

For hundreds of years, horses were a common sight on roads, as they provided the primary source of transportation. Today, horses, riders, and carriage drivers are usually seen on roads only when they need to traverse from one trail to another. They do have a right to be there and it is important that automobile drivers know how to share the road with equestrians. Here in Norco, horses and other livestock are not an uncommon sight to motorists traveling through many of our communities.

Horses are skittish animals. A horse's first impulse is to jump or run away from any object perceived to be dangerous. While the sight or sound of a vehicle is not something their instincts tell them to fear, horses are more likely to be afraid of a dog or a sinister-looking lawn ornament than a car. They may jump into a car's path to avoid the scary object they spot on the side of the road.

It is the responsibility of the motor vehicle driver to slow down when passing horses and riders, or when necessary, to stop to be sure the rider has the horse under control before passing. You can be held liable if your careless driving causes an accident involving a horse or carriage. Just a few seconds of patience on your part can help to prevent a tragedy from happening.

Please drive safely



A public service announcement from the

Norco Office of the Riverside County Sheriff's Department

2870 Clark Avenue
Norco, Ca. 92860

Station
Phone Number:
(951) 270-5673

Dispatch
(Non-Emergency)
Phone Number:
(951) 776-1099

Emergencies:
9-1-1



Road Safety Guidelines for Equestrians and Motor Vehicles



Norco Office of the Riverside County Sheriff's Department

We encourage drivers to be aware of the large population of horses in Norco. You will likely encounter horse riders, or even loose horses, while driving through the city. We ask everyone to exercise extreme caution when driving through the city and watch for these horses and riders so everyone makes it home safe.



TIPS FOR MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATORS

Slow Down! Horses are animals, not machines. Horses are easily alarmed and instinctively run away from anything they perceive to be dangerous, like dogs, moving or loud vehicles and definitely a vehicle's horn.

Regardless of the posted speed limit, each driver is responsible for driving at a safe speed for existing conditions. This means passing horses at a speed which would reasonably allow the driver to avoid a collision should the horse become alarmed.

Never use your horn near a horse.

Pass with a safety space of at least 6-8 feet between your vehicle and the horse.

When approaching a horse from behind on a rural road, let oncoming traffic pass the horse first. Wait until the oncoming lane is completely clear before passing and remember to leave 6-8 feet between your vehicle and the horse.

If you, or someone you know, is unable to continue caring for a horse or you find a horse that is abandoned, please contact:

*True Innocents Equine Rescue
7900 Limonite Ave. Ste. G, # 278
Jurupa Valley, Ca., 92509*

TIPS FOR EQUESTRIAN RIDERS



Observe all traffic regulations and obey all traffic control devices, such as signal lights and stop signs. A horse rider is required by California Law to follow the same rules and regulations as drivers of motor vehicles, including riding while intoxicated.

Ride on the right side of the road and in the same direction of travel as motor vehicles.

Make yourself as visible as possible to drivers by using lights and reflectors. Wear bright reflective clothing when riding during hours of darkness or low light.

Do not intentionally impede the flow of traffic. When a car approaches on a dirt road, or other narrow roadway, stop to safely let the car pass.

Wearing a helmet is highly recommended. As with bicycle accidents, many serious injuries to riders could be avoided with the proper use of a helmet.

*(951) 360-1464
www.tierrescue.org*