



FOUR WHEEL DRIVE ETHICS

Four-wheeling can be an enjoyable sport for the whole family. Some of the four-wheel drive roads within the Aspen Ranger District are more suitable for travel by small four-wheel drive vehicles. Difficulty may arise when meeting other vehicles, when negotiating rocks in your path, or when traveling between trees.

For safe, courteous, common sense operation of your 4WD vehicle, we urge you to follow some of the following ethics developed so that present and future generations may continue to enjoy the forests and mountains year after year:

1. Stay on established roads. Traveling off roads disturbs plant life and causes the erosion of fragile ecosystems.
2. Don't spin wheels unnecessarily. Don't harass wildlife. Avoid driving in streams, meadows, alpine tundra, or on steep hills with loose soil.
3. Keep the backcountry clean and beautiful by packing out what you pack in and any garbage left by others that you may encounter along the way.
4. Respect private property. Obtain permission to cross or use private land.
5. Be aware of travel restrictions and seasonal closures on public lands.
6. Leave historical relics, rocks, flowers, wood, antlers, and artifacts in their natural state for others to enjoy.
7. Safety and courtesy are contagious. Spread them around.
8. Be prepared for emergencies. Having spare parts, tools, and adequate clothing will help. For safety's sake take a first-aid kit, fire extinguisher, drinking water, flashlight, matches, blankets, and flares.
9. Yield the right-of-way to motorists traveling uphill. Failure to yield causes vehicles to lose forward momentum.

Forest Service maps are available at our District Office. These maps show areas open, closed, and restricted to off-road vehicle use. Use these maps for more detailed information.