



Trails Open May 15th...Maybe!

Spring has had a tough time arriving this year, and this could possibly delay opening our trails. We are currently projecting opening our trails on May 15th, however, we need a good week of dry and warmer weather. In many places, frost is still in the ground, and combined with spring melt and recent rain the trails are soft and very vulnerable to damage. Club Trail Coordinators have not yet made it out on the trails to inspect and begin to repair trails. The best advice we can provide is ***Know before you Go.*** Check the [MN DNR OHV trail closure page](#) watch our Club Facebook page, or call one of our Trail Coordinators.

Thank you for your patience.

Route or Trail?

Continuing with our discussion from our March Newsletter, we described what a Grant-In-Aid ATV trail is. A route is different from a trail. Routes are "user trails" that were formed from logging operations, hunter access, private property access, or maybe riders exploring new areas. Routes are non-designated ATV trails. They are not mapped, not signed, not maintained, not placed on Rider Apps, and many times illegal to ride. Routes travel across some piece of land which is managed by a land manager. If the land manager does not want ATV operation on their land, then it could be considered trespass if legally posted. Land Managers can consist of Road Authorities, MN DOT, County, Township, City, Private, and MNDNR Forestry. (As you can see, most land managers are not the MNDNR) Riding Apps like Polaris Ride Command are very good at receiving land manager approval before they placed on their App. If you are asking why this route is used today by ATV riders but not on an App, it is most likely that the land manager does not want the route advertised to the public. Riding these routes are at your own risk.

Let's take a few examples:

Grant-in-aid Snowmobile trails.

- *These trails are marked by orange with black arrow directional signs. By law, ATV's cannot ride snowmobile trails, as many cross private lands and wetlands that only allow public use during the winter season by snowmobiles. Exceptions: When land managers permit legal ATV operation during summer months, or when trails are shared with Grant-In-Aid ATV Trails.

Road Ditches /Public Road Right-of-Way

- Class I ATV operation is allowed on the bank, slope, ditch of a public road right-of-way. Unless allowed by local or county ordinance, Class 1 ATV's cannot be operated on the road surface. Operating credentials apply to all riding areas.
- Class II operation is not allowed on the bank, slope, ditch of a public road right-of-way. Exception are when a Grant-In-Aid ATV Trail makes uses of the Right of Way as a designated trail or only when making trail connections or to access businesses.

County Land

- Many county land managers allow for ATV use on county lands, however, this does not mean riding through a wetland, where posted closed, or where state forest boundaries are within county lands

State Forests

- We have many State Forests in our area: Land O'Lakes, Centennial, Emily, Hill River, Crow Wing. Some of the State Forest parcels are scattered and not all grouped together. State Forests can be classified as Managed, Limited, or Closed. All of our local State Forests are designated Limited which means ATV operation is allowed on forest roads and trails designated and signed for that specific motorized vehicle type. All other routes in a limited forest do not allow for ATV operation.

Advice: Stay on Grant-In-Aid ATV Trails

Know before you Go - Call a local Conservation Officer, 651-296-6157, or Club contacts listed below

Be an Informed Rider: Join a Club and learn about legal riding ATV areas

The future of the sport of ATV Recreation depends on You

35 Youth Riders Safety Certified



On Saturday April 30, thirty-five students achieved their ATV Safety Certification. The OTHG ATV Club held two classes, one at 8:30am and another at 12:30pm, at the Fifty Lake Community Center, to train students on rules, regulations, riding behaviors, and hands-on skills. We were joined by to local Conservation Officers, Calie Kunst, and Chelsey Best. The cool wet weather did not dampen the spirits of the Instructors and Students learning how to be the best informed and safest rider they can be. Thank You to our lead Instructor Cindy Thompson, and to all the Instructors and helpers that came out to facilitate the training.

A MN DNR ATV Safety Certificate for ATV operation is required for anyone born after July 1st, 1987. Youth aged 10 to 15 need to complete a two-step certification process which requires online, and a hybrid classroom + hands-on training. Certification is available one a youth turns 12.

Thank You!

Cindy & Dave Thompson, Dave Kodada, Jim & Lynn Remington, Kathie & Ryan Huettl, Tim Sink, Jim & Brenda Anderson, Dean Schliek, Terry and Becky Tuckenhagen, Perry May, Mike Meelberg, Terry Sewill,

Photo by Dean Schliek: Dave Thompson oversees a student skills training on the ramp

Narrows Community Church Ride-In

The Narrows Community Church (NCC) of Outing, MN is inviting all to an ATV Ride-In Service on Sunday May 29, 2022, beginning at 11:00 am. ATV owners are encouraged to ride to the church and sit on their ATV, or bring a lawn chair, during an outdoor service. NCC is a non-denominational church and thought this would be a novel way to reach out to visitors and riders that are visiting the area over Memorial Day Weekend and introduce them to NCC. A free lunch is also offered after the service, and a Free-Will offerings are encouraged to help support the church. If you need further information, contact Dave Thompson at 763-592-9329. NCC is located at 6297 Woods Bay Drive NE, Outing, MN, or across the road from Crooked Lake Town Hall. Town Hall



Registration is Open for 2022 Ride & Rally



Registration for the 2022 All-Terrain Vehicle Association State Convention, the Ride & Rally, is now open. This fun three-day event being held in Fifty Lakes, MN on the days of September 16-18, 2022 is being hosted by the City of Fifty Lakes and the Over the Hills Gang ATV Club. If you like food, music, guided ATV rides, raffles, bonfires, fireworks, an ATV Fair, and more, this is the place to be! The main event webpage can be found by clicking here: [ATVMN 2022 Ride & Rally](#). If you have interest in donating,

sponsoring, or advertising your business, visit the sponsor tab on the event web-page: Sponsorship info. Our club will need plenty of volunteers to make this event a success, so keep watch of upcoming volunteer opportunities. There is also two great raffles for this event ; One all cash raffle, and a 2nd raffle which includes a grand prize of a Recteq -700 grill. Send an email to overthehillsgang@gmail.com for raffle ticket purchasing



2022 Trail Maps will be ready before trail opener.

Please note the closed section of the MN Hwy 6 "A" trail between the intersections of Papoose Road and Mill Road. Use the "AB" and "B" trail to make trail connections between Outing and Emily.

This section of trail is closed for the entire 2022 riding reason.

ATV Minnesota Vision Conference

I attended the All-Terrain Vehicle Association of Minnesota, (ATVMN) Vision Conference on the days of Friday, Saturday, and Sunday April 22-24, 2022, held in Detroit Lakes MN. As Club President and State Director for ATVMN it was important for me to attend. There is too much information to share about all of the happenings regarding ATV Recreation in Minnesota, so I will summarize some the important topics.

- Reviewed and Updated ATVMN Strategic Plan

- Met with many Minnesota ATV Clubs in attendance
- Learned about Grant-In-Aid Program Improvements
- Leaned about a new corporate sponsor program initiative
- Received an update from ATVMN Lobbyist on Legislative activity in this year's session
- Received an update from MN DNR Enforcement; trends and safety statistics
- Met new MNDNR Parks & Trail employees involved with OHV programs
- Leaned about a new ATVMN Safety Committee
- Learned about a new Club Membership Management initiative
- I provided an update on Regional activities and habits of successful clubs
- Approved new Regional Directors
- Received an update on continuous efforts to improve and grow ATVMN communications outreach
- Met the SE Group who is leading the Minnesota ATV Masterplan efforts - See Survey information below
- Networked with ATVMN members in attendance

Please consider becoming an ATVMN Member and which keeps you informed about ATV recreation across the state of Minnesota. Only \$20 a year and free subscription to MN Wheelin Magazine

Your Voice Matters.

Take The ATV Visioning Survey!

To learn more about the Minnesota ATV Masterplan project and the process, and to take the survey, go to this website: MNATVMMASTERPLAN.ORG

Click on the Public Engagement tab to get to the survey

The survey is on page 2 of the website and takes just 15-20 minutes. Best of all, it's your chance to say what you like about ATV riding in Minnesota, and what you'd like to see in the future. There are also opportunities to participate in focus groups scheduled for the near future.

Proud to be an ATV MN Club

The Over the Hills Gang ATV Club is a proud member of The All-Terrain Vehicle Association of Minnesota, "Your Voice for ATV Recreation" in Minnesota". Keep current with all of the ATV MN news happening across Minnesota and how ATV MN is working for you. Get a free subscription to Minnesota Wheelin Magazine as part of your membership. Join today at atvmn.org Only \$20 per year.



Upcoming Club Meetings & Events

May 7 - Club Meeting 10 am, Emily Log Cabin Bar

May 21 - **Adopt a Highway New Date & Time** - 10:00am, meet at Outing Parking area across from Luschers Park

June 4 - Club Meeting 10 am, Emily Log Cabin Bar

June 18 - 20th Annual Pork N' Ride at Emily Log Cabin Bar at 10 am

Click link for full 2022 [OTHG Event Schedule](#)

Your OTHG Club Officers

Perry May, President: (term expires July 31, 2022)
Rod Wegner, Vice President: (term expires July 31, 2023)
Laurie Elsberry, Secretary: (term expires July 31, 2022)
Jim Remington, Treasurer / Membership: (term expires July 31, 2023)
Mike Meelberg, Trail Coordinator, (term expires July 31, 2022)
Terry Sewill, Trail Coordinator: (term expires July 31, 2022)
David Thompson, Trail Coordinator: (term expires July 31, 2023)

To contact a Club Officer or General Club Email: overthehillsgang@gmail.com

Mailing address

Over the Hills Gang
PO Box 40
Outing, MN. 56662

A huge Thank You to all our Business Sponsors

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