

## ATVAM Newsletter - April 10, 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: [d.halsey@atvam.org](mailto:d.halsey@atvam.org)
- 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: ATVAM, PO Box 300, Stacy, MN 55079

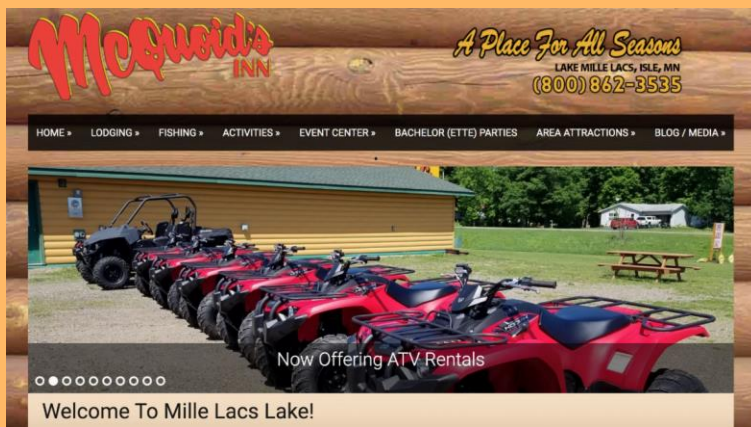
E-newsletters are now archived on [atvam.org](http://atvam.org) to refer back to on topics.

**ATVAM Ride & Roast Cancelled  
(McQuoid's will honor room discounts)**

*From Ken Irish, Event Committee Chair*

The ATVAM Ride & Roast event, scheduled for May 15 & 16 at McQuoid's Inn, has been cancelled, due to the COVID-19 outbreak and Governor Tim Walz extending the Stay at Home order until May 4th.

Without an end date when the ban will be lifted, safety of our members and riders is most important. If you sent in your registrations to ATVAM for the fishing launch on Friday evening, and the pig roast dinner on Saturday, ATVAM will send you a refund.



For those people that made McQuoid's Inn room reservations, you will need to contact them to cancel, at 320-676-3535. There are many great trails to ride in the area. If you are still planning to ride that weekend, McQuoid's will still offer ATVAM members a 10 percent discount for room reservations.

ATVAM still encourages you to support the Isle food shelf if you are coming to the area to ride. You can drop off non-perishable food items at McQuoid's, 1325 State Hwy 47, Isle, Minnesota.

Many State ATV Trails and State Forest roads are currently closed due to spring thaw. Before heading out, always check the DNR's website for trail conditions and closures at this link: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/ohv/closures.html>

### Make sure to check for these signs while you're in the state forests



ATVAM encourages you to support your local club rides, events and local business sponsors. Thank you to all the ATVAM Ride & Roast Committee members who helped put this event together.

Ride Safe,  
Ken Irish, Committee Chair

### A message from the ATVAM executive board: Send Us Ride Photos!

It's unfortunate that we had to cancel this year's Ride & Roast. But we encourage ATVAM members and ATV clubs to get out and ride that day, May 16th, on trails

that are open at that time, and send in pictures that we can post on the ATVAM Facebook page.

We encourage everyone to practice safe social distancing while they are outside and enjoying the ATV trails that are open. Send your ride photos and a few details about them to the ATVAM Communications Director: [d.halsey@atvam.org](mailto:d.halsey@atvam.org).

**Below: 2 articles repeated from ATVAM April 4th Newsletter**

## **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



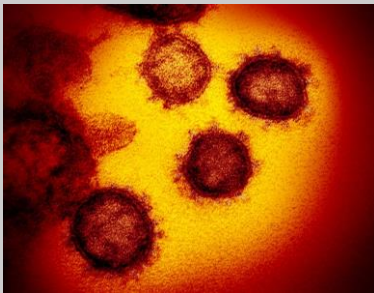
Cancellation and modification fees are waived during this time. Facilities and lands not administered by the DNR may have restrictions. Please check with local authorities.

**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!



*A rider in far northern Minnesota submitted this photo of a Bigfoot footprint (perhaps a juvenile), discovered out on a muddy ATV trail, with footprints continuing for almost a mile.*

## 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 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 - Cancelled**


**-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](http://atvam.org)

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




Pioneer Mine  
 Ely, Minnesota  
 National Register  
 of Historic Places

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 Vermillion  
 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

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

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.

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

Please submit for next newsletter.

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**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](http://www.Carltoncountyriders.com) 218-380-8730 for more info or check out our Facebook page

### **Northern Traxx ATV Club**

**Cancelled** -- May 16 - Spring Ride, Chisholm Trail,

### **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.

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### **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.

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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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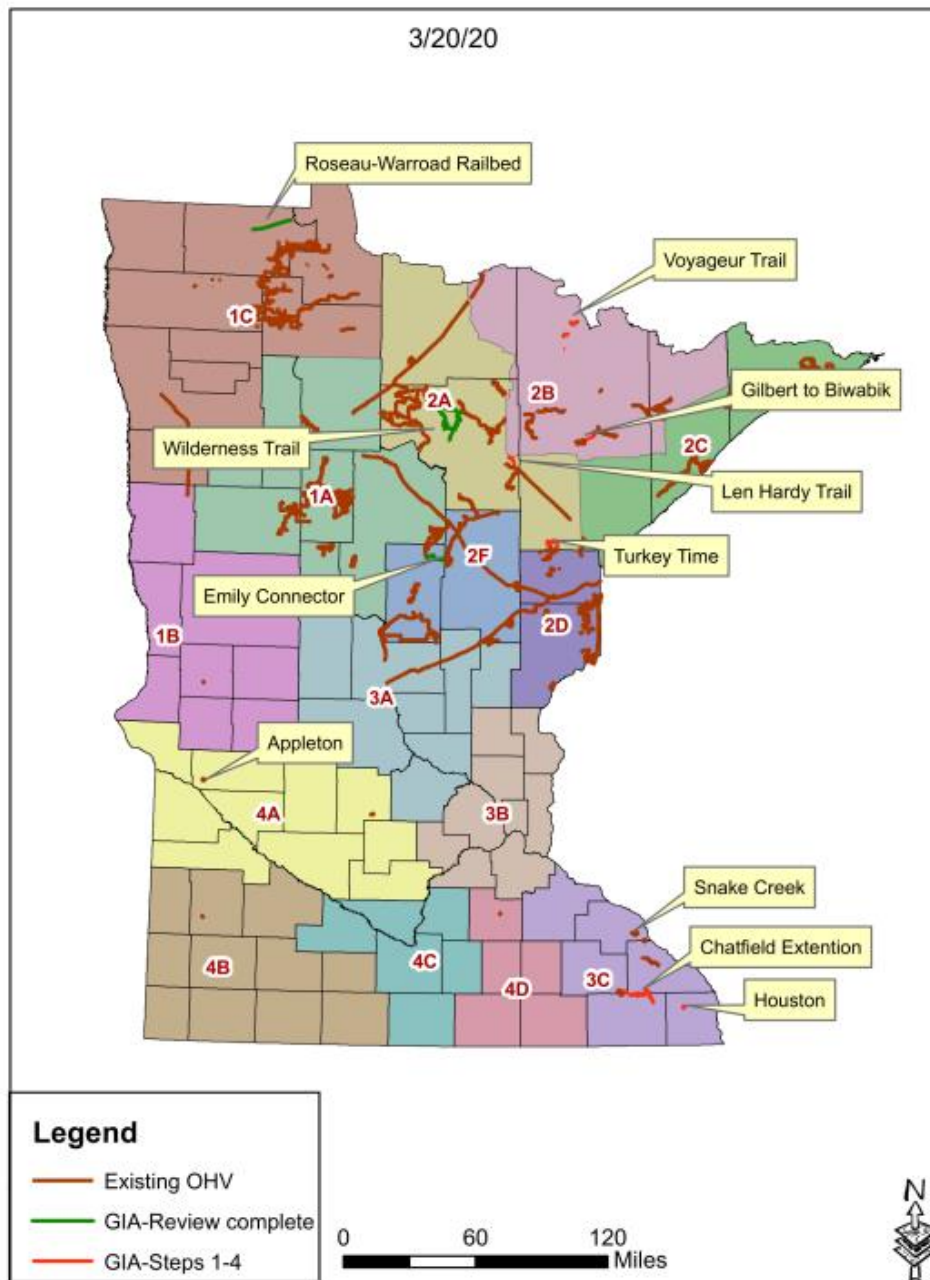
**Region 6:**

Please submit for next newsletter.

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

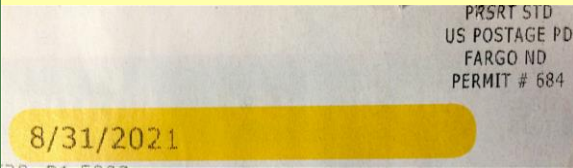
***Dedicated Volunteers***  
***Building Fun & Sustainable ATV Trails***  
***For The Riding Public***

# 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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