

ATVAM Newsletter - May 18, 2020

Newsletter of the ATV Association of Minnesota (Est. 1983)

"Your Voice for ATV Recreation In Minnesota"

- Send your comments, club news, photos and article ideas to: d.halsey@atvam.org
- Forward this email to club partners and business sponsors if they aren't ATVAM members already.
- All members should receive this newsletter and MN OffRoad magazine. Let us know if you're not.

Please note:

Send member renewals to: ATVAM, PO Box 300, Stacy, MN 55079

E-newsletters are now archived on atvam.org to refer back to on topics.



**This Edition Is Dedicated
To All Minnesota ATV Clubs,
Working Hard For The Riding Public
THANK YOU!**



Building bridges. Replacing culverts.
Cleaning dump sites. Grading trails....

This month, ATV clubs across Minnesota are heading out to their designated trail systems, their members putting in long hours working with hand tools, and club-owned or rented heavy equipment, all to bring trails back to a state to be enjoyed by their club and the riding public.

Thank-you to all the ATV clubs and their volunteers, who take time away from their families, and sacrifice their own riding time for spring trail maintenance. Getting mud on their boots instead of their wheelers. Climbing into excavators instead of their side-by-sides. Moving dirt. Removing downed trees. Replacing signs. And



more.





THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

ATV Clubs Provide Community Service Year-Round

Highway cleanups. Rides for veterans groups. Raffles for charitable organizations and other non-profits. ATV clubs are generous of their time and talents 12 months of the year.







Members of the Carlton County Riders were among volunteers helping its County Commissioners plant 1,000 trees at the site of an old landfill near the Soo Pits Trail in Moose Lake.

ATV Clubs Educate Riders Wherever They Find Them (Even on closed trails)



ATV Clubs take personal ownership of the Grant-in-Aid trails they build and maintain. They work long and hard to keep them fun and safe for the riding public, and sustainable both economically and environmentally.

The number of ATVs registered in Minnesota is increasing at a rate of about 3% each year, or roughly 9,000 vehicles.

Also on the rise, it seems, are the number of first-time owners who aren't bothering to educate themselves before they ride on the State ATV Trails. This presents a challenge to ATV club volunteers, who find themselves educating riders not just in their organized ATV Safety Classes and at community events but, in some cases, while doing trail maintenance. Calmly informing ATV owners of the rules of the trail, some who don't bother to learn the DNR regulations, others who simply don't care to abide by them.

Case in point last Saturday: One day after the official opening of a popular ATV trail system in central Minnesota, the club that maintains it was hauling rock to fill in some wet areas on a stretch of Class-1 only trail. Within 5 hours, they had to turn back 19 Class 2 side-by-sides. The drivers ignored two signs: one that states the trail

is for Class 1 ATVs only, another that read "Trail closed for maintenance." One of the drivers was on a Class 2 that measured 77 inches wide, too wide to legally ride on any State ATV Trail. A club member stopped what he was doing and kindly asked the driver if he knew the trail was for Class 1 ATVs only. His response, astonishing the trail workers, was: "What's a Class 1?"



Patience, Positivity, Perseverance
Those are the 3 P's of trail building - often a long and challenging process.

More and more, the same three words may apply to ATVAM and its many ATV member clubs, as we all try our best to educate riders wherever we find them, in order to protect our right AND their right to ride.

DNR Allows "Dispersed Camping" In State Forests Under New Walz Order



Here is the latest on "dispersed camping," allowed starting May 18th in State Forests, including at some of the widely spaced campsites along Forest Roads that wind through OHV Trail Systems.

Camping in sites with no fire ring or picnic table, along Forest Roads in Spider Lake Trails and Nemadji Trails for example, is allowed.

No fire ring or picnic table? Allowed.



Campsite with amenities? Not allowed.

But camping in sites with tables or fire rings, or within a mile of a developed State Forest campground (which are still closed), is not allowed.

It's unclear how far DNR Conservation Officers will enforce "dispersed camping" based on the DNR definition.

According to an email sent to ATVAM by the DNR, vault toilets will remain closed at OHV trailheads until cleaning protocols are put in place.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

5 hrs · 🌐

UPDATE ON DNR CAMPING:

Dispersed camping will be allowed in state forests beginning Monday, May 18. Dispersed camping:

- 🌲 Is limited to a single household.
- 🌲 Has no amenities - no toilets, water pumps, fire grates, trashcans, or picnic tables.
- 🌲 Must be done at least one mile outside of designated campsites or campgrounds on state forest land.
- 🌲 Does not require a reservation.

See our dispersed camping page for more information: go.usa.gov/xvtCS

Calling All ATVAM Volunteers. Racing Is On At ERX!



Save The Date: July 10-11

And Grab A Time Slot Today

Last year, dozens of ATVAM members signed up to help with parking and security at ERX national truck races. Again this year, ATVAM is partnering with ERX Motor Park, for the ERX Off Road National, July 10-11. ATVAM members will be invited to assist, and given free passes, camping and more.

A sign-up calendar (sample below) is now open on the ATVAM website, for the dates July 7 to 12, with morning, afternoon, evening and overnight time slots. Make

it a family or club event and grab your time slots today. ERX is in the process of setting up a plan for social distancing and other safety measures for those who attend. In the meantime, you can see the excitement of Off Road Racing at ERX, by tapping on this link to a YouTube video, a trailer for this year's event:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4UqRa9yZ2FM&feature=youtu.be>

PARKING	
Friday 7/10/2020	
Shift Hours	Status
12am - 6am (Racer Parking)	Open
12am - 6am (Racer Parking)	Open
12am - 6am (Racer Parking)	Open
12am - 6am (Racer Parking)	Open
12am - 6am (Racer Parking)	Open
12am - 6am (Camp)	Open
12am - 6am (Camp)	Open
12am - 6am (Camp)	Open
6am - 12pm (Racer Parking)	Open
6am - 12pm (Racer Parking)	Open
6am - 12pm (Racer Parking)	Open
6am - 12pm (Racer Parking)	Open
6am - 12pm (Racer Parking)	Open
6am - 12pm (Camp)	Open
6am - 12pm (Camp)	Open

Time slots are available for race setup, parking, security, race breakdown and more, from July 7 to 12. See them all on the ATVAM website (atvam.org), tap ERX on the home page.

**Gear Up, Promote ATVAM,
And Show Your Pride Every Time You Ride
(Many new items coming soon on website)**



Gifts for Mother's Day, Father's Day, graduates, and friends and family who are new to trail riding. ATVAM has just what you need to show your pride as an ATVAM member. Shirts, hoodies and caps for all your ride and after-ride activities. You can order from the comfort of your recliner. Just go to atvam.org and choose gear for the men and women in your life, while supporting ATVAM and its efforts to create a positive future for ATV recreation in

Minnesota.



DNR Adjusts Grant-In-Aid Manual In Response To Pandemic Conditions



The Minnesota DNR has made temporary amendments to the Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Grant-In-Aid Manual. The Parks and Trails Division has shared the new document with all ATV clubs and sponsors, and has posted it on its website on the GIA page. In an email to ATVAM, Paul Purman, Parks and Trails OHV Program Consultant, explains the adjustments:

From Paul Purman:

These amendments are fairly minor in nature, and are intended to be used in a pandemic environment in close consultation with the DNR Parks and Trails Area Supervisor that trail administrators typically work with. The importance of communication and coordination with the Area

Supervisor is strengthened in this document. In short, here are the changes, which took effect yesterday (May 4), and will expire on June 30, 2021 unless extended:

- **Pandemic Best Practices:** Provides some additional information for clubs and sponsors to consider when doing their trail work regarding safe practices in the pandemic environment, including some specific information on when face masks must be worn.
- **Limited flexibility in travel reimbursements:** Identifies that DNR PAT Area Supervisors have the authority to approve increased reimbursements for normally allowed travel to and from the project area specifically to support effective social distancing, even if these reimbursements would exceed the budgeted administrative amounts and/or go above the normal 15% cap on administrative charges outlined in the Program Manual.
- **Changes in work plans:** Acknowledges that sponsors and clubs need to evaluate the importance of tasks that require close contact, and delay or forgo tasks when appropriate. Emphasizes that they need to keep DNR Area Supervisor informed of proposed changes to work plan resulting from COVID19 concerns.
- **Short term delays in trail openings:** Affirms that if a sponsor and/or club believe current pandemic conditions justify a short term delay to the opening of a trail, to please contact the DNR Parks and Trails Area Supervisor immediately to discuss.
- **Signage:** Acknowledges that public health may be enhanced by clubs and sponsors posting additional signage to support social distancing.
- **Portable toilet reimbursement (non-pandemic):** Clarifies that the current grant agreement allows portable toilet services to be reimbursed at up to 90%. **I hope that these temporary changes will provide some clarity and tools to support enhanced health for the riding public, OHV clubs, and sponsors during this time of pandemic.**

To read the entire document of amendments, go to this page of the DNR website: https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/recreation/gia_ohv.html

Mud Nats Cancelled.



Camping Reservations Can Be Kept.

From High Lifter Website: Due to the COVID-19 crisis and health regulations, we regret to announce the High Lifter Mud Nationals Quadna event is cancelled for 2020. Usually held in June, the Mud Nationals

Quadna event brings thousands of offroad enthusiasts to the Quadna Mountain Park in Hill City, MN. **High Lifter Mud Nationals will be at Hillarosa ATV Park in Blevins, AR September 30 - October 4, 2020.**

Some ATV clubs are keeping their reservations at Quadna Mountain Park to ride in the area, despite the cancellation of Mud Nats.



ATVAM & ATV Club Events Coming Up

Send your club schedule for rides/work days to: d.halsey@atvam.org .

Many ATVAM members do not belong to an ATV club and are looking for one to join, ride with and help build trails.

-Next Monthly ATVAM State-Wide Board Meeting - May 19, 6:30pm conference call

All ATVAM clubs are sent an email invitation to call in, and have one spot on the board to participate and vote.

-September 18-20 - ATVAM Annual Conference / Ride & Rally

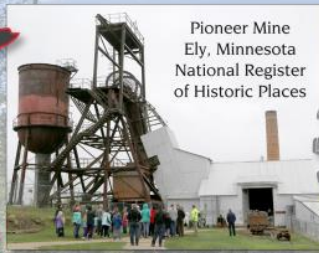
Host: Prospectors ATV Club/Ely Friday Trail Rides, Big Air ATV Tour

Saturday Trail Rides, Banquet/Meeting/Auction

at Grand Ely Lodge, 400 N. Pioneer Road, Ely

Registration and lodging/campground options at atvam.org

September 18-20, 2020 in Ely, Babbitt, Embarrass & Tower
ATV Minnesota State Convention 2020



Pioneer Mine
 Ely, Minnesota
 National Register
 of Historic Places

Hosted by:



ATVAM Ride and Rally
 Sept 18-20, 2020
Schedule of Events

FRIDAY 9.18.20

8am Registration opens
 8am Pancake Breakfast Timber Hall Embarrass
 10am VIP Rides Begin
Noon-2pm: VIP Lunch on Lake Vermilion
Time TBA ATV Big Air Tour in Babbitt
 5pm-? Dinner Specials at Local Restaurants

SATURDAY 9.19.20

7:30-9:30am Pancake Breakfast by the Volunteer
 Fire Dept at the Morse-Fall Lake Fire Hall
8am-5pm Registration open at Grand Ely Lodge
10am Guided ATV rides offered at various
 locations including a lunch stop at local restaurants.
 Different rides of various lengths/difficulty.

Saturday Night @ Historic Pioneer Mine:

4-8pm Silent Auction to benefit ATVAM
5-7:30pm ATVAM Ride and Rally Banquet
7pm General Membership Meeting & Election
 ATVAM Live Auction to follow

SUNDAY 9.20.20

9am ATVAM board meeting at Grand Ely Lodge



**Come & Ride
 What We've
 Been Building!**

Register for Ride and Rally 2020 at ATVAM.org. Price for Friday's guided ride and VIP lunch \$10.
 Guided ATV rides Saturday and Saturday night banquet \$35. Kids 12 and under FREE at all events.

Region 1 Club Rides & Work Days:

Please submit for next newsletter.

Region 2:

Carlton County Riders -- Pig Roast

June 20, Duquette, MN A camping, food and wheeling event
 Details at club Facebook page.

White Pine Riders - Club Ride

June 27 -- Fun Run
 Meet at Jackson's Hole, Lawler at 10 am. Details on club Facebook page.

Region 3:

Lake Country ATV Riders

May 23 -- Meeting 10 am at Bear's Den, Ride To Spider Lake at 11 am
 June 27 -- Meeting 10 am at Bear's Den, Ride at Mississippi Northwoods, noon

Region 4:

Please submit for next newsletter.

Region 5:

South Metro ATV Club

June 19-21, Club ride at Spider Lake Trails

July 18, Club Ride at Fond du Lac Trails

July 19, Club Ride at Nemadji Trails

See club website for updates on ride status: www.southmetroatv.com

Region 6:

Please submit for next newsletter.



Thanks to the work crews of the Over The Hills Gang ATV Club and ATV clubs across Minnesota for getting the State ATV Trails prepped for the 2020 ride season.

ATV MINNESOTA
"Your Voice To Ride"

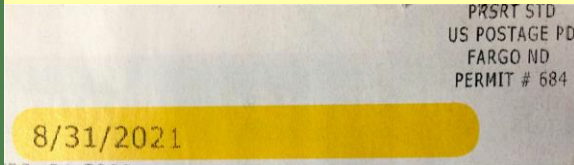
Dedicated Volunteers
Building Fun & Sustainable ATV Trails

For The Riding Public

Invite friends and family to join today!

See the mailing label on *MN OffRoad* magazine for the renewal date of your ATVAM membership.

Be sure to include your email address on renewal form to receive newsletters. And send renewals to ATVAM's mailing



address: PO Box 300, Stacy, MN 55079

Belonging to ATVAM, you join thousands of riders throughout the state, have fun, and help ensure the future of ATV riding in Minnesota.

As a family or individual member for just \$20 you receive:

- A subscription to *Minnesota OffRoad* magazine (6 issues per year)
- Twice monthly newsletter by email with the latest news and information
- Membership card and bumper sticker
- Invitation to events, including our Legislative Summit and Vision Meeting in the spring, and the ATVAM Fall Ride & Rally, as well as general membership meetings
- Discounts with many of our business members
- A full-time lobbyist at the State Capitol, helping create pro-ATV legislation, and moving forward important bills that help provide funding for new trail systems

As a business member for \$75 you receive:

All of the above, plus:

- Your business name, address, phone number, and website listed in each issue of the *MN OffRoad* magazine and on our website
- Discounts on advertising in *MN OffRoad* magazine
- An official ATVAM membership certificate for display in your business

To join, contact [ATVAM](#) or call (800) 442-8826.



[ATVAM](#)

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ATVAM, PO Box 300, Stacy, MN 55079

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