



**Happy ATValentines Day!**

## ATVAM Newsletter - February 14, 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: dvhalsey@gmail.com.
- 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 new mailing address: ATVAM, PO Box 300, Stacy, MN 55079  
E-newsletters are now archived on [atvam.org](http://atvam.org) to refer back to on topics.

**In This e-Newsletter:**

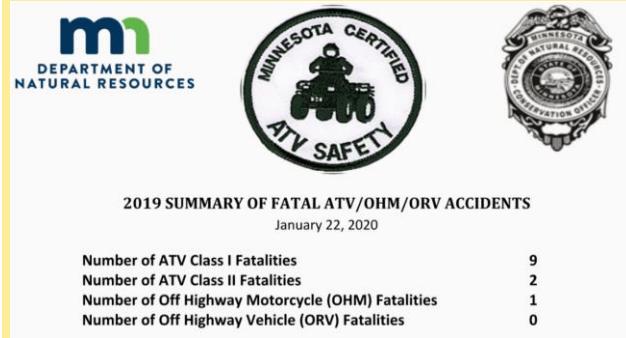
- DNR 2019 Accident Report
- Wanted: ATVAM Regional Directors
- TA Class February 29
- ATVAM Survey On Southern MN

- Register For Vision Conference
- Registration Open For State Convention In Ely
- Virginia Newspaper: Ride & Rally Good For Region
- Get To Know The ATVAM Executive Board
- Save The Date: Next OHV Workshop In Nemadji
- Mille Lacs East Trail Moving Forward
- Fun ATVAM & ATV Club Events Coming Up
- Invite Friends To Join ATVAM

## **DNR Accident Report Reinforces Importance Of Club-Sponsored ATV Safety Classes *(123 last year!)***

ATV clubs across Minnesota are planning their schedules for 2020, including dates for their ATV Safety Training Classes. A dozen classes are already posted on the Minnesota DNR website. The DNR recently released its 2019 report of ATV accidents and fatalities. The numbers reinforce the importance of the work ATV clubs and their members put into safety training. Last year, 123 classes helped 2,735 youth ages 11 to 15 obtain their ATV Certificates, and 2,626 adults also were certified.

Bruce Lawrence, Recreational Vehicle Coordinator with the DNR Division of Enforcement, Safety Training and Education, provided ATVAM with several reports and state maps.



### **Facts from the "2019 Summary of Fatal ATV/OMH/ORV Accidents":**

-There were 11 ATV fatalities: 9 Class 1 and 2 Class 2. That's down from a decade-high 21 in 2018, and about average for the 10 years preceding 2018.

-Of the 11 fatalities: 9 were on a road right-of-way, 1 was on private land, 1 on a designated trail; 5 involved alcohol.

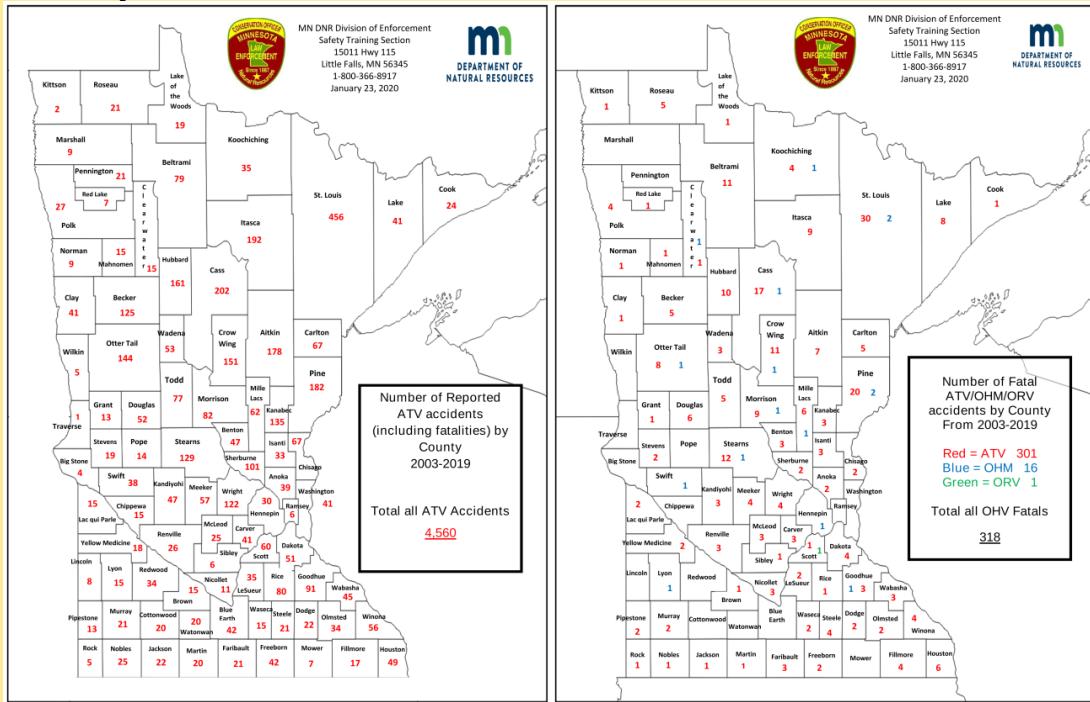
-Both Class 2 fatalities involved a SxS hitting a car. A number likely to go up as the popularity of SxSs increases, and they are legal on virtually all roads but State and Federal Highways.

-Of Class 1 fatalities, 4 involved hitting a fixed object, 3 rollovers, 1 thrown from machine, 1 machine-to-machine collision. The youngest was 11; the oldest was 76.

-Six drivers were outside the age requiring an ATV safety certificate. Of the 5 that were required to have a certificate, just 1 did.

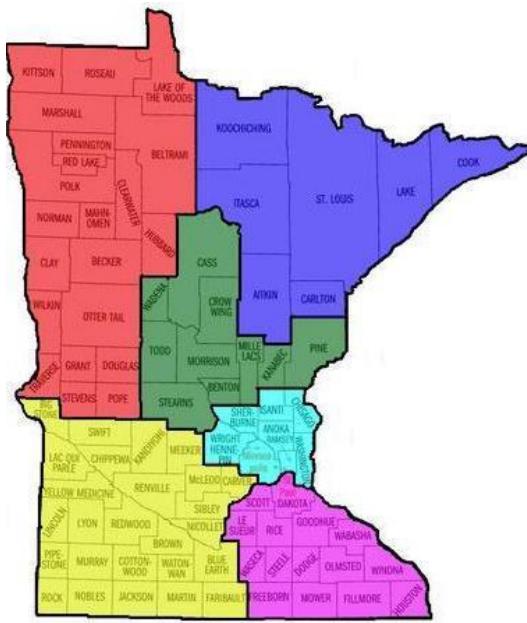
Lawrence also provided ATVAM with state maps showing "Number of Reported ATV Accidents (Including Fatalities) By County 2003-2019. The total was 4,560 ATV accidents for that period.

A second map shows "Number of Fatal ATV/OMV/ORV Accidents by County, From 2003-2019". The total of all OHV fatalities is 318 for that period; of that total, ATV accidents accounted for 301. (Drag maps to your computer screen to save, view larger to show your club)



*If you'd like the full report sent to your club, send an email to Dave Halsey, ATVAM Communications Director, at: [d.halsey@atvam.org](mailto:d.halsey@atvam.org)*

# **Wanted: ATV Riders To Build On ATVAM's Momentum By Becoming Regional Directors**



Are you motivated in promoting ATV Recreation in your region of the state?

Are you motivated in developing a Regional ATV Trail Master Plan?

Do you like working with ATV Clubs in your region to communicate the great things they are doing?

If this sounds like you, please consider putting some of your time and talents to work as an ATVAM Regional Director. ATVAM is seeking to add to its Regional Director ranks. For more information regarding the position of Regional Director please contact ATVAM at [atvamoffice@atvam.org](mailto:atvamoffice@atvam.org).

## Trail Ambassador Class Scheduled For February 29 In Southern Minnesota

From Stacey Stich, Office Administrative Specialist

*Safety and Education, Minnesota DNR*

There is a Trail Ambassador Training Class scheduled for Saturday, February 29, 2020, at Chesterwoods Park (in Elyota) for anyone who may need to attend or for those who are interested in looking into the program.

Class Date: Saturday February 29, 2020

Class Time: Starts at 10:00 am

County: Olmsted

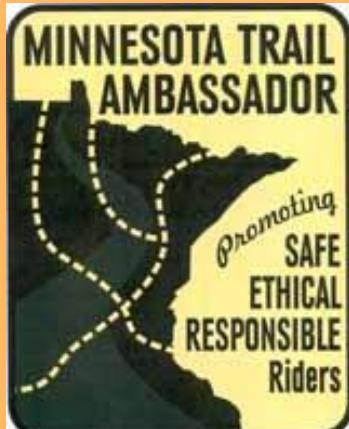
Location: Chesterwoods Park - Main office building, first right after gate entrance, 8378 Highway 14 E, Elyota, MN 55934.

Pre-registration is required. There is no fee to attend.

Please bring a pen and your driver's license. Training materials and lunch will be provided. Individuals registering for this training must meet the following requirements:

- Must be 18 years of age or older
- Must be a Certified MN DNR Volunteer ATV Instructor that is currently active
- Must possess a valid driver's license
- Must be sponsored by a local qualified organization. Qualifying organizations must be willing participants in the Trail Ambassador grant program.

Please Note: Classroom training is 6 hours in length.



To register: Contact Southeast Metro Regional Training Officer Phil George either by email: philip.george@state.mn.us or by phone at (507)475-2686.

## ATVAM Survey Shows Great Interest In New Clubs In Southern Minnesota



All Terrain Vehicle Association of Minnesota (ATVAM) created a poll.

Published by David V Halsey [?] · January 29 at 3:35 PM ·

PLEASE TAKE THIS SURVEY IF INTERESTED

A group of riders in southern Minnesota has contacted ATVAM and is interested in starting a new ATV Club. They want to find out how many people who live in Freeborn, Steele or Waseca County or nearby counties, and would join a new club and become active members to help build trails in the area. Please reply to this survey to help them gauge interest. And share it with your club and riding friends to help us spread the survey.

Thanks!

**84%** Yes I'd join that club

**16%** Yes I'd help organize it

This poll ends in 2 days [Undo Vote](#)

106 Votes

The response to a survey posted on the ATVAM Facebook page was outstanding. 106 people took the poll, indicating they are interested in organizing and/or joining a new ATV club in southern Minnesota, to help build more ATV trails. It's great to see this much interest, and from riders in a number of counties. ATVAM will help set up meetings in the future to keep this moving forward. Keep an eye on the ATVAM Facebook page, and the ATVAM twice-monthly newsletter for more details.

**Remember: ATVAM doesn't build trails. ATV Clubs & Volunteers build trails.**

Interested in starting a club? ATVAM has the tools to help you.

**Reminder:  
Register Today  
For ATVAM Vision Conference  
(Make It A Family Weekend At Treasure Island)**



**March 21-22, 2020**  
**ATVAM Vision Conference**  
**Treasure Island Resort/Casino**  
5734 Sturgeon Lake Rd  
Welch, MN 55089  
800-222-7077  
[www.ticasino.com](http://www.ticasino.com)

This two-day gathering is always well attended and a lot of fun, with lively discussions at the Saturday Vision Conference, and Sunday General Membership Meeting. Join the Executive Board, Regional Directors and ATV club

members from across Minnesota as we tackle a wide range of topics, with one goal: a clear Vision for ATVAM, creating the Action Items needed to move it and its 70 member clubs forward, and advance our state's awesome ATV trail systems.

It's also your chance to buy new ATVAM gear, reappoint and elect new Regional Directors...and more. If you can make it just Saturday, great! If you can stay for the Sunday morning general-membership meeting, even better.

**We need a headcount for lunch. Please register today at [atvam.org](http://atvam.org)**  
Registration fee: \$25 per person (includes Saturday continental breakfast, deli-style

lunch, and Sunday bagels, juice and coffee).

**Schedule:**

**Friday, March 20** - evening social gathering, location TBD

**Saturday, March 21** -

7 a.m. - Doors open for registration/visiting/networking.  
8 a.m. - Meeting starts, full agenda, lots of great topics and DNR updates.

**Sunday, March 22**

9 a.m. - State Board & General Membership Meeting (to about noon)

**Lodging:** A block of 15, special-rate

rooms is reserved under ATVAM: \$139 for Friday, and \$159 on Saturday (plus fees, taxes). Other lodging options are available in nearby Red Wing, including:

- St. James Hotel: 651-388-2846 (12 miles from Treasure Island)
- Super 8 by Wyndham: 651-347-6954 (10 miles)
- Country Inn & Suites: 651-388-9000 (7.7 miles)



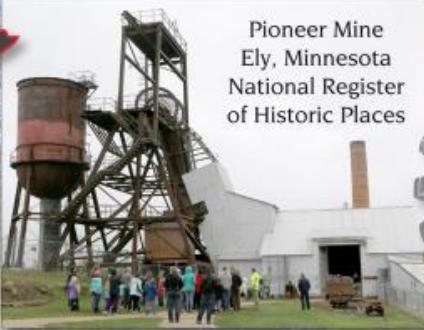
**Make it a family weekend at Treasure Island:  
bowling, water park, live entertainment & more.**

**Reminder to all ATVAM Clubs:**

ATVAM's State Board of Directors is made up of the Executive Board, Regional Directors, and Representatives from all ATVAM Clubs. Every ATVAM Club has a voice, through its designated ATVAM Representative, who are invited to participate in the monthly board calls and the in-person meetings at the annual Vision Conference and Fall Ride & Rally. This is your club's opportunity to provide input and shape the direction and actions of the ATVAM Executive Board. If your Club's ATVAM Rep (usually the club president) isn't receiving the monthly e-mail invitations, let us know by sending an email to: [atvamoffice@atvam.org](mailto:atvamoffice@atvam.org). Thanks!

**Registration Is Now Open For  
The 2020 ATVAM State Convention**  
(Make it a family-fun vacation in Ely)

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

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.

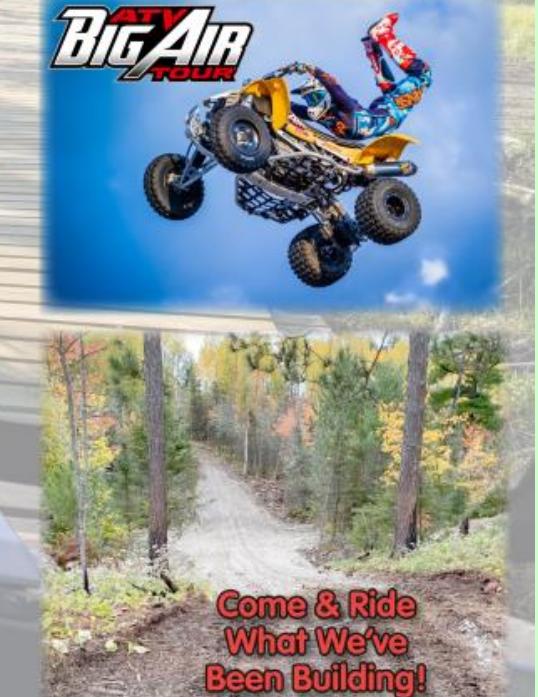
**Saturday Night @ Historic Pioneer Mine:**

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
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**Register for Ride and Rally 2020 at [ATVAM.org](http://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.**



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

## Virginia Newspaper Reports ATVAM State Convention "Good News For The Region"

From Mesabi Daily News  
 By Jesse White, Outdoors Columnist

The All-Terrain Vehicle Association of Minnesota (ATVAM) announced this month that the 2020 ATV Minnesota State Convention will be held Sept. 18-20 in the Ely, Babbitt, Embarrass and Tower areas.



It will be hosted by the Prospector ATV Club. This is great news for the entire region and it an excellent opportunity for club members involved to show off all the hard work that has been done up until this point to create the Prospector ATV loop, a trail system that when complete will connect all of the above

mentioned cities, and areas of Lake County, and cover some 250 miles. The convention will also be an economic boost in the arm for area businesses including hotels, convenience stores and eating and drinking establishments.

I know a thing or two about ATV guys and gals - the only thing they love to do more than ride and get muddy is hang out with their friends while enjoying some good cooking and some cold beverages.

I'm looking forward to this event and hoping to be able to take part in some way or another (whether officially as the outdoors guy or as a fun weekend getaway or both).

*Read the entire article, including some ATVAM history, at this link:*

[https://www.virginiamn.com/opinion/columnists/atvam-lands-state-convention-in-ely-good-news-for-the/article\\_d27d070c-455c-11ea-9a8d-1359a5dacff2.html?utm\\_medium=social&fbclid=IwAR2vulwgoFKKuG3dAEpEVw6xsQF4yqQiBNTq8lzrVz8Hlo-VB8VSGTiya0](https://www.virginiamn.com/opinion/columnists/atvam-lands-state-convention-in-ely-good-news-for-the/article_d27d070c-455c-11ea-9a8d-1359a5dacff2.html?utm_medium=social&fbclid=IwAR2vulwgoFKKuG3dAEpEVw6xsQF4yqQiBNTq8lzrVz8Hlo-VB8VSGTiya0)

## **Get To Know Your ATVAM Executive Board Members**

**Dave Clevenger, ATVAM 1st VP**

- Lives in Lakeville, Minnesota
- IT Director, Optum; I manage a group of Portfolio Directors and Program Managers in our Data Solutions division.
- President of South Metro ATV Club; Member of Evergreen PAC ATV Club, and Lakeville Sno Trackers Snowmobile Club
- Own 1 Polaris ATV (huge Polaris fan), 2 Snowmobiles, 1 Motorcycle, 1 Lawn Tractor - I have fun cutting the grass too!
- My dad had a serious accident about 10 years ago, rolling his machine down a mountain outside Cody, Wyoming... this is what encouraged me to get involved with Youth ATV Safety Training. Dad lived, machine did not.

**Erv Kleinschmidt, ATVAM Treasurer**

- Lives in Stacy, Minnesota
- CIO of Factory Motor Parts, worked at FMP for over 30 years
- President of the White Pine Riders ATV Club; Member of Carlton County Riders, Evergreen P.A.C. ATV Club, and Kiwi Snowmobile/ATV Club
- Own 4 ATVs, 2 SxSs, 2 4WD trucks, looking at buying an older snowmobile
- Cylinder Index (total of cylinders in all vehicles and small engines owned) = 62
- I'm also a Licensed Ham Radio operator with the call-sign of AE0KE and help out at events such as John Beargrease Sled Dog Marathon.

*(Thanks to Dave and Erv for their hard work with their clubs and ATVAM. More profiles to come in future newsletters.)*

**Save The Date!**

**2020 Minnesota OHV Trails Workshop**  
**April 24-25, Duquette MN**



In 2018 our workshop was in Isle. 2017 in Biwabik. 2016 in Akeley. The next in the ATVAM/DNR Trails Workshop series will be in Duquette, Minnesota, with field demos on trails in the Nematjji State Forest.

The workshops are always well attended, with all kinds of great information on building and maintaining sustainable OHV trails. The agenda is almost finalized. Registration will soon be

on the ATVAM website.  
For now, save the date!

## **2020 Minnesota OHV Trails Workshop**

Dates: April 24-25

Classroom Location: Duquette, MN Town Hall

Field Locations: Nematjji OHV Trails (multiple locations)

Overnight Lodging options available in nearby Moose Lake, MN

Coming soon: Registration at [www.atvam.org](http://www.atvam.org) (Max 40 people)

Cost: To be determined, to cover box lunches, hall rental, workshop materials

Sponsored by: Minnesota DNR, ATVAM, ARMCA and MN4WD

Designed for OHV Clubs involved in Trail Maintenance, Local Government Unit Sponsors & Land Managers, GIA Administrators, Minnesota DNR Staff

Topics to include:

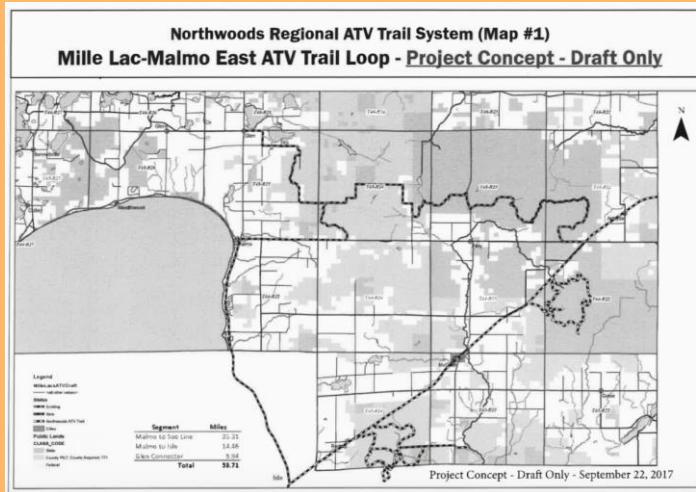
Four E's of OHV Management: Education, Enforcement, Engineering, Evaluation

Water Management / Storm Water Run-off /Creating Sustainable Trail Conditions

Trail Management Coordination

Trail Management Objectives

**Mille Lacs East Trail  
Takes Another Step Forward**



*From Aitkin County Newspaper,  
Feb 6, 2020*

The Aitkin County Board gave approval Jan. 28 to move forward with its portion of the Mille Lacs East All-Terrain Vehicle Trail. Ross Wagner, the Aitkin County Economic Development and Forest Industry Coordinator, presented on the topic. Aitkin County received a State of Minnesota bonding grant for \$1.5 million for the purpose of connecting the east side of Mille Lacs Lake to the existing

## Northwoods ATV trail system.

In order to access the bonding grant, the county board needed to pass a resolution stating that a local match of \$150,000 in non-state funds has been secured - in order, \$70,000 from the CIP, \$65,000 from the economic development reserve and \$15,000 from Mille Lacs Trails.

The resolution, as well as a request for proposals to begin the process of hiring an engineering firm for trail layout, design and construction, both passed. Wagner said that counters have been placed on sections of the Northwoods ATV Trail System, and in 2019, 11,974 riders were counted between May and August.

Aitkin County campground receipts have nearly tripled since the implementation of the trail system with three of four campgrounds having direct access. "The ATV trail is bringing people into our towns and helping out our communities," Wagner said. "There is no doubt the system is being used.

"We're bringing people into our county and helping our economy," he added. "It'll benefit the county for years and years, if not decades, to come."

# Add These ATVAM Events To Your Club's Calendar



**March 21-22 - ATVAM Vision Conference      Register today at [atvam.org](http://atvam.org)**

## Treasure Island Resort and Casino

5734 Sturgeon Lake Rd

3/34 Sturgeon Lake Rd  
Welch, MN 55080

Wells, MN 55089  
800-322-7077

800-222-7077

[www.ticasino.com](http://www.ticasino.com) See details in article below.

Club leaders are encouraged to attend.

**April 18 - ATVAM Region 3 All-Club Meeting**  
9am - 1pm, Ironton American Legion Post #443

**April 24-25 - MN OHV Nemadji Trails Workshop**  
Meeting /Classroom Location: Duquette Community Hall  
Field Location: Nemadji OHV Trails  
Time: 9 am to 5 pm each day  
Limited to 40 people. Schedule & registration info coming soon.



**May 15-16 - 2020 Ride & Roast**  
McQuoid's Inn, Isle, MN  
Register at [atvam.org](http://atvam.org)

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

Host: Prospectors ATV Club/Ely  
Saturday Banquet/Meeting/Auction  
Location:  
Grand Ely Lodge, 400 N. Pioneer Road, Ely, MN  
Registration and lodging/campground options now available on ATVAM website: [atvam.org](http://atvam.org)



*ATVAM Clubs help out at community events year-round. The Cuyuna Iron Range Riders and Central Lakes ATV Club have been assisting with safety and security for many years at the Brainerd Jaycees Ice Fishing Extravaganza, riding and working on Gull Lake for the day.*

## **More Fun ATVAM & ATV Club Events Coming Up**

**Send your club schedule for rides/work days to: [d.halsey@atvam.org](mailto:d.halsey@atvam.org)**  
**Many ATVAM members do not belong to an ATV club and are looking for one to join, ride with and build trails.**

**-Next ATVAM State-Wide Board Meeting Is February 18th**  
All ATVAM clubs have one spot on the board to participate and vote.

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### **Region 1 Club Rides & Work Days:**

Please submit for next newsletter.

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### **Region 2:**

#### **Northern Traxx ATV Club - Polar Bear Ride: Feb 22 in Chisholm**

Meeting at Jims Sports Bar, 10am, leave at 11am, heading down Chisholm ATV trail, with a few stops along the way. Northern Traxx ATV Club will provide lunch at the Sportsmans Club.

### **Up North Riders ATV Club - ATV & Snowmobile Ice Ride**

February 29, registration 10 am, Fisherman's Bay Bar & Grill, N. Hwy 65, McGregor.  
Prizes and drawings. More details at club's Facebook page.

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### **Region 3:**

Please submit for next newsletter.

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### **Region 4:**

Please submit for next newsletter.

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### **Region 5:**

Please submit for next newsletter.

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### **Region 6:**

#### **Swords ATV Club -- 30th Annual Poker Run, Feb 29**

9am to 8pm, Soft Pines Resort, 9925 Cty Road A, Solon Springs, WI. More details on the club's Facebook page.





**Winter Special Adventures** is a non-profit that was formed to allow individuals with disabilities and their families to experience outdoor activities in a fun and safe environment. The event is held annually on the first Saturday in February and free of charge. This year, they reached out to South Metro ATV Club to participate. I have to say, the event was very well organized. From the sign-in process, to having a wide selection of helmets, to food, bonfires, and all of the volunteers to provide rides. The smiles on the kids faces was incredibly rewarding. There were 25 Side-by-Sides, 3 ATVs, a trail groomer and a Bobcat....444 hot dogs were served. -Dave Clevenger, ATVAM 1st VP

**ATV MINNESOTA**  
**"Your Voice To Ride"**  
**Dedicated Volunteers**  
**Building Fun & Sustainable ATV Trails**  
**For The Riding Public.**

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**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 ATVAM e-newsletters. And send renewals to ATVAM's new mailing address: PO Box 300, Stacy, MN 55079

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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](#)**  
**Follow us for all the latest news!**

ATVAM, PO Box 300, Stacy, MN 55079

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