

Way-marking Procedure

Waymarks help to clarify routes, especially at junctions and where the route is unclear on the ground. However, we encourage all walkers and riders to use maps, and they should not rely purely on waymarks to find their way.

Please adhere to the following instructions when way-marking;

Where

Ensure you are on the definitive line; permissive routes **must not** be waymarked.

Only waymark if the route is unclear going forward in the following places;

- A change of direction
- Where a Right Of Way crosses a non-Right Of Way
- A junction of multiple paths
- Cross-field paths; also waymark the far stile/gate if possible so that this can be seen from across the field.

Do not waymark a straight stretch of path if there have been no junctions or opportunities to change direction.

Note: at boundaries, the waymark should denote the direction **beyond** the boundary.

What

Waymarks can be affixed to stiles, gates, fences, waymark posts; and private property with the owner's permission (e.g. barns through a farmyard).

Waymarks **must not** be affixed to trees, telegraph poles, or roadside signposts.

How

Remove and replace faded or broken waymarks.

Ensure you use the correct colour for the status of the path.

Remove waymarks that are not on the definitive line, or are not necessary.

Clean waymarks of dirt and encroaching moss to enhance their longevity and prevent obscurity.

Waymark in both directions.

Affix waymarks to the latch side of gates and always on the gate post, not the gate itself.

Ensure the waymark is visible on the approach; do not attach to the top of posts.

Check with the landowner/tenant when way-marking a route through farm buildings; if a landowner asks you not to waymark, just let us know and we will contact them.

If there is nothing to attach a waymark to where a waymark is needed, take a photograph of the location and let NYCC know via paths@northyorks.gov.uk. We may then install a waymark post.

If you have any questions about this protocol, contact the Volunteer Co-ordinator at countryside.volunteers@northyorks.gov.uk

THANK YOU

Examples of incorrect way-marking;



Waymark on signpost – not necessary.
Old waymark has not been fully removed.
New waymark is not central and overhangs the edge.



Don't place waymarks on top of posts.



Never waymark trees.
Waymarks are poorly aligned – keep them neat and together



The faded waymark at bottom needs removing.



Here the bridleway is in front of the gate; only the footpath goes beyond it. Therefore, the blue waymarks are misleading and unnecessary. They should be on the other side of the gate for those approaching the bridleway from the footpath.