

# Deer Prairie Creek Preserve

## EQUESTRIAN USE

Deer Prairie Creek Preserve is open for horseback riding on two designated equestrian loop trails. The short equestrian loop trail covers nearly six miles of the property through areas of historical cattle ranching and habitats that include pine flatwoods and hammocks. The long equestrian loop trail covers 9.4 miles of similar habitat with an additional section along the west bank of Deer Prairie Creek. These trails were chosen to ensure a scenic and varied route and as much shade as possible.



## Horse Trailer Parking

Parking is available and can accommodate up to five horse trailers at the north entrance of the preserve. Please remember that Florida state law requires that all riders carry proof of current negative Coggins results for each horse with them at all times while riding in the preserve.

## Directions

North entrance -  
Take I-75 to exit 193 toward Englewood/Venice. Turn left onto Jacaranda Blvd. and travel 2.6 miles to Border Road. Turn right onto Border Road. Go 1.6 miles to South Moon Drive, turn right. Go 1.1 miles to Forbes Trail; turn left onto Forbes Trail and travel to entrance at 7001 Forbes Trail, Venice. The preserve sign will be on the right.

## Hours

7:30 a.m. – 8 p.m., April through October  
7:30 a.m. – 6 p.m., November through March

## Rules and Recommendations

### PLEASE STAY ON THE DESIGNATED TRAILS

Please stay on the trails designated for equestrian use as indicated on the trail map which is located on the reverse side of this sheet. Respect other user groups as these trails are also used by hikers and bicyclists.

## Ride at your Own Risk and Come Prepared

Under Florida state law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury to, or the death of, a participant in equine activities. In addition, the property does not have any facilities such as restrooms. There is a watering trough for horses, as indicated on the map (see map legend), but no water is available for human consumption. To ensure a safe and enjoyable day on the preserve, please come prepared!

For more information about this or any other Sarasota County natural area, please call the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000.

# DEER PRAIRIE CREEK PRESERVE EQUESTRIAN TRAILS



**LEGEND**

- ★ Main Entrance Parking
- Water Trough (Equestrian Use Only)
- Trail Mileage Point
- Trailmarker
- Picnic Table and Hitching Post
- Short Equestrian Trail (5.8 miles)
- Long Equestrian Trail (9.5 miles)
- Hiking Trails (Equestrian Use Prohibited)
- ▭ Preserve Boundary

