

ATV Minnesota

"Your Voice For ATV Recreation in Minnesota"

November 11, 2021

Newsletter

880 new members this year!

Welcome!

ATV MINNESOTA

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Membership Registration and Renewal

By joining ATV MN today, you are helping to ensure the future of ATV riding in Minnesota.

You'll join thousands of other ATV enthusiasts throughout the state and be a part of the fun and camaraderie.

[Learn More](#)

ATV Minnesota Launches New Website - atvmn.org

ATV Minnesota is proud to provide its members and member clubs with an all-new website. Replacing atvam.org is atvmn.org. It features an updated design, and easier navigation to find helpful news and information, lists of our member clubs and business members, plus the ability to join or renew membership, links to our new Minnesota Wheelin magazine, the ATV MN store and more.

All member clubs and business members: Please review your listing and let us know if there are any changes we need to make to it. We value your support and want to make sure what we show is current information.

The old website domain atvam.org will automatically forward to atvmn.org. Check it out, and let us know if there are additions you'd like to see in the future.

Thanks to everyone who contributed, especially our team at Pro Print for all their help creating and launching this exciting new website!



Save The Date!

ATV MN Legislative Summit: January 8, 2022

The future of ATV riding in Minnesota starts at the Legislative Summit, scheduled for January 8, 2022, at Treasure Island Resort & Casino. It's your ATV club's opportunity to submit resolutions to be prioritized and voted on, giving ATV Minnesota and its lobbyists direction and priority on what Legislative issues will be pursued

during the 2022 Legislative Session, which begins January 31st. All ATV Minnesota clubs are invited to send representatives. There is no charge to attend. **More details on the Summit and a form for clubs to submit their resolutions will be coming soon.**



COALITION FOR RECREATIONAL TRAILS 2021 AWARDS



Voyageur Country ATV Receives National Trails Award From CRT

Each year, the Coalition for Recreational Trails (CRT) selects winners for the Annual Tom Petri CRT Awards, honoring outstanding projects that utilized Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funding. This year, Voyageur Country ATV, based in Crane Lake, MN, received the Small Projects Award, for its

project building the Vermilion Falls Trail and its 256 ft. elevated boardwalk. The club was recognized during a virtual ceremony on November 10th, and was one of 13 groups receiving awards.

Accepting the award during the virtual ceremony were Bruce Beste and Steve Koch. Members of Congress are invited to participate in the event. U.S. Congressman Pete Stauber provided a short video congratulating the club. The presentation ceremony was recorded and is being made available on Facebook and YouTube.

Here is a link to watch the award ceremony, recognizing trail projects across the country. The Voyageur Country ATV award segment is at 38 minutes, 27 seconds of the hourlong video: <https://www.facebook.com/railstotrails/videos/6389078834467624>

"Despite the ongoing pandemic, there were a record number of projects nominated, and the quality of projects represented was outstanding. The Awards Committee had a tough time making final decisions and the entire Board of Directors was delighted with the excellent pool of nominations," CRT staff reported.

CRT is a federation of national and regional trail-related organizations. Its members work together to build awareness and understanding of the Recreational Trails Program, which returns federal gasoline taxes paid by off-highway enthusiasts to the states for trail development and maintenance.

RTP was created in 1991 and has been key to more than 25,000 projects and programs during its history. The RTP has fans in Congress, in the Executive Branch and across the nation for its effectiveness in unifying government agencies, trail interests and allies in recreation and tourism.

Following creation of the RTP, the nation's leading national trails organizations united to form the Coalition for Recreational Trails for advocacy, to provide support to local trails programs and tell the stories of the program's successes. One of the ways CRT does that is with national recognition of outstanding use of RTP funds – including this year's winners. **Congratulations to Voyageur Country ATV and all its members and hard-working volunteers!**



(LtoR) Mark Anderson, Tim Engrav with the Superior National Forest, Bruce Beste, Gretchen Janssen, Steve Koch)

Voyageur Country Also Presented With U.S. Forest Service Awards

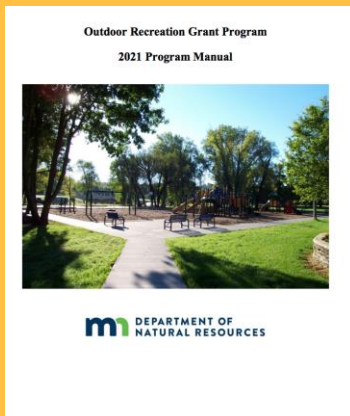
From the club newsletter: "The USFS presented our club with 2 awards last month: an Eastern Region Honor award for "Facilitating rural prosperity and economic development" and a Service Award for "Citizen stewardship, partnerships and volunteerism." The presentation of the awards from 2020, in honor of the club's Vermilion River bridge and other projects, had to be postponed until now because of COVID-19.



Range Riders ATV Club Receives \$10,000 T.R.A.I.L.S. Grant

Based in Nashwauk, MN, the Ranger Riders ATV Club is one of 12 organizations awarded a \$10,000 Polaris T.R.A.I.L.S. Grant recently. This year, 21 grants were awarded, totaling \$200,000. Since it was founded in 2006, the program has supported 335 off-road and ATV organizations with nearly \$3 million in grants to help support the future of off-road and

snowmobile riding by championing safe and responsible riding and promoting environmental preservations and trail access. For more information on the T.R.A.I.L.S. Grant Program and to apply for a grant, follow this link to the Polaris website: <https://www.polaris.com/en-us/trails-application/>.



Reminder: Deadline For GIA Applications Is November 30th

Minnesota's Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Trails Assistance Program, also called Grant-in-Aid (GIA), is a cost-share program. It facilitates development and maintenance of trails for use by ATVs, Off-Highway Motorcycles (OHMs), and Off-Road Vehicles (ORVs) at the initiative of enthusiast groups or clubs, with the support and participation of local government sponsors. It's funded by vehicle registration and trail pass fees plus a percentage of the state non-highway gas tax from each of the motorized groups.

All aspects of OHV trail development and maintenance are eligible to receive GIA funds, including project administration, site planning, trail improvements, land acquisition for trail development, and trail maintenance. Enthusiast groups or clubs apply through counties, cities or townships. **Existing trails apply annually by November 30. New trail proposals are accepted at any time.**

Applications, new trail proposals and more information can be obtained from the Minnesota DNR Parks and Trails area supervisor offices in the trail location. More details at:

https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/recreation/gia_ohv.html



ATV MN Participates In DNR Photo Shoot

A Minnesota DNR photo shoot was held at the General C.C. Andrews State Forest Trail on October 26th. Participating in the shoot with their ATVs and dirt bikes were members of ATV Minnesota and ARMCA (Amateur Riders Motorcycle Association, AMA District 23), and DNR Conservation Officers. "We'll be using the videos and photos for the

launch of our OHM/ATV safety campaigns," said Bruce Lawrence with DNR Enforcement (far right in photo). Thanks to everyone who got up early and drove long distances to participate in the daylong shoot.



Swift County Board Aims To Improve And Expand Appleton OHV Park

From the West Central Tribune, Willmar, Minn. Nov. 4—BENSON — The Swift County Board of Commissioners approved moving forward with an application for nearly \$1.18 million in federal funds to improve the county-owned Appleton Off-Highway Vehicle Park.

The decision Tuesday came after meeting with representatives of the Appleton Sportsmen's Club, which has property adjacent to the park. After discussing the concerns of the club, the commissioners and club members agreed the park and shooting range operated by the club can do more than co-exist. "We could promote (the park and range) as a package, if you will," said Commissioner Ed Rudningen. "It seems like a solution waiting to be found."

The commissioners are moving forward with a long-range plan to improve the park based on the recommendations in a master plan adopted earlier this year. An earlier survey of park users and area residents helped identify the amenities that are most wanted. **The park is unique in offering trails for the full range of all-terrain vehicles, off-highway motorcycles and off-highway trucks. And, it is one of the few off-highway vehicle parks available in southern Minnesota.**

The park now includes roughly 330 acres and offers about 20 miles of trails. The county is looking to expand the park by purchasing additional land in the years ahead. There is concern the park is not large enough for its current use. The survey used to develop the master plan found widespread interest by users in seeing more trail miles.



**Coming Soon:
On-The-Job Training For
Powersports Service Techs**

(Please share with students who may be interested)

Polaris is developing an innovative on-the-job training curriculum for training powersports technicians. The Service Technician Education Program (STEP), which leverages new connected vehicle technology to rapidly scale and grow the necessary future technician labor force, is in partnership with Central Lakes College (CLC) in Brainerd, Minnesota, and leading powersports dealer Power Lodge. CLC received a \$1 million grant to fund the program.

Dealers Need More Help With the powersports and marine industries seeing tremendous growth in 2020, due in large part to more people looking for new and different ways to enjoy

the outdoors, there has been an increased demand on dealerships tasked with helping to care for and maintain the vehicles.



Students Paid While Training Serving as a pilot, the STEP program is being developed to help solve this challenge by connecting student technicians to hands-on, in-dealership experience at a Power Lodge dealership while they complete their educational training at CLC. Students will be paid for their work as student technicians when working for the dealership as part of a new career pathway in the industry. Full implementation at CLC is planned to begin with the 2022-2023 academic school year.



Many Trails Are Still Closed For Firearms Deer Hunting Season

Season dates vary by region. Before you head out, always check out the DNR website for the open/closed status and additional information on both State OHV Trails and State Forest Roads. Here is the link:

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/ohv/closures.html> .

From the ATV MN Communications Team:

- Send your comments, club news, photos and article ideas to the ATV MN Communications Team at: d.halsey@atvam.org.
- Forward the twice-monthly email newsletter to club partners and business sponsors if they aren't ATVMN members already.
- All current members should receive the ATV MN newsletter and our new Minnesota Wheelin magazine. Let us know if you're not. Perhaps your membership has expired, or you changed your email or home address. We want to keep everyone up to date on ATVing in Minnesota.
- Send inquiries and member renewals to: ATV MN, PO Box 300, Stacy, MN 55079.

Photo: Selfie station at a scenic stop on the new Emily Blind Lake ATV Trail (closes Nov 1).





ATV MINNESOTA *"Your Voice To Ride"*

Dedicated Volunteers
Building Fun & Sustainable
ATV Trails
For The Riding Public

**Invite friends and family to join today.
Gift memberships available!**

See the mailing label on your Minnesota Wheelin magazine for the renewal date of your membership. Be sure to include your email address on the renewal form to receive newsletters. And send renewals to ATV MN's mailing address: PO Box 300, Stacy, MN 55079.

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

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

- A subscription to Minnesota Wheelin magazine (6 issues per year)
- Twice-monthly newsletter by email with the latest news and information
- Membership card and ATV MN logo sticker for your ATV or vehicle

- Invitation to events, including our Legislative Summit in winter, Vision Meeting and Ride & Roast in the spring, and State Convention "Ride & Rally" in the fall, 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 and contact information listed in Minnesota Wheelin magazine and on the ATV Minnesota website
- Discounts on advertising in Minnesota Wheelin
- Opportunities to reach more customers by sponsoring or donating to our events

To join, contact **ATVAM** or call (800) 442-8826.

ATVAM

Follow us for all the latest news!



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