

143 New Members This Year, Including
2 New Lifetime Members... Welcome!

ATVAM Newsletter - July 16, 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
- 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 to refer back to on topics

**Countdown To
The 2020 Ride & Rally
Starts Now...Register Today!**



Summer is flying by. And in just 9 weeks, we'll be loading up our trucks, RVs and trailers and heading to the 2020 ATVAM Annual Convention. This year's event, also called the Ride & Rally, is September 18-20 in Ely, Minnesota.

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 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




**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.

Hosting this year is the Prospector ATV Club, which has been planning the event since the day after last year's Ride & Rally in Crane Lake. Including a plan to allow for social distancing during the banquet, auction and general membership meeting.

Guided trail rides are Friday and Saturday, with registration at the Grand Ely Lodge, 400 N. Pioneer Road.

The ATV Big Air Tour is Friday afternoon in Babbitt.

Now is the time to plan your trip to Ely. Start by going to atvam.org and registering you and your family members, club, or riding group. You'll also find a list of lodging and campground options. More about the event below.

Rides On The Prospector Will Be Good As Gold

As you plan your trip to the 2020 Ride & Rally, here is an updated map of trail segments currently open on the Prospector Loop. The section from Ely to Silver Rapids is not open yet. There is over \$2 million in construction work that will take place this summer. As that construction is completed and signage is put up, the club will post updated maps on its Facebook page. Watch for them!

Prospectors Loop ATV Trail System

A Minnesota ATV Trail System Connecting Communities and State Parks

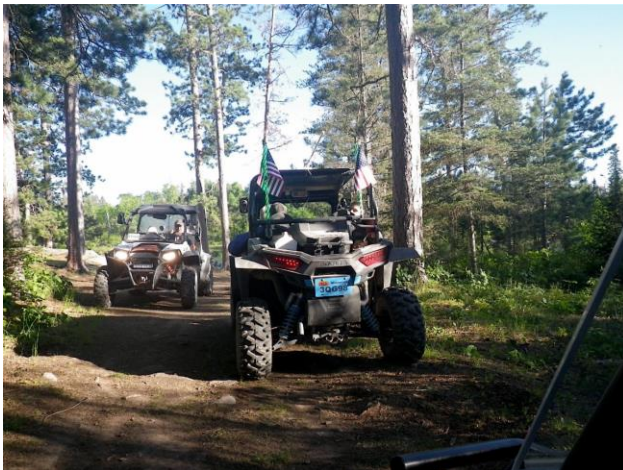


NOTE: The trail alignment from Ely to Tower on the Taconite Trail has not yet been determined.

Friend us on Facebook at Prospectors Loop ATV Trail System for the latest updates!



Adjustments For Covid-19 Are Planned For Ride & Rally



Getting outside and enjoying trails in northeast Minnesota is a big part of this year's Ride and Rally Sept. 18-20. Hosted by the Prospector ATV Club, the event will include events in Ely, Babbitt, Embarrass and Tower.

"This year's Ride and Rally might look a little different due to the pandemic because we're taking extra precautions but it's still gearing up to be a fun time," said Prospector President Nick

Wognum.

A volunteer committee has been meeting regularly to discuss plans for the event. Registration is open on the website at www.atvam.org.

"Each event will have extra room built into it, from the pancake breakfast at Timber Hall in Embarrass, to the VIP lunch at the outdoor pavilions at McKinley Park on Lake Vermilion near Tower, to the outdoor Big Air ATV Show in Babbitt, to the spacious Miners Dry building in Ely on Saturday night," said Wognum.

The Prospector Alliance board is made up of representatives from all four communities who have been working for seven years to build a trail system to connect Ely, Babbitt, Embarrass and Tower.

"The Alliance Board has been overseeing construction of the Prospector Loop and we're really excited to see \$2 million worth of work being done this summer. This is a massive 250-mile trail system that connects us to the North Shore as well through the Finland trails. If you want to put some miles on, load up your trailer and come on up for Ride and Rally."

A separate committee has been working on the Sept. 18-20 event. "We had to take a break for awhile but now that the restrictions have largely been lifted we're meeting and getting the word out," said Wognum. "We've made some adjustments including adding a massive tent on Saturday night to make sure there's plenty of room for serving food and the annual auction."

SE Minnesota ATV Ride July 25 In Stockton

(With update on master plan to
build more trails)

Want to ride a great trail in southeast Minnesota and learn how you can help build more trails in the area?

The Southeast Minnesota ATV Club is hosting a ride on July 25th out of Stockton, Minnesota, that will include an update on creating a regional plan for ATV trails in ATVAM Region 5. "The main focus is talking about getting a master plan for developing trails and connections in southeast Minnesota," said Ken Irish, ATVAM Region 5 Director. **"The invite is open to all the ATV clubs in southeast Minnesota and their members, especially those interested in getting involved and helping develop the process."**

The current plan is to meet at the home of Lee and Tammy Potter, family members of ATVAM president Ron Potter. Their home address is 81340 W Main (see map), which is right on State Hwy 14, about 1 mile west of Stockton. From the Cities take 61 S to



Minnesota City then take County Road 23 to Stockton, then head West 1 Mile on HWY 14; it is a blue house on the left. From Rochester take State 14 towards Stockton, if you get to Stockton you are too far. The Potters are 1 mile before



Stockton on the right. The ride will leave from the Potters' home to the Southeast MN ATV Trail, then ride county roads up to Trout Valley ATV Trail and back. The total ride will be approximately 80 miles.

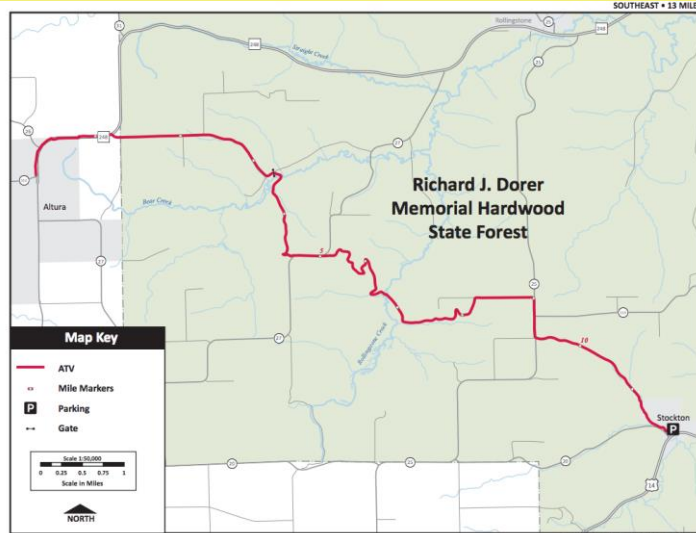
Riders will gather outside at 9 am, weather permitting, or in the Potter garage. It is suggested to bring a lawn

chair. ATVAM president, Ron Potter, and Director at Large, Perry May, will give updates on ATVAM, including current legislation. Lee Potter, will provide background information and history about the Southeast MN ATV trail. This ride is a continuation of a meeting of SE MN ATV Clubs, held in December 2019 in

Bellechester, on the development of a regional trail plan for the Southeast.

The Southeast Minnesota ATV club will provide a picnic style lunch somewhere along the trail. Bring your own snacks and beverages for the ride. Please RSVP Lee for head count for food. Cell 507-450-7190 Home 507-689-2039.

Ltpotter_1727@hotmail.com.



Note: Class 1 Riders Need A Permit.

If you will be riding a Class I ATV, Winona County requires

you to purchase a County Road permit. Class II ATVs are exempt from this requirement. You can apply for the permit online at: www.co.winona.mn.us, click Departments, click How Do I, click renew ATV Registration. The road pass will be mailed to your address and the cost is \$5.00, which is good for three years. Apply early! Registration information is below. You may want to include a self-addressed stamped envelope to make sure it is mailed back.

Fill in info: must have make of ATV, model, year, VIN#, Insurance Company, policy #, Insurance expiration date. Options are to mail it to the License Center or pick up at the License center. The cost is \$5.00 If you are paying by check make your check

payable to Winona County License Center and mail it to Winona County License Center, 1213 Gilmore Ave, Winona MN 55987

This Month's Ride: The Goodland and Alborn-Pengilly ATV Trails

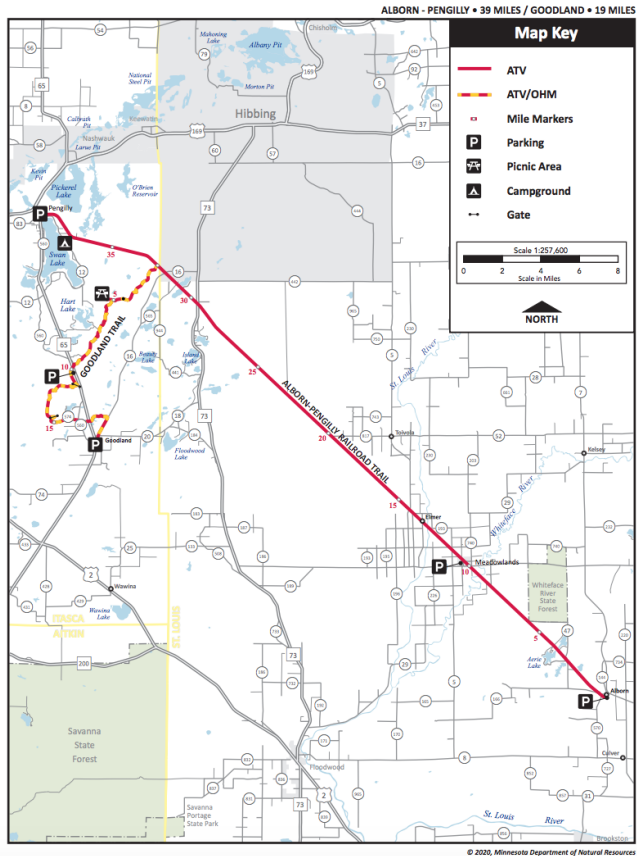


Perry May, ATVAM Director at Large, rides four new trails each year. Here is his report on his latest ride.

Partly cloudy skies, temps in the upper sixties, and a 1/2 inch rain from the day before, provided for perfect riding conditions for me and two companions to check out the Goodland, and Alborn-Pengilly ATV Trails.

We started our day parking in Goodland, MN, next to Fred's Smoked Meat Market. The smells coming from the market drew us in and we stocked up on some smoked beef sticks and jerky for the ride. The Goodland trail is a smooth high-land trail with gradual twists and turns through a dense northern hardwood forest.

The trail travels north 19-miles and intersects with the Alborn-Pengilly Trail approximately 8 miles south of Pengilly, MN. Along the way a rider will find some nice picnic areas, informational Kiosks with maps, and restrooms. Some nice personal touches include laser cut fire rings, and painted rocks.



This is an excellent smooth riding trail for riders that want a casual ride observing all the sights and sounds of the forest and dealing with little or no water. Thumbs Up! to the Red Rock Riders, and Itasca County for giving us this beautiful place to ride.

We continued our ride into the small town of Pengilly, located on the northern end of beautiful Swan Lake, in between the larger cities of Grand Rapids and Hibbing on US Highway 2. We had lunch at Dozers, a small bar & grill, that is connected by a small trail to the main Alborn-Pengilly trail. The A-P is 39 miles long, with Pengilly to the north and stretching southeast to the town of Alborn, located in St. Louis County.

In 1976 the DM & IR (Duluth Mesabi & Iron Range Railway Company), decommissioned this railway that was primarily used to shuttle iron ore. The DNR acquired the rail bed, changing it into a trail. The flat grade and little terrain variation are ideal for beginners, however, many riders will enjoy the wooded bogs, upland forests, and old railroad trestle river crossings that offer scenic views of the streams and rivers below, such as the St. Louis River and

Whiteface River.



Vegetation has taken over much of the trail, adding to the feel of a trail rather than a flat boring rail bed. Just south of the town of Meadowlands we observed the vandalism of a bridge fire, that destroyed the bridge decking. The local clubs and Itasca County re-decked half the bridge, allowing riders to cross over. The future looks bright for this trail to connect to the towns of Nashwauk, with the addition of the Len Hardy Memorial Trail, and possibly a future connection in the works

to Hibbing. After 104 miles, we ended our ride back in Goodland. Thank you to the Red Rock Riders and Range Riders ATV Clubs ,along with their GIA sponsor Itasca County, for your work maintaining this trail.

ATV Minnesota Clothing Sale Now 50% Off On Most Items



Just in time for summer rides on your favorite ATV trail, the ATV Minnesota Clothing Sale is on now. Hoodies for just \$20. T-shirts as low as \$7.50. All sale items are clearly marked on the Clothing Page of the ATVAM website. It's easy to pay online and we'll ship your order right away. Start by tapping the "Clothing" tab on atvam.org.

St. Louis County Clubs & Commissioners Gather For A Ride & Dinner



ATV Minnesota board members and three ATV clubs joined commissioners and staff from St. Louis County for a ride and "dinner by the bridge" on June 23.

"The Voyageur Country ATV Club did a great job of getting St. Louis County decision-makers up to Crane Lake to show them the Vermilion River Bridge and the Pelican River Overlook," said ATV Minnesota President Ron Potter.

County officials drove side by sides (some for the first time) on a beautiful Monday afternoon that included a broasted chicken dinner at the new steel bridge. Along with folks from Quad Cities and Prospectors Clubs, the evening included time to talk about the sport of ATVing.

"Thanks to Bruce Beste, Steve Koch and the rest of the Voyageur Club who were able to get board members from 140 miles away to come up and ride these trails," said Potter. **"Building relationships with county officials is so important to ATV trail development."**

Smaller Turnout

But Big Fun At ERX National

From Mike Devine, ATVAM 2nd Vice President

This year, 26 ATVAM members volunteered to help with safety and security at the ERX Off-Road National, held July 7-12 at the ERX Motor Park. That's fewer than last year, due to the current situation with coronavirus, but continued the strong

partnership between ATVAM and ERX. We had enough workers to cover all the gates and security shifts we promised to cover, including two people on an overnight shift. The week went good. It was hot on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday but cooled down a bit for Friday and Saturday. ATVAM also gained 7 new members, joining at the event and enjoying the same benefits as everyone else -- free entrance, lunch, camping, T-shirt and riding their ATVs on the ERX Park's trail system -- thanks to a donation to pay for their first year's dues.

A big ATVAM THANK-YOU to everyone who volunteered this year.



**Safety Training Classes Postponed,
So Club Holds 'ATV Safety Day'
(Rider survey reveals importance of education)**



From the Over The Hills Gang ATV Club

Our first ever 'ATV Safety Day' was a huge success! It was held on July 4th, typically the busiest day of the year on local trails. A big Thank You to Kirk Smith and Land O' Lakes Marine for letting us set up in their front yard! Another big Thank You to all who stopped to chat with us, and the volunteers that made the day possible.

Here are some stats from this precedent setting day.

-We counted over 200 ATV's passing through Outing.

-We made over 150 verbal contacts, and handed out information to 100 people.

We assisted on pulling out a Class II ATV which was stuck in the mud off-trail.

We had 4 pairs of TA's working on Sunset Hill Rd., Morrison Lake Road, Downtown Outing, and some trail monitoring on A and B trails.

We handed out 30 ice-cream



certificates for people taking the survey:

-We had five under 18 with no helmets.

-50% of all riders did not have lights on.

-Many of the under age 33 riders did not have an ATV Safety Certificate.

-Witnessed approximately 20 riders riding on MN Highway 6.

Not all good stats, but that's the reason we were out there.

Thank you to Sheriff Tom Burch and the Cass County Sheriff Deputies that let us use their Military RZR for the Day, and to DNR COs Chelsey Best and Calie Kunst for spending some time promoting ATV safety.



DNR UPDATE JUST RECEIVED: ATV SAFETY CLASSES CAN RESUME

The MN DNR gave the go-ahead on July 15 to all the state's certified ATV Safety instructors to hold an ATV Safety Course, with restrictions and requirements. After reading through the DNR email, ATV clubs and their instructors can decide whether or not to hold a class this year, and inform the DNR.

**Please Comment In Favor
Of The Chisholm To Hibbing Trail**

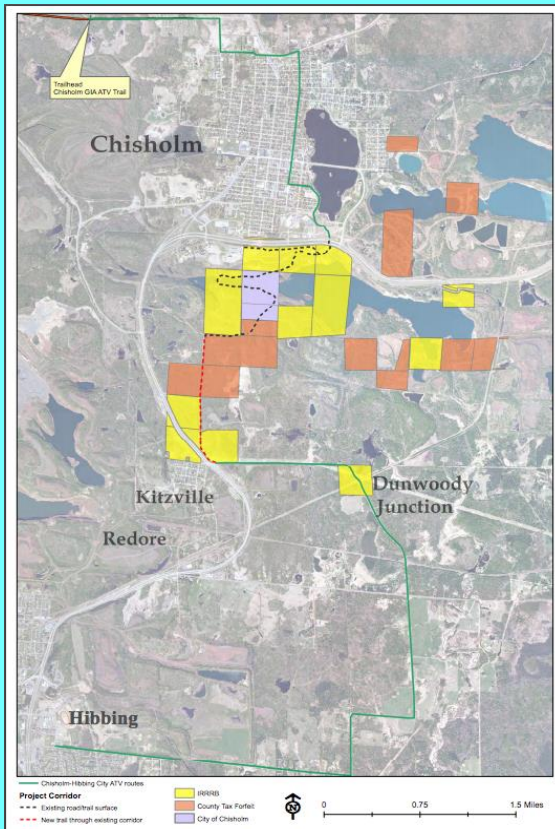
(Comment period ends July 24)

From a DNR press release:

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources invites public review and written comments on a proposal by the city of Chisholm and the Northern Traxx ATV Club to obtain grant-in-aid funding for an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) trail connection between the cities of Chisholm and Hibbing.

Grant-in-aid is a cost-sharing program between the DNR, a local government sponsor and a local club. The program helps fund development and maintenance of off-highway vehicle trails, including trails for ATVs.

The new trail, known as the Chisholm to Hibbing ATV Trail, would provide a 4-mile trail connection between the cities of Chisholm and Hibbing. The trail would follow 3 miles of existing roads and 1 mile of an old power line corridor. The trail would make connections to existing trail



systems in each community. The Northern Traxx ATV Club would maintain the trail.



The DNR will accept written comments until 4:30 p.m. Friday, July 24. Comments may be submitted:

Via email to joseph.majerus@state.mn.us

Via mail to Joseph Majerus, area supervisor, Parks and Trails Division, Minnesota DNR, 650 Highway 160, Tower, MN 55790.

A map (above) of the proposed trail segments can be found on the OHV trails plans page. For more information, call Joseph Majerus, 218-300-7842.



During a club ride, members of the Woodtick Wheelers rode through an area recently clearcut in the Round River Drive 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 - July 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.

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

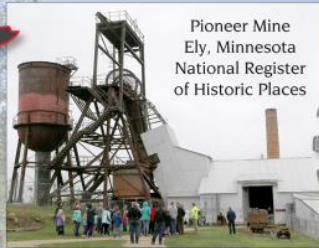
Host: Prospectors ATV Club/Ely Friday Trail Rides, Big Air ATV Tour

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:



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Region 1 Club Rides & Work Days:

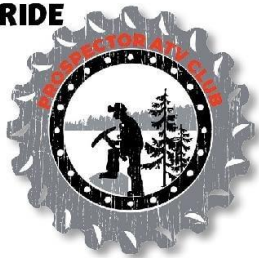
Please submit for next newsletter.

* * * * *

Region 2:

PROSPECTOR CLUB RIDE

Our ride on July 18 will start at Whiteside Park in Ely at 9 am. where we will be riding to the Babbitt Junction for lunch and back.



Region 3:

Central Lakes ATV Club - Club Rides

July 25 - Club Ride, 9:30 am, Blind Lake Trail, leave from Bridge Tavern

Lake Country ATV Riders

July 25 -- Growler Days Parade, 11am - 2pm, Bear's Den

Over The Hills Gang ATV Club

August 29 - Exploring MN ATV Trails group ride, Hill City Trail, 10 am

September 12 -- Ladies Only Ride, 10 am, Emily Outing Trail

See club Facebook page for more details

Woodtick Wheelers ATV Club - Club Ride

August 8 - Club Ride on Hill City Trail. Meet at Swatara parking area along Soo Line North at 9 am, ride to Hill City for lunch at restaurant.

Region 4:

Please submit for next newsletter.

Region 5:

South Metro ATV Club

July 18, Club Ride at Fond du Lac Trails

July 19, Club Ride at Nemadji Trails

See club website for updates on ride status: www.southmetroatv.com

Region 6:

Please submit for next newsletter.



The Duluth News Tribune wrote an outstanding article about the Prospector Trail, with quotes from ATVAM and the DNR on the importance of building winding, scenic ATV trails to maximize "seat time". See the full article and more photos, posted on the ATVAM and Prospector Loop Facebook pages.

ATV MINNESOTA "Your Voice To Ride"

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

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 newsletters. And

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PERMIT # 684

8/31/2021

send renewals to ATVAM's 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](#)

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