facilities to accommodate horses and their riders. There are five primitive, drive-in campgrounds developed for the special needs of horseback riders. In addition, overnight camping is permitted within the trailhead parking areas at the other eight areas. There are over 190 miles of marked trails divided between the thirteen areas.

An entrance fee or a trail use fee is not charged in State Forests. A camping fee is charged at some of the more developed campgrounds. A special permit, available by calling the office listed for each facility, is required for large groups using the trails and camping facilities. Riders should note that all state forest trails are open for other uses. Signs and trail maps will indicate the other uses of individual trails. Riders should stay on the marked horse trails to avoid damage to roads, trails and resources needed for other uses. Rules that apply to these facilities and trail maps are available from the DNR Information Center in St. Paul and some Forestry offices.

## State Trails

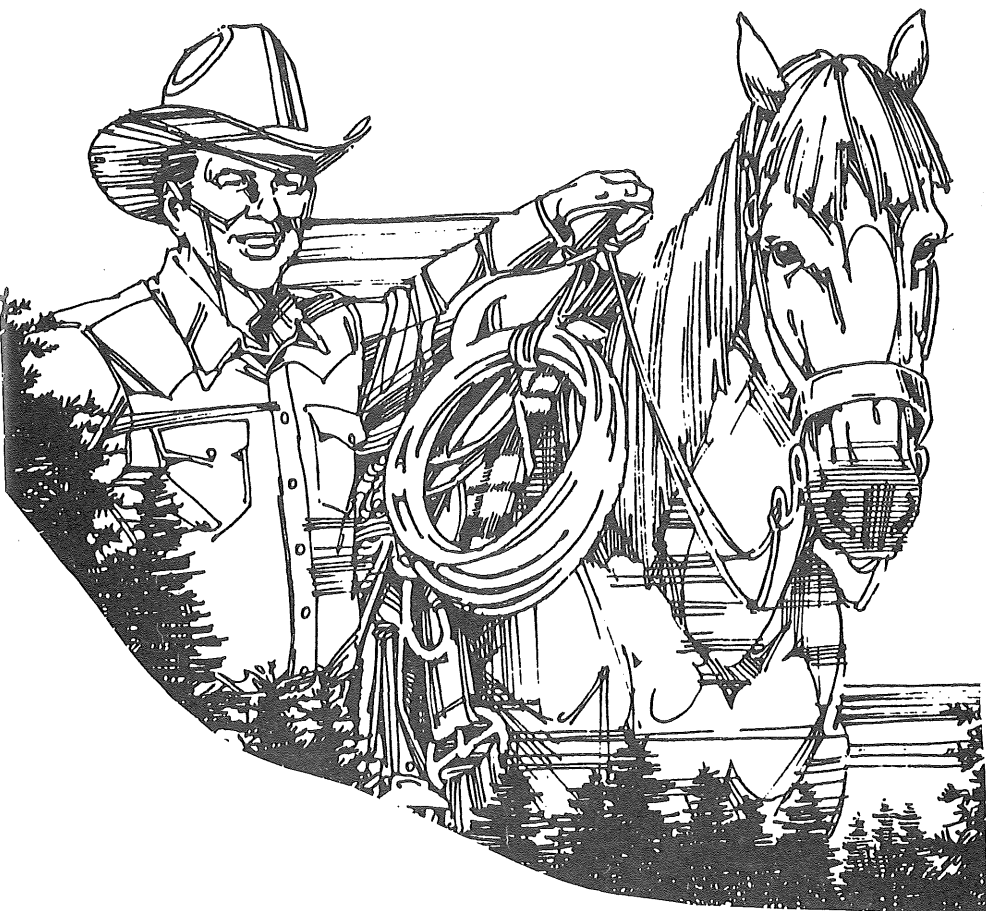
This unit provides a variety of contrasting horse trail opportunities. In general, few facilities have been developed for the specific needs of equestrians. Many of our horse trails are on former railroad rights-of-way where bicycling and hiking are the marked uses of the main treadway, but where horseback riding is the marked use for the treadway that parallels it. These parallel treadways have a sod surface. On other trails, a single treadway, with a sod surface, exists for all summer users, including horseback riding.

If you are on the lower sod side paths or on a main treadway which is sodded, please observe the signs which designate horse paths. Respect for the signing and for other users will result in a safer, more enjoyable experience for all trail users.

## State Park Horse Trails

Minnesota State Parks provide some of the most interesting and scenic riding available anywhere. Twenty state parks provide over 260 miles of horseback riding trails. Special campgrounds are available in sixteen of the parks. Horse trails are generally open in early May through the first snowfall of autumn. Check at the park entrance for updated trail information. *There is no horse rental at any of the Minnesota State Parks.*

Horse trail conditions vary from park to park. Some may have earthen paths, others mowed grass and some may have crushed limestone or woodchips. Camping facilities for horseback riders also vary. Generally, these campgrounds include picnic tables, fire rings, water, vault toilets and horse tethering areas. Only a few have flush toilets or shower facilities. There is a nominal daily entrance fee charged at all Minnesota State Parks, or an annual permit is good at all 64 state parks for the entire year. There is also an additional camping fee for those wishing to stay overnight.



## FOR MORE HORSEBACK RIDING INFORMATION

Individual trail maps are available for most state parks, forests and trails. They are available through the DNR Information Center:

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
Information Center  
500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040

Twin Cities: 296-6157  
MN toll free: 1-800-652-9747  
ask for DNR

Telecommunications Device  
for Deaf: (612) 296-5484

## HORSEBACK RIDING RULES, ETIQUETTE AND SAFETY

### To Prevent Erosion & Preserve Your Natural Resources:

- \* Always stay on marked horse trail
- \* Call ahead for trail conditions.
- \* Avoid riding during muddy seasons.
- \* Please use switchbacks and do not make shortcuts.
- \* At stream crossings, ford only at designated area.

### To Keep Minnesota Trail Areas Clean & Beautiful:

- \* Harness animals away from trees.
- \* Do not cut living trees.
- \* Pack out all litter from trail areas.
- \* Clean up manure and hay before leaving your campsite.

### For Safety:

- \* Avoid riding on roads.
- \* When meeting hikers or bicy-

clists, you should rein in and allow room to pass.

- \* Recognize that some people are unfamiliar with or afraid of horses.
- \* Be careful with campfires. Clear an area around your fire ring. Use cookstoves when possible.
- \* Routinely check your horse for ticks, consider using a wipe-on insecticide.
- \* Water your horse only at free-flowing water sources, thus avoiding stagnant water.

### For An Enjoyable Trip:

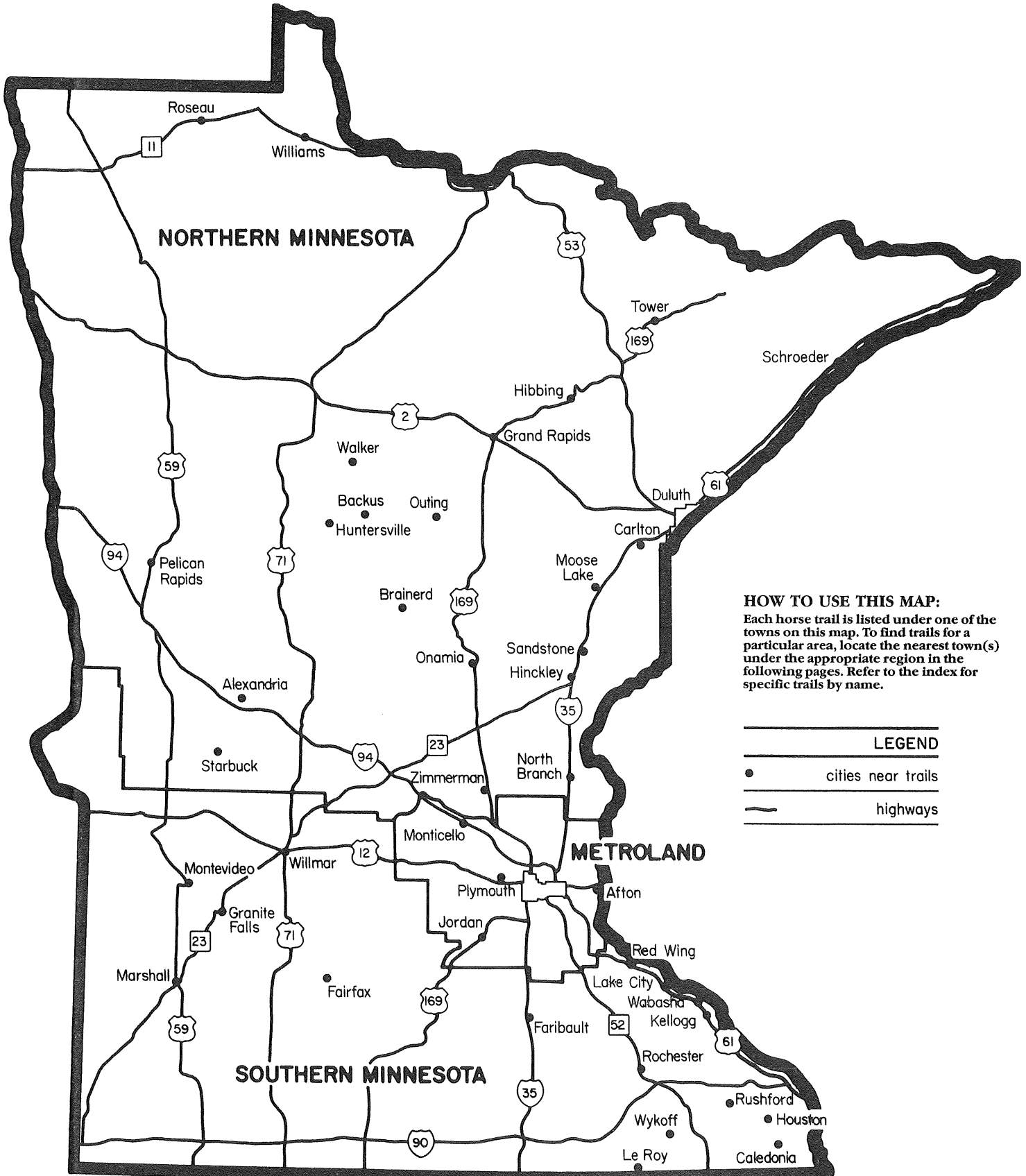
- \* Keep your group size small.
- \* Carry drinking water while riding.
- \* Domestic pets (dogs) must be leashed at all times.

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# DNR HORSE TRAILS



Water-Horse:      Toilets:  
 S = stream      V = vault  
 R = river      F = flush  
 L = lake  
 P = hand pump

## NORTHERN MINNESOTA HORSE TRAILS

	Trail Miles	Parking	Drinking water	Toilet	Campsites	Shelter	Water-Horse: Hitch	Corral	Location/Connections/Services/Features:
<b>Alexandria</b>									
<b>LAKE CARLOS STATE PARK</b> (612) 852-7200 State Park Mgr Rt 2 Box 240 Carlos, MN 56319	8.0	■	V		10		P		Located from Alexandria 8 mi N on MN Hwy 29, then 2 mi W on Co Rd 38. Dirt and grass surface. Lake and trails among the rolling deciduous forest lands of the park. Each campsite has a water tap.
<b>Backus</b>									
<b>FOOTHILLS TRAIL</b> (218) 947-3232 DNR Forestry Box 6 Backus, MN 56435	7.2	■			■		S		Located 7 mi W of Backus on MN Hwy 87 in Foothills State Forest. Dirt and grass surface. Rolling to steep terrain with many small lakes and potholes. Wet but passable conditions in season. Camping permitted at trailhead.
<b>Brainerd</b>									
<b>PILLSBURY TRAIL</b> (218) 828-2565 DNR Forestry 1601 Minnesota Drive Brainerd, MN 56401	27.0	■ ■ ■			100		P ■		Located from Pillager 1 mi E on MN Hwy 210, then 3 mi N to trailhead. Dirt and grass surface. Rolling to hilly terrain covered with oak, aspen, birch and pine with many small lakes. The trail is in Minnesota's first state forest (Pillsbury) established in 1900. Insect problems in season. Ramp. Half way rest stop on lake.
<b>Carlton</b>									
<b>JAY COOKE STATE PARK</b> (218) 384-4610 State Park Mgr 500 East Highway 210 Carlton, MN 55718	5.0	■	V				R		Located from Carlton 3 mi E on MN Hwy 210 to Info Center. Dirt and grass surface. Gorge of the St Louis River as it runs through the park provides a scenic backdrop for hiking-camping and fishing. Steep slopes in some areas.
<b>Duluth</b>									
<b>NORTH SHORE STATE TRAIL</b> (218) 834-5238 DNR T & W Area 1300 Hwy 61 E Two Harbors, MN 55616	80.0	■	V		80	■	R		Located in Finland 2 mi NW on MN Hwy 1 to campsite and parking 1.5 mi NE on Co Rd 7. Dirt surface. Wet but passable conditions in season, insect problems in season. Ramp. Eight campsites, each allowing ten horses, with shelter and toilets, and parking at nine locations. Horse trail extends from Finland to Co Rd 6 near Grand Marais. Winds through rugged and beautiful forest just beyond Lake Superior bluffs.
<b>Grand Rapids</b>									
<b>TACONITE STATE TRAIL</b> (218) 753-6256 DNR T & W Area 205 North Cedar Tower, MN 55790	172.0	■	V		64	■	L		Located in Grand Rapids at county fairgrounds (western access) and on SE side of Ely at athletic fields (eastern access). Dirt and grass surface. Wet but passable conditions in season, insect problems in season. Watch for logging operations; call ahead for local conditions. Six to ten horses at eight shelter/campsites; parking at eleven sites for 6-12 units; shelters with toilets; information at all parking sites. This rugged north woods trail provides a route through some of the most picturesque and historically significant areas of the state.
<b>Hibbing</b>									
<b>MCCARTHY BEACH STATE PARK</b> (218) 254-2411 State Park Mgr HCR 5 Box 341 Hibbing, MN 55746	18.0	■	V		■		L		Located from Hibbing 5 mi N on US Hwy 169, then 16 mi N on Co Rd 5, then 1.7 mi W on Co Rd 915 to park office. Dirt and grass surface. Rolling hills and small valleys through hardwood and virgin pine forests. Insect problems in season. Connects with Taconite State and forestry trails.
<b>Hinckley</b>									
<b>ST CROIX STATE PARK</b> (612) 384-6591 State Park Mgr Rt 3 Box 174 Hinckley, MN 55037	32.8	■ ■ ■	F		100	■	P ■ ■		Located from Hinckley 15 mi E on MN Hwy 48 to park entrance, then 5 mi S on Co Rd 22 to trail center. Dirt and grass surface. This is the largest state park (34,000 acres) in Minnesota. It contains an abundance of diverse wildlife along the scenic St Croix River. Insect problems in season. Connects with Munger State Trail - Boundary Segment, which has 21 miles within park and 14 miles N of park and 8 miles S of park.
<b>Huntersville</b>									
<b>HUNTERSVILLE TRAIL</b> (218) 947-3232 DNR Forestry Box 6 Backus, MN 56435	24.0	■ ■ ■			■		R ■		Located from Menahga 11 mi E on Co Rd 17. Dirt and grass surface. Level to gently rolling pine and aspen forest. Insect problems in season. Picket. Along Shell and Crow Wing Rivers. Camping permitted at trailhead.

# NORTHERN MINNESOTA HORSE TRAILS

	Trail Miles	Parking	Drinking water	Toilet	Campsites	Shelter	Water-Horse: Hitch	Corral	Location/Connections/Services/Features:
<b>Moose Lake</b>									
MUNGER STATE TRAIL- HINCKLEY FIRE SEGMENT (218) 485-4474 DNR T & W Area Rt 2 - 701 S Kenwood Moose Lake, MN 55767	11.0	■		V					Located from Willow River parallel to asphalt treadway S to Darson Road, just S of Finlayson. Dirt surface. Parallel to original 1870 Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad grade used as an escape route during the Hinckley Fire of 1894 and the Moose Lake/Cloquet Fire of 1918. Abandoned by Burlington Northern in 1977.
<b>North Branch</b>									
WILD RIVER STATE PARK (612) 583-2125 State Park Mgr 39755 Park Trail Center City, MN 55012	21.0	■ ■	F	40	■	P	■		Located from North Branch 12 mi E from I-35 on MN Hwy 95, then 3 mi NE on Co Rd 12. Immediately N from Wild Mountain Ski Area on Co Rd 16. Dirt and grass surface. Through oak, pine and maple forest, marsh and open prairie along the wild and scenic St Croix River; large numbers of deer. Insect problems in season.
<b>Onamia</b>									
MILLE LACS KATHIO STATE PARK (612) 532-3523 State Park Mgr HC67 Box 85 Onamia, MN 56359	26.8	■ ■	F	20	■	P	■		Located 100 mi N of Twin Cities or 8 mi N of Onamia on US Hwy 169, then left for 0.8 mi on Co Rd 26. Dirt and grass surface. Historic area that was the site of battles between Indian tribes.
<b>Outing</b>									
BEN DRAPER TRAIL (218) 947-3232 DNR Forestry Box 6 Backus, MN 56435	24.0								Located from Outing 7 mi N on MN Hwy 6, then 1 mi E on Ben Draper forest rd to parking lot in Land O Lakes State Forest. Dirt and grass surface. Rolling to hilly hardwood forest with small ponds. There are swampy stretches on all loops of trail. Insect problems in season.
WASHBURN LAKE SOLITUDE AREA (218) 947-3232 DNR Forestry Box 6 Backus, MN 56435	15.0	■ ■ ■					R		Located from Outing 2 mi N on MN Hwy 6, then 1.5 mi W to parking lot on Co Rd 48 in Land O' Lakes State Forest. Dirt and grass surface. Aspen/birch woodlands of gently rolling hills with lakes, streams and marshlands. Logging railroad built through this area between Cross Lake and Longville in 1890 by Simpson Logging Company of Cross Lake. This line was abandoned in 1911 and is now part of the forest road system. Insect problems in season. Hilly, forested area.
<b>Pelican Rapids</b>									
MAPLEWOOD STATE PARK (218) 863-8383 State Park Mgr Rt 3 Box 422 Pelican Rapids, MN 56572	20.0	■	F	50	■	P	■		Located from Pelican Rapids 7 mi E on MN Hwy 108. Dirt and grass surface. Rolling maple/basswood forest with small lakes and deep valleys.
<b>Roseau</b>									
HAYES LAKE STATE PARK (218) 425-7504 State Park Mgr Star Rt 4 Roseau, MN 56751	3.0	■	V	4		P			Located from Roseau 15 mi S on MN Hwy 89, then 9 mi E on Co Rd 4. Dirt and grass surface. In pine forest on edge of Hayes Lake.
<b>Sandstone</b>									
MUNGER STATE TRAIL- BOUNDARY SEGMENT (218) 485-8647 DNR T & W Area 701 Kenwood Moose Lake, MN 55767	43.6	■	V	12	■	S			Located from Sandstone 17 mi E on Co Rd 30, 2 mi S on Co Rd 24, 3.5 mi E on Co Rd 25, 1 mi S on Co Rd 173, then 4 mi E on Tamarack Forest Rd, to Dirt and grass surface. Heavily wooded area showing the hardwood/conifer transition zone. Wet but passable conditions in season, insect problems in season. From Snake River on the south to Graces Lake on the north. State Park vehicle permit required in park. Connects with St Croix State Park Trails and St Croix State Forest Trail.
ST CROIX TRAIL (218) 485-4474 DNR T & W Area Rt 2 - 701 S Kenwood Moose Lake, MN 55767	10.6	■	V	12	■	S			Located from Sandstone 17 mi E on Co Rd 30, 2 mi S on Co Rd 24, 3.5 mi E on Co Rd 25, 1 mi S on Co Rd 173, then 4 mi E on Tamarack Forest Road. Dirt surface. Mixed hardwood forest. Insect problems in season. Picket. Camping at Tamarack River Horsemen's Camp in St Croix State Forest.
<b>Schroeder</b>									
TEMPERANCE RIVER STATE PARK (218) 663-7476 State Park Mgr Box 33 Schroeder, MN 55613	5.5	■ ■	V	20		R	■		Located from Schroeder 1 mi NE on US Hwy 61. Dirt and grass surface. Falls and rapids along the gorge of the Temperance River provide hiking and fishing opportunities on the North Shore of Lake Superior. Connects with North Shore State Trail.

Water-Horse:      Toilets:		Trail Miles	Parking	Drinking water	Toilet	Campsites	Shelter	Water-Horse: Hitch      Corral	<i><b>NORTHERN MINNESOTA HORSE TRAILS</b></i>
S = stream      V = vault R = river      F = flush L = lake P = hand pump									
Location/Connections/Services/Features:									
<b>Starbuck</b>									
GLACIAL LAKES STATE PARK (612) 239-2860 State Park Mgr Rt 2 Box 126 Starbuck, MN 56381		9.0	■	F	20	■	L	■	Located from Starbuck 2 mi S on MN Hwy 29, then 2 mi S on Co Rd 41. Dirt and grass surface. Several spring-fed lakes surrounded by virgin prairie and virgin oak forest in an area of hills and valleys formed by the last glacier.
<b>Tower</b>									
ARROWHEAD STATE TRAIL (218) 753-6256 DNR T & W Area 205 North Cedar Tower, MN 55790		69.0	■	V	84	■	L		Located from Cook 12 mi N on Co Rd 24 to Hoodoo Lk or from Orr 12 mi E on Co Rd 23 to Elbow Lk Forest Rd. Wet but passable conditions in season, insect problems in season. Very rolling terrain with numerous lakes and streams. Entire trail through remote areas. Grass/earth surface between Hoodoo Lk and Kabetogama. 4.5 miles between Myrtle Lake and Elephant Lake Road on grade of Virginia and Rainy Lake Railroad, operating between 1911 and 1930. Toilets and capacity for 12 units at each of seven shelters.
<b>Walker</b>									
HEARTLAND STATE TRAIL (218) 755-3972 DNR T & W Area 2115 Birchmnt Bch Rd Bemidji, MN 56601		51.0	■	■	V		P	■	Located from Walker S along W shore of May Lake and Long Lake (N of MN Hwy 34 toward Park Rapids) or along MN Hwy 371 to Cass Lake. Grass or gravel surface parallel to asphalt treadway. Parking and hand pump at Kabekona Bay, Akeley, Nevis and Dorsett. Through a patchwork of lakes, ponds, aspen, jack pine and farmland from Park Rapids to Walker and Cass Lake. Parallel to the original grade of the 1897-98 Park Rapids and Leech Lake Railway between Park Rapids, Nevis, Akeley, Walker and Cass Lake, with six trestles up to 65 feet high. This grade was abandoned by the BN in 1972.
<b>Williams</b>									
ZIPPEL BAY STATE PARK (218) 783-6252 State Park Mgr Zippel Bay State Prk Williams, MN 56686		6.0	■	V			P		Located from Williams 5 mi N on Co Rd 2, then 6 mi E on Co Rd 8. Dirt and grass surface. Near shore of expansive Lake of the Woods in mixed forest of popple, birch, balsam fir, spruce and pine.
<b>Zimmerman</b>									
ORROCK TRAIL (612) 689-2832 DNR Forestry 915 S Hwy 65 Cambridge, MN 55008		18.0	■		■				Located from Big Lake 7.3 mi N on Co Rd 5, then 0.5 mi E to Sand Dunes State Forest Road, then 0.5 mi S. Dirt and grass surface. The "Dust Bowl" drought of 1933-34 brought an end to the sand plains farming in this area. Experimental tree planting began in 1941. This state forest now has 2,400 acres of tree plantation. Camping permitted at level but undeveloped trailhead.

## SOUTHERN MINNESOTA

<b>Caledonia</b>									
RENO UNIT (507) 523-2183 DNR Forestry Box 278 Lewiston, MN 55952		9.5	■	■	■	■	P		Located from Brownsville 6 mi S on MN Hwy 26, then 0.3 mi on gravel road from Reno in Richard J Dorer Memorial Hardwood Forest. Dirt and grass surface. Trail has a challenging 500 foot rise in elevation and provides extraordinary scenic vistas. Northern edge of oak/hickory forest. Steep slopes in some areas. Trail connects valley bottom to ridgetops.
<b>Fairfax</b>									
FORT RIDGELY STATE PARK (507) 426-7840 State Park Mgr Rt 1 Box 65 Fairfax, MN 55332		7.0	■	■	V	20	P		Located from Fairfax 6 mi S on MN Hwy 4, then W on Co Rd 29/30. Dirt and grass surface. Site of several battles of the 1862 U.S. - Dakota Conflict, now an historic site. Park is now rolling prairie and wooded ravines. Picket. Horse trails closed in wet weather. Trail connects to nearby county park.
<b>Faribault</b>									
SAKATAH SINGING HILLS STATE TRAIL (507) 354-2196 DNR T & W Area PO Box 756 Hwy 15 So New Ulm, MN 56073		9.0	■				R		Located in Mankato immediately NW of MN Hwy 22 and US Hwy 14 on Lime Valley Rd or in Morristown on MN Hwy 60. Dirt and grass surface. Wet but passable conditions in season. 5 miles in Lime Valley Ravine and 4 miles extending eastward from Sakatah Lake State Park. Horse trail on parallel, lower treadway along side original Wisconsin, Minnesota and Pacific's Red Wing to Mankato connection, built between 1882 and 1887. Abandoned in sections by CNW (1971-1976).

# SOUTHERN MINNESOTA HORSE TRAILS

	Trail Miles	Parking	Drinking water	Toilet	Campsites	Shelter	Water-Horse: Hitch	Corral	Location/Connections/Services/Features:
<b>Granite Falls</b>									
UPPER SIOUX AGENCY STATE PARK (612) 564-4777 State Park Mgr Box 92 Rt 2 Granite Falls, MN 56241	12.9	■	V		60		P		Located from Granite Falls 8 mi SE on MN Hwy 67. Dirt and grass surface. Historic site of the government outpost called the Upper Sioux Agency on the banks of the Yellow Medicine and Minnesota rivers.
<b>Houston</b>									
OAK RIDGE UNIT (507) 523-2183 DNR Forestry Box 278 Lewiston, MN 55952	8.8	■	■		■	■		■	Located from Houston 4.8 mi SW on Co Rd 13 in Richard J Dorer Memorial Hardwood Forest. Sod or grass surface. The Wetbark Trail in this forest unit rises and falls as much as 300 feet, with scenic overlooks of the Root River. Reforestation in this unit includes over 110 acres of black walnut, red oak, and white and red pine. Steep slopes in some areas. Picket. Camping permitted at trailhead.
<b>Kellogg</b>									
SNAKE CREEK UNIT (612) 345-3216 DNR Forestry PO Box 69 Lake City, MN 55041	6.7	■	■				S ■		Located from Kellogg 3 mi S on US Hwy 61 in Richard J Dorer Memorial Hardwood Forest. Dirt and grass surface. This unit has bluffs 300 feet above the valley floor. The predominant cover type is oak, but nearly every hardwood species in the state can be found here. Steep slopes in some areas, stream fording.
<b>Lake City</b>									
ZUMBRO BOTTOMS UNIT (612) 345-3216 DNR Forestry PO Box 69 Lake City, MN 55041	10.0	■	■	■	10	■	P ■		Located 7 mi SW from Wabasha (at US Hwy 61) on MN Hwy 60, then 2 mi S on Co Rd 86 in RJ Dorer Memorial Hardwood State Forest. Dirt surface. The trail uses an old steel trestle bridge (1893) to cross the Zumbro River at Funk's Ford. Steep slopes in some areas, stream fording. Trail connects valley bottom to ridgetops with scenic overlooks.
<b>Le Roy</b>									
LAKE LOUISE STATE PARK (507) 324-5249 State Park Mgr Rt 1 Box 184 Le Roy, MN 55951	9.7	■	■	V	6		P ■		Located 1.5 mi N from Le Roy on Co Rd 14 to park entrance. Dirt and grass surface. Hambrecht Historical Cabin and Museum open weekends and holidays 1 - 4:30 pm Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. One of the state's oldest continuous recreation areas, platted as the town of LeRoy shortly after the 1853 regional survey. In 1867, the McGregor Western Railway placed its track just south of the park, thus forcing the town to move. The relocated town of LeRoy thus became the location of Minnesota's first link to the outside world by an on-land rail route.
<b>Marshall</b>									
CAMDEN STATE PARK (507) 865-4530 State Park Mgr Rt 1 Box 9 Lynd, MN 56157	8.0	■			■				Located from Marshall 10 mi S on MN Hwy 23. Dirt and grass surface. River valley in near natural condition within the farm lands of southwestern Minnesota. This favorite pioneer picnic spot has long been an oasis on the wind-swept prairie, near the summit of the Coteau des Prairies. Trails are on both sides of the Redwood River Valley. This maple/basswood forest was an early townsite between 1868 and 1888, when the railroad moved commerce to Marshall, just to the north. High water on river may limit use.
<b>Montevideo</b>									
LAC QUI PARLE STATE PARK (612) 752-4736 State Park Mgr Rt 5 Box 74A Montevideo, MN 56265	3.0	■	■	F	20	■	P ■		Located from Montevideo 7 mi NW on US Hwy 59 and MN Hwy 7, then 4 mi W on Co Rd 13. Dirt and grass surface. Dense woods along Lac Qui Parle Lake and River, and the Minnesota River. According to Dakota legend, this is, in French, the "lake that talks." Wet but passable conditions in season. Ramp, picket.
<b>Red Wing</b>									
HAY CREEK UNIT (612) 345-3216 DNR Forestry PO Box 69 Lake City, MN 55041	20.0	■	■	■			P		Located from Red Wing 4 mi S on MN Hwy 58 to Hay Creek Rec Area, then 1.5 mi N on township road. Dirt and grass surface. Scenic overlook of hills and valleys, oak, pine and meadowland. On four miles of the 1889 railroad grade underwritten by the City of Red Wing: the Duluth, Red Wing and Southern Railroad, between Red Wing and Zumbrota. Abandoned by the Chicago Great Western Railway in 1966. Steep slopes in some areas, stream fording. Picket. Picnic area; trails with scenic overlooks connect valley bottom to ridge tops.



Water-Horse:      Toilets:  
 S = stream      V = vault  
 R = river      F = flush  
 L = lake  
 P = hand pump

## SOUTHERN MINNESOTA HORSE TRAILS

	Trail Miles	Parking	Drinking water	Toilet	Campsites	Shelter	Water-Horse: Hitch	Corral	Location/Connections/Services/Features:
<b>Rochester</b>									
<b>DOUGLAS STATE TRAIL</b> (507) 285-7176 DNR T & W Area 2300 Silver Cr Rd NE Rochester, MN 55904	13.0	■ ■	V		■		P ■		Located in Rochester 1 mi W of US Hwy 52 on 55th St NW to 41st Ave NW, then 1.5 mi S to Co Rd 4 (Valley High Dr), then 0.3 mi to trailhead. Sod or grass surface. Trail crosses the Middle Fork Zumbro River and traverses some of Minnesota's finest agricultural land. Wet but passable conditions in season. Horse trail is lower than and parallel to asphalt treadway. This is the former route of Chicago Great Western's Blue Bird, an early gas-electric, streamlined locomotive. This line was built from Rochester to Zumbrota in 1902-03. Abandoned by CNW in 1972. Watch for other trail users. Parking for 25 units in Rochester, 10 at Douglas and 10 at Pine Island.
<b>Rushford</b>									
<b>ROOT RIVER STATE TRAIL</b> (507) 285-7176 DNR T & W Area 2300 Silver Creek Rd Rochester, MN 55904	6.3			V ■					Located in Rushford along Rush Creek. Gravel and dirt surface. On original 1866-70 grade of the Southern Minnesota Railroad, abandoned by the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad in 1980. Trail extends SE to Money Creek Unit of the R J Dorer Memorial Hardwood Forest with a campsite along the Root River.
<b>Wabasha</b>									
<b>KRUGER UNIT</b> (612) 345-3216 DNR Forestry PO Box 69 Lake City, MN 55041	5.0	■					S		Located from Wabasha 5 mi SW on MN Hwy 60, then 1 mi SE on Co Rd 81 in Richard J Dorer Memorial Hardwood Forest. Dirt and grass surface. Steep slopes covered with pine, walnut, basswood, maple, cherry, ash, aspen and birch, overlooking the Zumbro River. Steep slopes in some areas. Ramp.
<b>TROUT VALLEY UNIT</b> (507) 523-2183 DNR Forestry Box 278 Lewiston, MN 55952	7.4	■ ■	■ ■				S		Located from Winona 15 mi NW on US Hwy 61, then 1.7 mi SW on Co Rd 29; within Richard J Dorer Memorial Hardwood State Forest. Dirt and grass surface. This valley is flanked with steep, wooded ridges and bluffs. Flat ridge tops are open agricultural land, while the slopes are covered by oak/hickory forest. Steep slopes in some areas. Picket. Camping permitted at trailhead.
<b>Willmar</b>									
<b>SIBLEY STATE PARK</b> (612) 354-2055 State Park Mgr 800 Sibley Pk Rd NE New London, MN 56273	8.0	■	V	15			P ■		Located from Willmar 15 mi N on US Hwy 71. Dirt and grass surface. Rolling hardwood forest along the shore of Lake Andrew provides various recreational opportunities in the park. Camping-interpretive program and boat and canoe rentals are available in the park. Stream fording. Ramp.
<b>Wykoff</b>									
<b>FORESTVILLE STATE PARK</b> (507) 352-5111 State Park Mgr Box 128 Route 2 Preston, MN 55965	14.0	■ ■	V	80	■		P ■		Located from Wykoff 5 mi S on Co Rd 5, then 2 mi E on Co Rd 12. Limestone surface. Natural beauty of woods and trout streams enclose a Civil War era townsite that contains the Meighen Store Museum. Stream fording. Ramp.

## METROPOLITAN AREA

<b>Afton</b>									
<b>AFTON STATE PARK</b> (612) 436-5391 State Park Mgr 6959 Peller Ave So Hastings, MN 55033	5.0	■ ■	F				R		Located from downtown St Paul 8 mi E on I-94, then 7 mi S on Co Rd 15, then 3 mi E on Co Rd 20 (70th St). Dirt and grass surface. Wilderness atmosphere near the Twin Cities on the bluff and floodplain of the St Croix River. Sixteen various ecological communities are present in the park. Scenic views of river valley, excellent bird watching. Heated visitor center for group use.
<b>Jordan</b>									
<b>MINNESOTA VALLEY STATE PARK AND TRAIL</b> (612) 492-6400 State Park Mgr 19825 Park Blvd Jordan, MN 55352	21.9	■					R		Located from Chaska, immediately S of Minnesota River on MN Hwy 41 to Trail Site Two. Dirt and grass surface. Wet but passable conditions in season. Trail runs along the south side of the Minnesota River from Shakopee to Belle Plaine and adjoins the following wayside units: Lawrence, Louisville Swamp, Carver Rapids, Gifford Lake and Nyssen's Lake. All within MN Valley Natl Wildlife Refuge/Rec Area and State Trail. State park vehicle sticker required in wayside units.
<b>CARVER RAPIDS UNIT</b> (612) 492-6400 State Park Mgr 19825 Park Blvd Jordan, MN 55352	2.6	■ ■			■ ■		P		Located near Jordan 2 mi S of junction of US Hwy 169 and MN Hwy 41, then 0.5 mi W on 145th St to parking lot in Louisville Swamp Unit. Dirt and grass surface. Unit of Minnesota Valley Wildlife Refuge-Recreation Area and State Trail. Surrounded on three sides by Louisville Swamp Unit. Connects with additional 6 mi of horse trail. Trails wind through historic sites and past Little Rapids of the Minnesota River.

METROPOLITAN AREA HORSE TRAILS		Trail Miles	Parking	Drinking water	Toilet	Campsites	Shelter	Water-Horse: Hitch	Corral
Jordan (cont'd.)									
GIFFORD LAKE UNIT (612) 492-6400 State Park Mgr 19825 Park Blvd Jordan, MN 55352		2.4	■		V			L	
LAWRENCE UNIT (612) 492-6400 State Park Mgr 19825 Park Blvd Jordan, MN 55352		3.6	■ ■		V	12	■	■ ■	
Monticello									
LAKE MARIA STATE PARK (612) 878-2325 State Park Mgr Route 1 Box 128 Monticello, MN 55362		6.4	■ ■		F		■	L	
Plymouth									
LUCE LINE STATE TRAIL (612) 296-3572 DNR T & W Area 1200 Warner Road St. Paul, MN 55106		63.5	■ ■		V			P	

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