

Hay Creek Ranch

An unspoiled adventure in the Black Hills of South Dakota. . .

By Doug Lindgren, proprietor & host

Throughout our lifetimes, thousand of thoughts and ideas come into our heads. Some of them we act on, but most we let slip away. It is my belief that those thoughts and ideas come from God, and that they are meant to help us find direction. I think of them as signposts or mile markers along the journey of life.

In the years 2004-2005, Jody and I acted on one of those ideas and decided to leave great jobs in Iowa and move to the Black Hills to start a new business and live a totally different life.

We had been bringing our horses to the Black Hills for several years. The first time we came to the Nemo area was in early June, 2001. We bought 20 acres in November, 2004, and moved here in April of 2005. We spent most of 2005 clearing brush and turning a forest into a park. We have been building our facilities since January, 2006, and with help from family and lots of GREAT friends we were able to open our camp for business in June, 2006.

Our goal for guests of Hay Creek Ranch is to make their vacation exactly what they want it to be, and to share a little of the beauty, peace, quiet, and tranquility we have here. We are truly "off the beaten path."

Hay Creek Ranch provides guests with a place to really see the Hills – not the 55 MPH, down-the-highway view, but a view from deep in the forest amongst old growth pine, beautiful aspen, rock outcroppings and clear mountain streams rolling over rocky bottoms. There are hundreds of miles of trails to ride, hike, and bike, ranging from forest service roads to wildlife trails. The area is perfect for riding horses, offering all levels of difficulty.

Our area boasts a myriad of birds, as well as deer, elk, squirrels, chipmunks, bobcats, coyote, and an occasional mountain lion. Hundreds of wildflowers in bloom, ripe raspberries on the hillsides, crisp mountain air and awesome colors, and the occasional bugle of elk during their rut, all contribute to seasonal highlights.

The design and layout of the camp is very open and each cabin, RV site, and tent area has its own character. We offer something for everyone. We currently have four cabins with full baths and kitchenettes, full or queen size bunk beds and electric baseboard heat. These four cabins also feature porches with patio furniture and fire rings for campfires on a cool evening. If you want it a little more rustic, our Line

Shack is a replica of 1800s ranch cowboy living quarters. Nestled in the trees, this cabin is set up with a full size bed and some basic handmade furniture. Our RV sites have electricity and water hookups [or not] – whatever you desire. They are set up so you can have plenty of privacy. There are plenty of picnic tables and fire rings in the RV area and a dump station is available. The tent sites also give you the choice of utilities or you can be as primitive as you wish.

Hay Creek Ranch has a bathhouse that is second to none. Each private bath has a sink, shower, and flush toilet. We designed it to provide a comfortable facility you can enjoy after a day on the trails. You will receive a good hot shower in a clean, spacious, temperature-controlled environment.

For horse comfort we have safe, clean, shaded corrals to meet everyone's needs. Our corrals can accommodate more than 40 horses.

Our immediate plans for Hay Creek Ranch are to continue to provide our guests with good value and high quality services while growing our business. We want to have the kind of place people love to get back to because they had such a great time. We hope to create a sense of family and friends with our guests by providing an atmosphere that feels like home.

Please check out our website at www.haycreekranch.net or give us a call at 605-578-1142.

