

### **ECO-FRIENDLY HIKING FOR FUN & SAFETY**

Wildlife, other trail users and your dog will thank you for doing the following:

# **STAY ON OFFICIAL TRAILS**

Stay off closed trails and obey all posted regulations. Taking shortcuts, or cutting switchbacks can cause erosion, cause hazards and could ultimately cause the closing down of the trail. Please see the trails map in the trailhead kiosk or website (<u>www.HabitatAuthority.org</u>) for trail locations. Off trail activity in the Preserve results in a fine of \$175 up to \$1,000.

# TRAILS OPEN AND CLOSE AT SUNRISE AND SUNSET

When the sun sets below the horizon, please be out of the Preserve to protect the environment and for your safety. Also, all trails are closed during red flag days (extreme fire hazard days) and 48 hours after heavy rain. Check website (<u>www.HabitatAuthority.org</u>) for trail updates or call (562) 945-9003, ext. 5#. Being in the Preserve when it's closed results in a fine of \$175 up to \$1,000.

### CARRY OUT ALL LITTER

Pack out what you pack in. Old water bottles and food wrappers don't have a place on the trail. Consider using a reusable water bottle. Littering in the Preserve results in a fine of \$175 up to \$1,000.

## **KEEP YOUR DOG ON A LEASH AND PICK UP WASTE**

Keep your dog on a leash and under control at all times. Dogs running off leash may result in adverse impacts on wildlife and degrade the outdoor experience of other trail users. If an area is posted "no dogs" obey signage. Be prepared with a plastic bag and carry the dog's waste until you come across a trash can. If caught hiking with your dog off leash, without a waste bag, or not picking up after your dog you will be fined in the amount of \$175 up to \$1,000.

#### **HIKING WITH YOUR DOG**

Take plenty of water for yourself and your dog. Take enough extra to pour on a dog for a cooldown, should it become necessary. Avoid the heat of day. The best time to hike is early morning, shortly after sunrise. Don't hike with a dog when it's warm and especially not when it's hot; with no sweat glands and only panting available to disperse body heat, dogs are much more susceptible to heat stroke than we are.

# **RESPECT WILDLIFE**

Do not disturb, feed or harass wildlife, or remove any plants. Keep voices and music at a low volume. These activities are enforceable in the Preserve with a fine of \$175 up to \$1,000. This Preserve is home for many wildlife, and is managed for their preservation and your enjoyment. Attacks by mountain lions, coyotes or bobcats are extremely rare; your chances of tripping and seriously injuring yourself, or even getting struck by lightning, are much higher than getting bitten by a mountain lion, coyote or bobcat. Most snake bites occur when a rattlesnake is handled or accidentally touched by someone not watching where they are stepping. If you see or hear a rattlesnake, stay calm and slowly move away from the snake and give it room to slither away safely.