



ATVAM Newsletter - April 4, 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 to refer back to on topics.

In This e-Newsletter:

- ATVAM & DNR Events Postponed During "Stay At Home"
- State Guidelines For Outdoor Recreation
- ATVAM Recommendations For Trail Work & Rides
- DNR Trail Ambassador Program Still On
- Submit Nominations For Instructor Of The Year

- Rider Resources For Clubs And Riding Public
- News & Notes
- ATVAM & ATV Club Events Coming Up
- Invite Friends To Join ATVAM

ATVAM & DNR Events Cancelled Or Postponed During The Governor's "Stay-At-Home" Order



They include:

- 2020 Annual Trail Ambassador meeting, April 4th.
- DNR safety education programs, including ATV hands-on classes. Be sure to contact students who are signed up for your class if the dates are close.
- ATVAM Vision Meeting (future date tbd)
- ATVAM Region 3 All-Club Meeting (future date tbd)
- ATVAM MN OHV Trail Workshop (future date tbd)

Check with your ATV club for any meetings, rides or club events being cancelled or postponed. State parks, recreation areas, campgrounds, and other public lands remain open to the public for people to enjoy, but many facilities within them are closed.



Riders Are Itching To Get Out And Ride ... Know Before You Go!

Check the Minnesota DNR website for the open/closed status of OHV Trails & State Forest Roads, which can change daily. Tap on this link to that page:

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/trailconditions/index.html>

Minnesota DNR's COVID-19 Guidelines For Outdoor Recreation



*From the DNR OHV Website
(Check the link below for updates):*

In response to Governor Walz's Stay At Home Executive Order 20-20 PDF , the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is postponing, adjusting, and canceling a variety of public events and services.

Can I still go outside?

Executive Order 20-20 allows people to be outdoors, engaging in activities such as walking, running, and fishing and hunting. Minnesotans can continue to enjoy parks and other public recreation lands. We urge outdoor enthusiasts to:

- Stay close to home.
- Not congregate when outdoors.
- Follow social distancing guidelines from the MN Department of Health .

What is open?

- Minnesota's waters. You can fish if you have a license. Normal seasons and regulations apply.
- Hunting seasons. There are no changes to upcoming hunting seasons. Normal regulations apply.
- State parks. Bathrooms, vault toilets and shower buildings currently open will remain open. Other facilities are closed (see below).
- Public land. Wildlife management areas, state forests, and Scientific and Natural Areas are open for recreation. Campgrounds are closed.
- Public water accesses. State-managed public accesses are open, though the availability of amenities, such as docks, are contingent upon seasonal maintenance.



What is closed?

The following DNR-managed facilities:

- Campgrounds, group camps, remote and dispersed camping at all state parks, state forests, and state recreation areas.
- Camper cabins
- Yurts
- Overnight lodging facilities
- Group centers, trail centers and other ancillary buildings
- Visitor centers
- State park contact stations



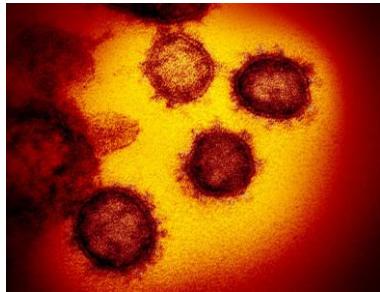
Cancellation and modification fees are waived during this time. Facilities and lands not administered by the DNR may have restrictions. Please check with local authorities.

Please frequently check this page for updates:

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/covid-19.html>

as well as the DNR's Facebook and Twitter accounts. If you have questions not answered on this page, email the DNR's Information Center or call 888-646-6367.

Managing The Unknown (COVID-19) Keeping You, Your Club Members And The Riding Public Safe Out On The Trail



By Perry May, ATVAM Director at Large

ATVAM has fielded some calls from Clubs and Trail Coordinators looking for guidance for managing ATV Grant-In-Aid trails while still conforming to guidance from Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, (Ref. Stay at Home Executive Order 20-20), the social distancing guidelines from the Minnesota Department of Health, and Centers for Disease Control guidance regarding Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19).

Any recommendations made one day may very well be obsolete the next. It is a dynamic situation; clubs will need to stay informed and adapt as needed.

We want to balance the need for people to get outdoors, ride ATVs for recreation, while being safe and following Social Distancing and Stay at Home guidelines.

Basic Recommendations for Trail Coordinators:

ATV Trails can open within the GIA period, when you and your sponsor agree to open the trails. If your trails are in a State Forest please make sure the DNR has lifted any spring road closure restrictions as well.

Do not feel there is a pre-determined time to open the trails. If you are short on volunteers to prepare the trails, or trail conditions cannot sustain ATV riding due to wet soils or needed repairs, keep the trails closed. The safety of you and your club members is more important than opening the trail.

The Minnesota DNR will follow GIA program reimbursement procedures based on the GIA manual and your signed contract dates.

Delay major repairs and close segments of the trail as necessary.

Keep your Volunteer groups small, (6 or less) and maintain social distancing guidance. Limit car-pooling to

work sites.



Try not to share tools and, if you must, properly clean each tool surface for safe handling.



Try not to use multiple operators of heavy equipment such as tractors, skid steers, mini-excavators, gravel haulers, etc.

Clean vehicles and equipment as needed if different operators are used.

Wear gloves and your own PPE (personal protection equipment) when operating equipment and doing trail maintenance.

Do not encourage volunteers to travel long distances to help on the trails. Try to do what you can with volunteers who live in the immediate area, understanding many clubs maintain trails that are not local to their club location and need to travel long distances. Many club members/volunteers are in the age group that is more susceptible to complications from COVID-19.



Pay attention to amenities within your trail such as portable or vault toilets, garbage bins, picnic tables, benches, kiosks, shelters, etc. How are you going to keep these clean for riders or do you close these off for use?

Many clubs may be short of club funds to match the 10% maintenance match or 35% improvement match. Club matching funds come from fundraising efforts, which may be significantly reduced due to the cancellation of club events, raffles, or loss of revenue from members not renewing memberships due to personal income reductions. Maintain a healthy balance in your bank account and defer large maintenance as needed.



Fill your kiosks with maps and information, to keep riders outdoors. Place informational COVID - 19 signs at kiosks and typical gathering areas out on the trail, reminding riders of Social Distancing Guidance.

Recommendations for Riders:

Stay informed and check the Minnesota DNR Trail Closure website before you head out. State ATV Trails and State Forest Roads may close due to normal spring closures, new executive orders from the State or Federal government, bad riding behaviors or trail damage.

Please consider: Many small towns and cities do not want a large influx of people coming to use local recreational trails while everyone is trying to prevent the transmission of COVID-19. "Ride as if everyone is Watching, Speak as if everyone is Listening, and Post as if everyone is Reading."

Clubs may be limited in preparing trails, and trail opening delays can be expected. Many club members do not live in the local area of the trail, and along with the average age of the trail volunteer who are more susceptible to complications of COVID-19, clubs may not have the help needed to open the trail.



Maintain social distancing in parking areas and typical meeting spots on the trail.

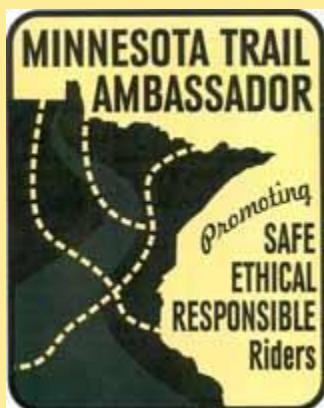
Bring your own sanitary cleaning wipes if you plan to use some of the trail amenities such as portable toilets, benches, picnic tables, shelters, etc. Use the amenity understanding that the last person may be carrying the virus.

Please consider your riding habits: If you happen to be involved in an accident resulting in injuries, medical first-responders and emergency services at hospitals may be limited.

Please "Tread Lightly." Early trail damage may force clubs and the DNR to close trails. Do not crowd early-opening trails, be patient and let's spread out the riders as more trails open up. Thank you!

Trail Ambassador Program Is On For Now, With Limitations

From Bruce Lawrence, DNR Enforcement



The 2020 Trail Ambassador trail monitoring season start date is tentatively set to begin May 1 at 5 p.m. This is to coincide with the anticipated end date and time of Gov. Tim Walz's Executive Orders 20-04 and 20-08 relating to business and travel restrictions. In an effort to do our part in mitigating the spread of COVID-19, the following changes will be implemented for this season:

-Travel to trail sites for trail monitoring will be restricted to a 50-mile radius of each ATV club's address on file. (Editor's Note: your club can request an exemption from the DNR if it

requires greater travel to reach the trails you monitor. Contact Stacey Stich, DNR Safety and Education: stacey.stich@state.mn.us.)

-No hand-to-hand delivery of club or trail monitoring related materials will be allowed (materials may be left at trailhead kiosks).



-Travel to trailheads in personal vehicles should be done in a way to limit carpooling to the extent possible.

-Maintain the recommended social-distancing standard of 6 to 10 feet when interacting with trail users and other trail ambassadors.

-If you are sick, stay home.

Any changes or additional recommendations

for the Trail Ambassador Program between now and May 1, DNR Staff from Camp Ripley Safety and Education office will send out notifications via email. Please refer to the Minnesota Department of Health website for more information regarding COVID-19 and for mitigation standards, at this link:

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/prevention.html>



Thanks for your assistance,
Bruce Lawrence
Recreational Vehicle Coordinator
Division of Enforcement
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Camp Ripley, Nelson Hall
15011 Hwy. 115
Little Falls MN 56345
Phone: 763-267-8534
Fax: 320-616-2517

Email: bruce.lawrence@state.mn.us

Website: mndnr.gov

**Nominate Someone You Know
For Volunteer ATV Instructor Of The Year
(Deadline: April 10th)**



Is someone in your club a long-time, dedicated volunteer ATV Safety Instructor?

Nominate them to be the Minnesota DNR 2019 Volunteer ATV Instructor Of The Year.

The nomination form is found on the DNR website at this link:

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/safety/instructors/index.html>

(Note: the 4-page form says deadline is April 3, but it's been extended to April 10.)

Knowledge Is Power!
Here Is A Page Full Of
ATV Club & Rider Resources

ATV regulation books, maps, apps and more.

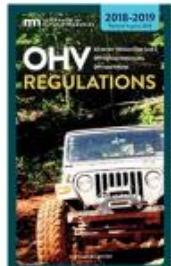
Drag the page to your computer screen to print out
and distribute to club members and the riding public.

(Note: Tapping the links on the page below won't work.)

ATV RIDER RESOURCES IN MINNESOTA

Available from the Minnesota DNR

Order by phone: 651-296-6157 or 888-MINNDNR (646-6367)
Or email: info.dnr@state.mn.us

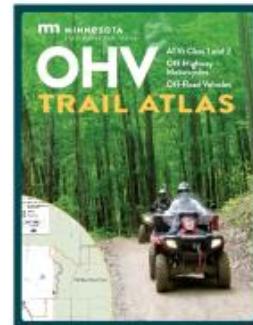


< Minnesota OHV Regulations Book

Order printed book or read online at
website: [https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/
regulations/ohv/index.html](https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/regulations/ohv/index.html)

OHV Trail Atlas >

Maps of 75 State OHV Trail Systems
Call or email DNR to order.



< Interactive Map of State OHV Trail Systems

Website: https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/ohv/interactive_map/index.html

Information on ATV Safety Training for kids >

Website: [https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/
safety/vehicle/atv/index.html](https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/safety/vehicle/atv/index.html)

Are you 16-32 years old? On-line safety training is required for all ATV operators born after July 1, 1987.



< Available from ATV Association of Minnesota (ATVAM)

Representing 80 ATV clubs across the State.

Find ATV clubs in your area that hold fun club rides.
Join today: get MN OffRoad magazine and many other benefits.
Website: <http://atvam.org/index.html>



Available from national ATV organizations / companies

< ATV Safety Institute (ASI) / ROHVA

Safety info, riding tips and more.
Website: <https://atvsafety.org/> for ATV
Website: <https://rohva.org/> for SxS



Polaris Ride Command >

Download free mobile app: Shows your GPS location on ATV trails and rider resources across the U.S. Website for trail planning:
<https://ridecommand.polaris.com/en-us/home>

Prepared by ATV Minnesota: visit atvam.org

News & Notes



Social distancing done right. "They picked up a whole bag of garbage at their favorite ATV spot - feeling proud in Pine City, Minnesota." *From a Facebook post.*

Some MN OffRoad Magazines Arrived Late

ATVAM has been getting calls on this. We checked on it; all the Feb/March issues of the magazine were mailed on time, but it could be that snail mail is slower than normal right now. Thanks for your patience.

Spring Thaw

The Crow Wing County Land Services Department will be temporarily closing selected forest trails on

county managed lands to motorized vehicles. These closures are due to vulnerable trail surfaces caused by the spring thaw. Trail conditions will be periodically monitored by Land Services staff, and when appropriate, the closures will be lifted.



DNR OHV Trail Atlas Update

DNR Parks & Trails reports that the new trail atlas is scheduled to be printed in late April and includes the addition of 11 new trail maps. There is a backlog of about 10,000 requests for the atlas.



The Chisholm Trail and many others are temporarily closed during spring thaw.

Be sure to check the DNR website for current status of State Forest Roads and State ATV Trails.

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 - April 21, 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.

-April 24-25 - MN OHV Nemadji Trails Workshop - Postponed (future date tbd)

-May 15-16 - 2020 Ride & Roast - currently still on, watch for updates

McQuoid's Inn, Isle, MN

Register at atvam.org



-September 18-20 - ATVAM

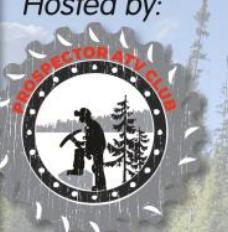
Annual Conference / Ride & Rally

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**




Hosted by:
Pioneer Mine
Ely, Minnesota
National Register of Historic Places



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

9amATVAM 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 - Vintage Ride



Carlton County Riders

Vintage Ride

Ride Vintage Atv, Atc and Vintage Dirt Bikes or just bring some junk to swap

When: May 16, 2020 10:00am Meet 11:00am Ride

Where: Doc's dirt lot Sturgeon Lake, Mn

People's choice awards for nicest Honda and nicest NOT Honda



www.Carltoncountyriders.com

218-380-8730 for more info or check out our Facebook page

Northern Traxx ATV Club

May 16 - Spring Ride, Chisholm Trail, details/updates on club Facebook page

Voyageur Country ATV

Saturday, May 2 - Spring Ride & Picnic, route tbd

Sunday, May 3 - Highway Cleanup - 2 mile section of Highway 53 at Orr, and 2 mile section of County Road 24 at Echo Trail

White Pine Riders - Ladies ATV/UTV Ride for ALS

June 6th - Meet at the Little Moose Parking lot off Co Rd 337. Registration begins at 8:30 am, leave at 10 am. Ride the Little Moose Trail and the B & B trail with stops at the Antler Lodge & Scenic Pines. \$25 per driver, \$10 per passenger. Camping available at the Lawrence Lake Liquor: \$30 for the weekend per camper / tent. Live music 5-8 pm, a DJ from 9pm-mid night.

Region 3:

April 18 - ATVAM Region 3 All-Club Meeting -- Postponed!

Over The Hills Gang ATV Club

-May 2 - Highway Cleanup, 11:15 pm, meet at Outing ATV parking area.

Region 4:

Please submit for next newsletter.

Region 5:

Please submit for next newsletter.

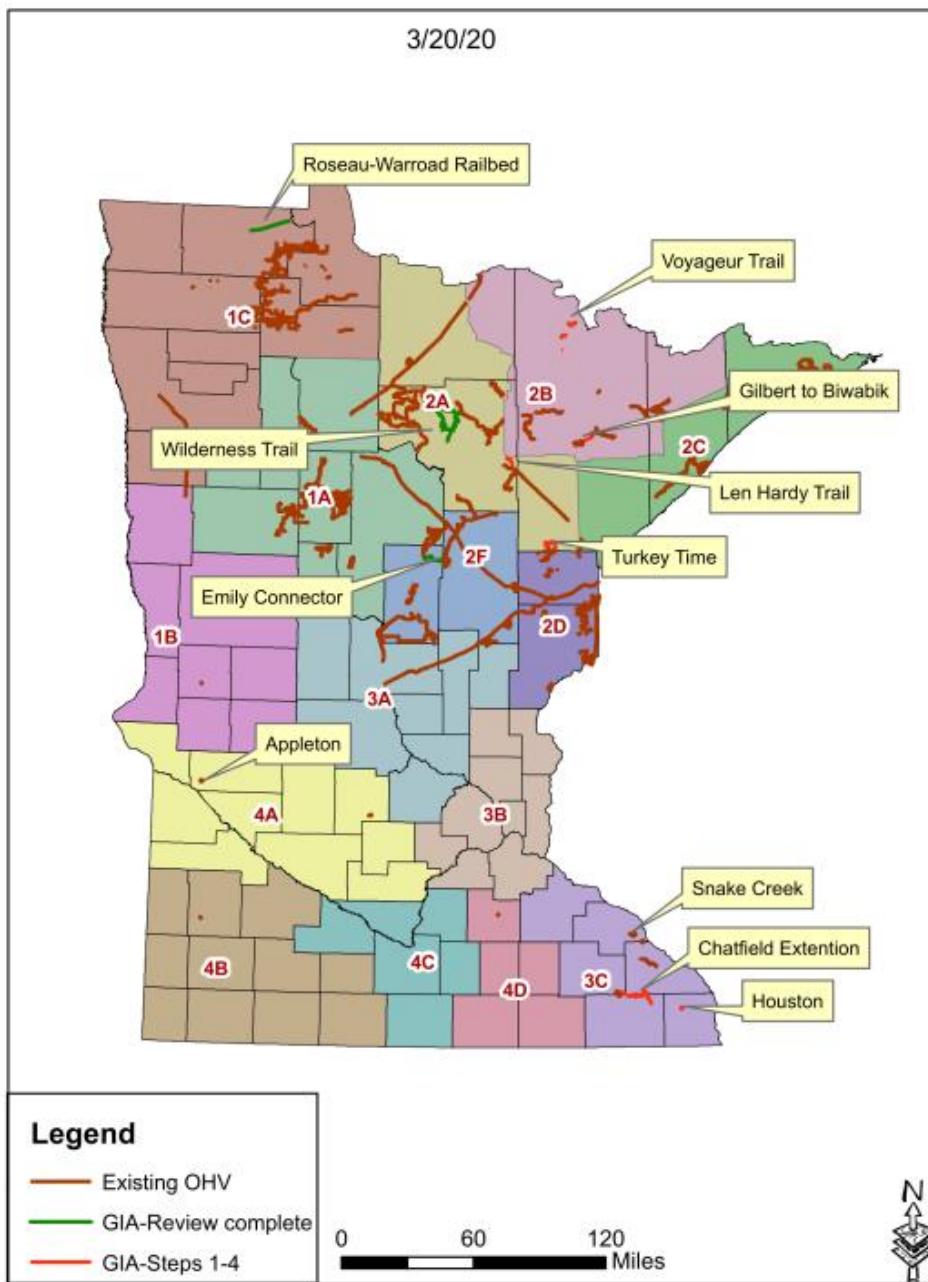
Region 6:

Please submit for next newsletter.

ATV MINNESOTA ***"Your Voice To Ride"***

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

Upcoming Grant in Aid Trails



More ATV trails are coming! These and other projects for new trails and trail additions are being worked on by ATVAM member clubs and their volunteers, and are in various stages of the DNR's trail-building process.

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

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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