

The Keygan Memorial Hitchcock Hike

Aiken, SC

January 11-12, 2014

DAY ONE: 10:30 Start Time

Coker Springs Road – Hitchcock Woods Entrance

The hike on day one will begin with a three-mile dirt road tour of Aiken's Historic Horse District; the remainder of the hike will be in Hitchcock Woods adjacent to the horse district.

DAY TWO: 8:00 Start Time

1717 Dibble Road, Aiken, SC (Coordinator's residence, across from Hitchcock Woods).

Trail Description

The Historic Horse District in Aiken consists of dirt roads leading to a number of training stables, a horse race track and polo field. Hitchcock Woods is a 2,000-acre urban forest that contains over 65 miles of trails. Living on the perimeter of these woods, I have been able to select a route that is safe, attractive, diverse in elevation and width, and provides rest points every 2 miles. All trails are natural sandy terrain, ranging from flat dirt roads to narrow hilly trails. Trail lengths were determined by a mileage legend on the Hitchcock Woods official trail map, GPS, car odometer (historic section).

All participants will practice LNT (Leave No Trace) hiking.

Safety Precautions

All participants will be provided literature and receive verbal instruction regarding horse and rider, horse and buggy, and pedestrian encounters. Dogs will be under leash control at all times.

Animal and human first aid kits will be available throughout the hike. Any injured animal can be transported to the Animal Emergency Clinic, 2401 Washington Rd, Augusta, GA (706) 733-7458, which is 15 miles from the hike location. Humans with injuries or illness requiring medical attention will be transported the Aiken Regional Medical Centers Emergency Room which is 2 miles from the hike starting point. For serious injuries, the individual can be air lifted to a Level 1 Trauma Center at the Georgia Regents Medical Center in Augusta.

Procedures Related to Titles

Dogs are required to be weighed by the handlers' veterinarian office staff within 7 days of the hike date. The handler must provide, on veterinarian office stationery, the dog's name, weight, and date prior to the start of the hike.

Packs will be weighed at the meeting point at the beginning of each day's hike and then placed on the dogs.