



OVER THE HILLS GANG

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

VOL 64 | FEBRUARY 2025

MN Strategic ATV Master Plan Released



The public can now view and comment on the Minnesota Strategic ATV Master Plan draft by going to this link: [Here](#)

In December of 2019, acting as the Over the Hills Gang Club President and State Director for ATV Minnesota, I submitted and championed a resolution at the ATV Minnesota Legislative Summit to develop a statewide ATV masterplan. The resolution asked for \$250,000 from the ATVF Dedicated funds account to be allocated for the development of this plan and for an inventory of existing riding areas. This resolution became law under a larger MN Environment & Natural Resources appropriations bill.

As the ATV Minnesota State Director, a member of the Governors Outdoor Recreational Task Force, and personal experiences with being the project lead for the Emily/ Outing and Emily/ Blind Lake ATV trails, it was very apparent that ATV Riders were looking for connectivity, coordination & collaboration among local clubs, DNR, and local government units, education regarding ATV recreation, and a stewardship of the trails and overall environment. We all needed to think more strategically, and plan for the best use of the finite funds in the ATV dedicated account. Our state does not have an unlimited capacity for new trails, nor an unlimited capacity to maintain the trails we create. Bottom line, the ATV community needs to have strategic plans on how to grow our trail system, maintain what we create, and work with the communities and environment that can sustain ATV recreational activities.

Within the master plan there were survey questions asking about the most popular trail systems to ride. I am proud to say the Emily Outing system was named in the top three, along with Spider Lake and Nemadji. When questioned on best riding destinations, the Emily Outing Trail was rated #2, and the Emily Blind Lake Trail #7 in the entire state. This means tourism and economic input to our local communities. Another question asked about future interests, and many answered "the expansion of winter riding opportunities". Our club is one of the few that are working on expanding winter riding.

I encourage our club members to take time to read this 107-page draft of the ATV master plan. It will provide you with a solid background of ATV Recreation today in Minnesota. The master plan will not get into specifics, as this is where belonging to a club will help answer more of your questions. I am personally excited about our Northwoods Regional ATV Trail Alliance and working within this alliance to grow, promote, and sustain all of the master plan direction & guidance.

Perry May

Grant Manager- OTHG ATV Club

Media & Communications



Marketing

Great deals on OTGH Merch can be found online!

[Visit our Shop](#)



Events

Join us February 1st for our first meeting of 2025! We will meet at Log Cabin Bar in Emily, MN at 9:30am. See you there!

[Check Out Our Events Calendar](#)

Past Events

Getting Loose on the Moose

On Saturday, December 14th, over 250 people descended on the Moose River ATV trail system in northern Outing, MN to enjoy the camaraderie of bonfires and winter ATV

riding. Representing no less than 65 different cities, from as far away as Huron, South Dakota, ATV enthusiasts enjoyed 27 miles of rugged trail along with 5 bonfires staffed by volunteers offering chili, hotdogs, s'mores, hot cocoa and hot cider. During the ride, they collected door prize tickets to be used at the after party hosted by the Village Inn in Outing, MN. A wide variety of prizes, donated by local businesses, were handed out to a PACKED house! This event just keeps getting better and better!! See ya next year!



New ATV Clubs



Northwoods Trail Alliance Expands

Two new ATV clubs, the Rapid Riders from Grand Rapids, and the Cuyuna Iron Range Riders

from Crosby/ Ironton were welcomed into the Northwoods Regional ATV Trail Alliance during the quarterly meeting of the alliance held on Wednesday January 15th in Aitkin, MN. The Rapid Riders manage the UPM Blandin Trail, and the Cuyuna Iron Range Riders manage the Miller Black-Bear and the Mississippi Northwoods ATV Trails. The alliance now has 11 member clubs managing over 500 miles of ATV trails across eight north central Minnesota counties. This alliance continues to grow in regional importance for ATV recreational trails and economic input to local trail towns.

Other key meeting agenda items included:

- Update on MN ATV Master Plan from Molly Lou Pintok/ MNDNR
- Grant-in-Aid funding updates from Karine Finken/ MNDNR
- ATVMN Legislative Summit update from Perry May
- Review of Trail Counter data- System counts continue to trend upwards
- U of M economic impact study from ATV Recreation- Chris Johnson/ Aitkin County
- ATVMN Ride & Roast event- Remer MN May 17, 2025
- Individual club trail updates
- Community Economic Development Associates (CEDA USA) Jessica Pellinen
- Meeting with local Legislators being planned
- Possibly Northwoods Open House in late summer/ early fall

Grant Manager Report

Watch for future updates on what we have been working on



ATV Safety Training Hands-On Course

Training Date: May 3, 2025

AM Session: Begins at 8:30 am (20 students max.)

PM Session: Begins at 12:30 pm (20 students max.)

Location: Crooked Lake Town Hall, 6300 Woods Bay Drive, Outing MN 56662

Pre-Registration: Contact Cindy Thompson by email at cindythompson0203@gmail.com or mobile 763-592-9330 (Additional course information will be sent after preregistering)

Cost: Hands-On Course \$0.00 – Sponsored by Over the Hills Gang ATV Club

Pre-Requisites for achieving ATV Safety Certificate:

- Students must be a minimum of 10 years of age to take hands-on training.



- Students aged 10-15 must complete MN Online Safety Class at ATVcourse.com (cost \$34.95) before attending hands-on training.
- Must be 12 years of age to apply for MN ATV Safety Certificate
- Students Age 16 and older or born after July 1, 1987 must complete Online Safety Training course to apply for ATV Safety Certificate

Training conducted by MN DNR Certified Youth Safety Training Instructors

Meet and discuss MN ATV Regulations with MN DNR Conservation Officer

Successfully complete your OnLine and Hands-On Safety Training and apply for MN ATV Safety Certificate (Need to be 12-years old to apply)

Membership

In 2024 we launched a new program to engage more members and club support at our events as volunteers. If someone volunteered at least 2 hours at 2 different club events, or 4 hours of Trail Work, they could earn a free family membership. This program was a great success! We had 46 volunteers at our events this year and 28 volunteers met the requirement to get a free family membership. Congratulations to the following who received the free membership and thank you for your hard work this last year

Jim Anderson
Brenda Anderson
Stacy Barrett
Steve Beneke
Denise Beneke
Tom Biernat
Brenda Biernat
Pamela Brule
Maurice Brule
Mark Daly
Mike Devine
Jason Donner
Janet Donner
Steve Lerach

Perry May
Lynn Remington
Jim Remington
Dean Schliek
Tim Sink
Melissa Sink
Steve Slette
Sandi Sorenson
Cindy Thompson
Dave Thompson
Terry Tuckenhagen
Becky Tuckenhagen
Jessica Wegner
Rod Wegner

[Become a Member!](#)

Contact Us:
membership@overthehillsgang.org

Nominations

OTHG needs a volunteer to serve as Secretary on the Board of Directors

The management of the Club is vested in the Board of Directors which includes the Secretary. The Secretary works with the other Board of Director volunteers to discuss overall direction and operation of the Club. The Secretary has oversight of the By-Laws Committee and Nomination Committee. Additionally, the Secretary keeps all club records including minutes of meetings, roster of club members, list of committees and their members.

If you are interested in volunteering, please email us at overthehillsgang@gmail.com.

By-Laws

No new updates

Committee members:

1. Perry May
2. Tim Sink
3. David Thompson
4. Kim Dylla

Thank you to our Business Sponsors!!

2ND STREET CUSTOMS|ANDERSON CARPET SERVICE | ANGELL'S HIDEAWAY | ANIMAL HOUSE PET RESORT | ASCEND NORTH ADVENTURES | BRAINERD WATERPROOFING | CASS COUNTY CONSTRUCTION | CHANNEL BAR AND GRILL | CROOKED LAKE CAFE/SHADOW PIZZA | CROSBY-IRONTON COURIER | DENISE GORSUCH RE/MAX RESULTS | EMILY ACE HARDWARE | EMILY GREENS GOLF COURSE | EMILY MARKETPLACE | EMILY MEATS | FAHEY FLOORING | FARM ISLAND REPAIR AND MARINE | FRANKS RESORT | FRONT PORCH TAVERN AT LITTLE BOY RESORT | FRONTIER CABINETS | HAZY BEAR | HERNESMAN RAY'S SPORTS | HOFF'S INSURANCE SPECIALISTS | JUST ADD VODKA DESIGNS | LAKE COUNTRY FOODS | LAKE COUNTRY PROPERTIES | LAKE EMILY RESORT | LAND O LAKES MARINE | LOG CABIN BAR | MARK BRADLEY LLC | MORITZ EXCAVATING AND SEPTIC | MOTORS N MORE | NAK MACHINING | OWLS AND THINGS | POWERLODGE | PROGRESSIVE FOREST PRODUCTS LLC | RE/MAX RESULTS-ALEX HARTMANN | RED'S REALTY | RED'S STORAGE | REDDINGS SPORTS AND SPIRITS | REMER CUSTOM DOCKS AND IRONWORKS | RICE CONTRACTING | SEABERG MOTORSPORTS | SHADBERRY LIQUOR STORE | SKIRTS N DIRT SWEETS AND SUCH/UP NORTH GIFTS | THE PICKLED LOON SALOON | THE VILLAGE INN | UP A CREEK CAMPGROUND | XTREME DETAIL & CARWASH | CROSSLAKE | ZIRC INC

OTHG Board of Directors

Steve Beneke, President
Rod Wegner, Vice President
Becky Tuckenhagen, Secretary

Melissa Sink, Treasurer/Membership
Tim Sink, Trail Coordinator #1
Terry Sewill, Trail Coordinator #2
Kent Korman, Trail Coordinator #3
Perry May, Grant Manager
Mike Kautz, Director at Large

OVERTHEHILLSGANG.ORG

G

Keep in Touch & Follow Us!



Over The Hills Gang | PO Box 40 | Outing, MN 56662 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!