

160 New Members This Year... Welcome!

## ATVAM Newsletter - August 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: ATVAM is also referred to as ATV Minnesota**

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

**Help Make  
The 2020 State Convention  
The Best It Can Be**



*This letter from ATVAM president Ron Potter was recently sent to all ATVAM member clubs. Please discuss it at your next club meeting. Thanks!*

**Dear Club President and Board,**

As we continue to make plans for our 2020 ATV Minnesota Annual Convention, currently referred to as our Ride and Rally, it is important that we understand this is the Annual Convention for our State Association. Although it is hosted by a specific club each year it, is all of our responsibility to make this event a success and participate.

It is understood that not everyone can physically attend the event every year, but to make it a success we must all be involved. This is our one major fund

raiser for the year, and our success with this effort determines how active the Association can be next year in helping clubs and providing leadership where it is needed.

**Because this is an ATV Minnesota event we are asking that every club contribute to this event by making a donation to the auction.** This can be an item for the auction or a cash donation that will be used to purchase items for the auction, which will be used to generate funds to support the State Association. This can be from business members of the club, business in the community, other connection or contacts the clubs may have. These can be items for the sport of ATVing or items like hunting or fishing trips or trips to resorts with riding opportunities.



With COVID-19 we have had to scale the Ride and Rally back to address social distancing and the safety of the participants. However, the need for fund-raising to support our sport is more important and more necessary than ever.

**We are asking for 100% involvement this year and we are asking our Regional Directors to work with clubs to make this happen.**

You will be contacted by one of the ATVAM Regional Directors within the next few weeks. If you will not be attending the Convention this year, the Regional Director will help you get your items delivered to the Convention in time. We are asking that each club provide items worth at least \$100.00 for the auction, or a cash donation of

equal value. If you need ideas please feel free to contact your Regional Director or one of the Executive Board members. The Regional Directors and their contact information are listed under "Officers" on the ATV Minnesota website.

**If your club is sending cash please make sure it is delivered to the Prospectors Alliance prior to September 1st, 2020,** providing adequate time for this donation to be converted to auction items. Visa cards or gift cards are fine and can be delivered just prior to the event.



This year the auction will be conducted differently to comply with COVID-19 requirements. It will be an on-line auction so anyone can bid from anywhere up to the close of the auction for that particular item. You need not be present to participate or to win, but you will need to log-in and sign up to be able to bid.

If you have items you want delivered for the auction please contact your Regional Director

or Executive Board member prior to September 1st and make arrangements for items to be picked up.

**Items can also be mailed to the host club at this address:** Prospectors Alliance ATV, c/o Paddle Inn, 1314 East Sheridan Street, Ely, MN 55731. Any

alerts/questions/comments about donations please contact Ann Johnson at (218) 343-3610 or email at [amjohnson@frontiernet.net](mailto:amjohnson@frontiernet.net)



After September 1, 2020 all items must be mailed directly to Prospectors Alliance at the address listed above. If you plan on attending the State Convention and will bring your auction items with you, please let Ann know.

**This is your Convention, let's make it the best it can be.** With this approach the sponsoring club can focus on the physical event while the remainder of the clubs across the state make sure the fund-raising part of the event is a great success as well.

Thank you for your assistance with our State Convention, if you have any questions please let me know or contact one of the State Board members.

Best regards.  
Ron

Ron Potter, ATVAM President  
(218) 235 - 0382  
[r.potter@atvam.org](mailto:r.potter@atvam.org)

## **COVID Forces Changes To Election Process At Ride & Rally**

*From the ATVAM Bylaws Committee:*

Changes to this year's Ride and Rally event in response to COVID-19 have also resulted in some minor changes to the election process. With no banquet being held and all activities being held outdoors, the Board has decided the General Membership Meeting will be a brief and limited outdoor meeting for the purpose of conducting officer elections, as required by the ATVAM Bylaws.



## ATVAM BY-LAWS

### ARTICLE I - NAME AND ADDRESS

Section 1        This Association shall be known as the All-Terrain Vehicle Association of Minnesota, Inc. hereinafter referred to as ATVAM or ATV Minnesota.  
Amended 09/22/18.

The Bylaws Committee, with the consent of the Board, has made some adjustments to the election procedures for this year. These changes are:

1. Nominations from the general membership must be submitted in writing by September 1 as no nominations will be taken from the floor at the General Membership Meeting. (See article below announcing opening of nominations.)
2. Ballots will be provided at the Ride and Rally event registration booth to members who have registered and are in attendance at the event.
3. Members will place their completed ballots in a secured ballot box located at the main registration booth on Friday and Saturday.

These changes have been made in order to minimize the amount of time the general meeting needs to be in session, limit the handling of ballots and contact between meeting attendees, and allow for voting by those who choose not to attend the General Membership Meeting.

These minor, but necessary changes from the normal election procedures are in keeping with the spirit and intent of the ATVAM Bylaws and Election Procedures by giving all members an opportunity to nominate candidates for the open offices and to allow all members attending the event the opportunity to cast their ballots.

In the case of no nominations being received from the general membership, no ballots will be distributed as the current officers, all of which have been placed in nomination by the Nominating Committee, can be re-elected by the casting of a white ballot at the general meeting. Thanks for paying attention to and abiding by these changes at the annual convention.

## **Nominations Are Now Open For 3 Officer Positions**

The Elections Committee is now accepting nominations from ATVAM members for the offices of President, First Vice President, and Secretary.

Any ATVAM member in good standing may submit a nomination or be nominated. **All nominations are to be received no later than September 1, 2020.** Nominations will not be accepted from the floor of the General Membership Meeting this year because of restructuring the meeting due to COVID-19 concerns, yet follow our Bylaws & Election procedure as closely as possible.

**Nominations from members shall be submitted to:**

Sherry Miller  
Chairperson, Elections Committee  
shmiller1@comcast.net

**The Election Committee has accepted the following nominations:**

-Ron Potter (incumbent) for President.



-Dave Clevenger (incumbent) for First Vice President.



-Nick Wognum (incumbent) for Secretary.

The current officers, names and photos accepted their nomination for their and will be candidates on the election ballots. Other individuals who are nominated and accept their nomination will be included in future ATVAM newsletters.

The election will occur at the ATVAM Annual Convention "Ride and Rally," September 18-19, 2020. All members present at this event may vote. Election results will be announced at the end of the General Membership Meeting on Saturday evening, September 19, 2020.

*(Repeated from last newsletter,  
in case you missed it)*

**Adjustments Made  
To Annual "Ride & Rally" Convention  
Focus is on fun rides, short meeting  
and on-line auction: please pre-register!**



**We're downshifting. Big Air and Banquet are out. Friday VIP ride and a dozen great Saturday rides are in, with registrations for all online.**

*By Nick Wognum, Prospector Loop ATV Club, Ride & Rally host club*

With new state guidelines from the Governor's office, ATV Minnesota is making adjustments to its annual "Ride & Rally" convention on the Prospector Loop trail system, scheduled for Sept. 18-19, 2020.

"We're heavy on the Ride part and light on the Rally," said Prospector President Nick Wognum. "With the pandemic this year, we're going to focus on having 12 different rides to choose from on Saturday. And planning for ATVAM members to return for a full Ride and Rally in 2021."

# ATV MINNESOTA/PROSPECTOR LOOP 2020 12 PACK RIDE

12 DIFFERENT RIDE OPTIONS ON SEPT. 19, 2020

Sept. 19, 2020 ATV Minnesota/Prospector Trail Rides



REGISTER ONLINE:  
[www.ATVAM.org](http://www.ATVAM.org)

Hosted by:

Guided Rides Depart from:

Ely Softball Fields  
Silver Rapids Lodge  
Tower Civic Center  
Embarrass Timber Hall  
Babbitt Softball Fields  
Wildhurst Campground  
Kelly Loop Parking Lot

Ely, Babbitt, Embarrass & Tower to host both!

# 2021 RIDE AND RALLY

Sept. 17-19, 2021 ATV MN State Convention

Ride & Rally Sept 17-19, 2021

**FRIDAY 9.17.21**  
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 9.18.21**  
8am-5pm ..... Registration open at Grand Ely Lodge  
Junction Inn Babbitt, Tower Civic  
10am ..... Guided ATV rides offered at various  
locations including a lunch stop at local restaurants.  
Different rides of various lengths/difficulty.



Register  
for Ride and  
Rally 2021 at  
[ATVAM.org](http://ATVAM.org)

**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 9.19.21**  
9am ..... ATVAM board meeting at Grand Ely Lodge



The traditional VIP Ride will take place on Friday, Sept. 18, with everything being held outside. Participants will start from the fairgrounds at Timber Hall in Embarrass, ride to Tower for a lakeside catered lunch and then take the trails back afterward. "Luckily we were able to find outdoor areas with plenty of room for people to spread out. Both Timber Hall and McKinley Park have plenty of space for social distancing," said Wognum. "This is a nice ride that will give people a first look at Prospector, plus they'll get to enjoy a catered lunch on the shores of Lake Vermilion," said ATV Minnesota President Ron Potter.

## Ride Prospector Loop!

A team of volunteers from four communities has been working on the Prospector Loop trail system for over 7 years. Prospector trails connect Ely, Babbitt, Embarrass and Tower together and also provide a link to the North Shore trail system in Lake County. "There will be 250 miles of trails when all of the construction work is complete," said Wognum. "Like everyone, we've been impacted by the pandemic and there's a couple areas that won't be done until 2021. But the vast majority of routes will be open for this year's event. And when we host again next year everything should be completed so there will be new opportunities. We're also looking forward to the ATV Big Air Tour in 2021 as well."

## Choose from 12 rides: 25 to 180 miles RT.

The 12 different ride options will give everyone from the novice to the experienced rider choices for a fun day out on the trails. "Our meetings for this event have been unbelievable. We have a great group of people who are excited to show people what



we've been working on," said Wognum. "We've put together 12 fantastic rides that will be led by our volunteer guides." The 2020 12 Pack Ride lengths vary from 25 to 180 miles with seven different start/stop points. "You can choose anything from a nice leisurely ride to an all-day trip where you'll go from near the Canadian border to within 10 miles of Lake Superior. Each ride is unique and we have staggered starting times from seven locations to spread people out," said Wognum.



## 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!



**Please note: All rides have a maximum number of vehicles and require online registration.**

Just like the VIP Ride, participants will be required to register online prior to the event at [www.atvam.org](http://www.atvam.org). "On the website, we'll have descriptions and maps of each of the 12 rides so people will know what they are signing up for," said Wognum. "The VIP Ride is limited to 200 people and each of the 2020 12 Pack Rides have specific limitations as well. **My advice is to register online right away**

**because some of these rides on Saturday are limited to 10 or 20 machines."**

**Auction is also online.** ATV Minnesota is following state and CDC guidelines for the rides and the annual auction has been moved to an online format. "We had planned to have the banquet and auction at the Miners Dry building at Ely's Historic Pioneer Mine," said Potter. "To keep with the guidelines we knew the indoor part would be difficult so the annual auction will be done online. We're hoping this works out and people have the ability to bid whether they're on the ride or not. It's our major fundraiser and there's always some great items to bid on." All ATV clubs should watch for a letter on how to sponsor the Ride & Rally and how to donate auction items.

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*A full-throttle THANK-YOU! to the Prospector Loop ATV Club and all its members and volunteers for their time, energy and commitment to make this year's Ride & Rally happen despite ever-changing conditions, and for continuing their work into 2021.*

## **Great American Outdoors Act Signed Into Law**



*From the ARRA newsletter*

On July 22, the powersports industry and off-highway enthusiasts nationwide welcomed the passage of the Great American Outdoors Act (H.R. 7092) in the House by a bipartisan vote of 310-107 and the President signed the bill into law.

"On behalf of the U.S. powersports industry, thank you, Congress, for passing the Great American Outdoors Act," said Erik Pritchard, Motorcycle Industry Council (MIC) President and CEO. "It not only boosts recreation opportunities across the U.S., but it also supports the nation's economy."

**The GAOA addresses the \$20 billion maintenance backlog facing our public lands and waters, and will provide infrastructure for the recreational community, improving public lands for motorcycle, ATV, side-by-side, and snowmobile enthusiasts across the country.** This funding will ensure that adequate infrastructure for all types of recreation on U.S. public lands and waters can support rural communities and economies.

The Government Relations Office working on behalf of MIC, SVIA and ROHVA repeatedly reached out to Senate and House leadership as well as numerous Congressional offices urging support for and swift passage of the GAOA. The the

Outdoor Recreation Roundtable (ORR), worked with a number of representatives from across the entire outdoor industry and celebrated the act's passage with this thank you video to Congress.



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*Americans for Responsible Recreational Access (ARRA) was formed to ensure that Americans are not arbitrarily denied the right to responsibly experience and enjoy the public lands that belong to the citizens of the United States. To learn more and sign up for the ARRA newsletter, go*

to: <https://arra-access.com/>

## **News & Notes From The Trail**

**Winter Riding** - ATV Minnesota has formed a Winter Riding Committee. It is meeting regularly with the Minnesota DNR, and MnUSA, to discuss issues related to riding OHVs on dual-use trails in the Nemadji State Forest, and to provide information on winter-riding opportunities across Minnesota, including trail locations, rules and winter-riding etiquette on dual-use trails.

**Refunds for Vision Meeting** - Everyone who registered for the 2020 Vision Meeting, scheduled for last March but canceled due to COVID-19, has been contacted. Some members received a credit on their cards, some preferred to advance their registration to the 2021 meeting, and some donated the \$25 registration fee to ATVAM. Thanks to everyone for your patience as we worked through this process.

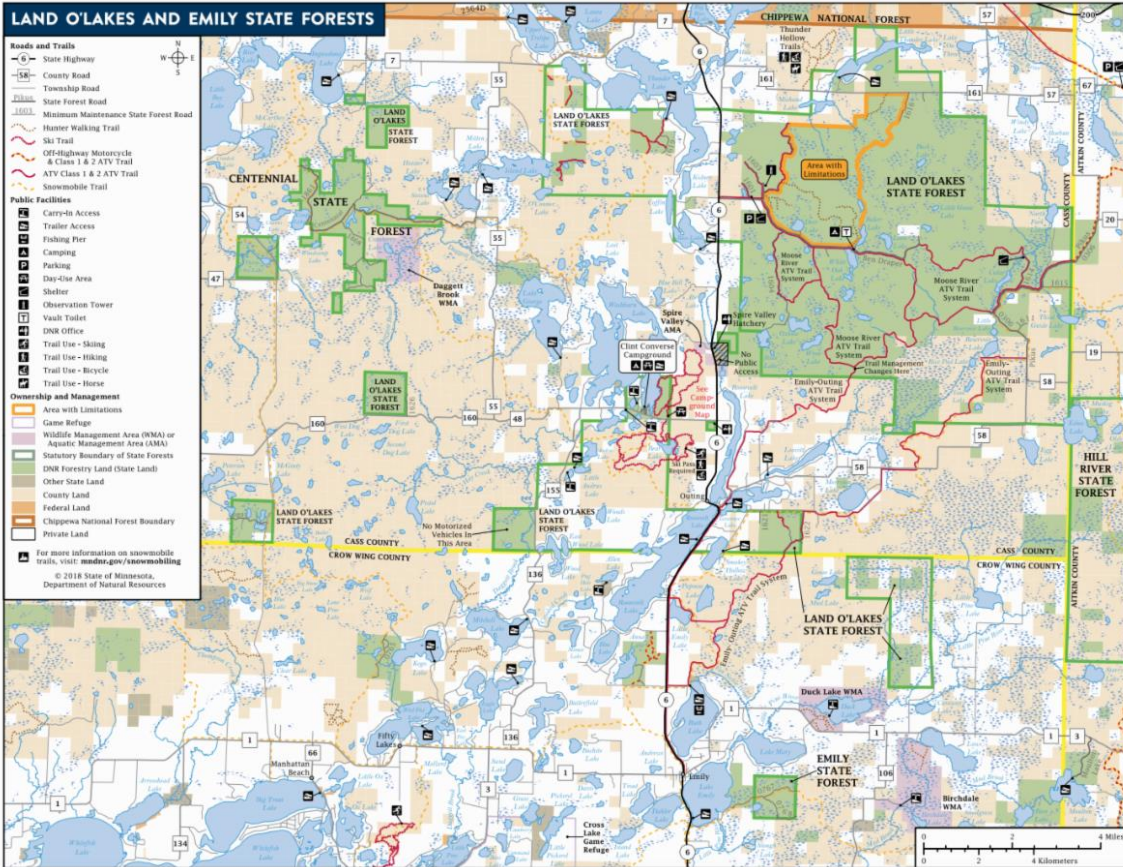


**Where can I camp near ATV trails?** Second only to "Where can I ride my new ATV" that may be the most common question new owners ask.

**New state forest maps being published by the Minnesota DNR show where you can camp near trails, as well as hike, swim and enjoy other activities.** DNR Forestry is updating maps for all 59 of our state forests. In addition to maps for 23 state forests released earlier, eight new state forest maps join the list this year, including Bear Island, Big Fork, Burntside, Golden Anniversary, Remer, Koochiching, Smokey Bear, and White Earth state forests.

The free Avenza Maps App provides access to Minnesota state forest maps. Download the app and navigate to the desired map by searching MNDNR + state forest name in their store. Your phone's GPS will allow you to see your location, track distance and more while riding.

Newly designed paper maps with site-specific details are available from the DNR Info Center / 888-646-6367. A PDF version of the paper map can also be downloaded and printed from the state forest webpage.



**RTP Award Nomination  
Deadline Extended To August 15**



**COALITION  
FOR  
RECREATIONAL  
TRAILS**

The Coalition for Recreational Trails (CRT) is seeking nominations for outstanding projects that utilized funds from the Recreational Trails Program (RTP). Deadline for nominations has been extended to August 15, 2020 The nomination form can be found at this link: <https://form.jotform.com/200656868091159>

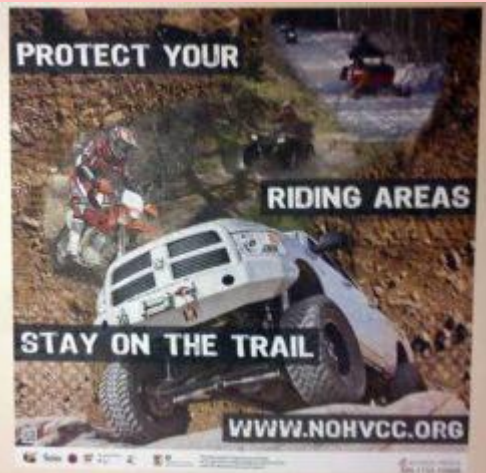
Award winners will be selected from projects nominated by public agencies, trail administrators or other project sponsors. Projects must be completed in order to receive an award.

Please take the time to recognize and promote significant contributions to trail-related recreation that the Recreational Trails Program is supporting all across the country.

The recognition of great projects will elevate the profile of the RTP with members of Congress and emphasize the need for continued funding.

For more information on CRT visit <https://www.americantrails.org/crt>.

**The last winning project in Minnesota was in 2013**, for the "School Messaging Project," a multi-level partnership to put positive messages about OHV recreation into schools. It was led by Minnesota's Coalition of Recreational Trail Users (CRTU). When the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council (NOHVCC) was creating a program to put positive messages about off-highway vehicle (OHV) recreation into schools, CRTU volunteered to do the pilot project.



CRTU was awarded an RTP Educational Grant of \$11,500 by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and advertised the project to local clubs. Five local clubs - three ATV clubs, one off-highway motorcycle (OHM) club, and one ATV/OHM club - provided funding for the project as well, contributing \$2,300.

**In 2011, the Iron Range Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Recreation Area, located in Gilbert, MN, won a CRT Award** for Construction and Design. As part of the Iron Range rehabilitation, an OHV Recreation Area was developed, using \$750,000 in Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funds, after a partnership was formed among the City of Gilbert, the Minnesota DNR and state OHV associations.

## 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](http://atvam.org).



*The North Metro ATV Club held an ATV Safety Class recently, following the Minnesota DNR's requirements for social distancing and safety. Eleven youth riders completed the course. The classroom session was taught by Janelle Secord, the DNR's 2019 ATV Instructor of the Year. Thanks to all the volunteers and families that attended.*

# 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 - August 18, 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 VIP Trail Ride, Big Air ATV Tour (cancelled) Saturday 12 Trail Rides, Banquet (cancelled) / Meeting & Online Auction. Register for all rides at [atvam.org](http://atvam.org). Lodging and camping also shown.

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

Please submit for next newsletter.

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## **Region 2:**

Prospector Loop and Babbitt ATV Clubs

JOIN US ON THE  
**3rd ANNUAL ATV Ride**  
The Black Sheep Run for **Special Olympics Minnesota**  
Guided by  
Prospector Loop ATV Club  
& Babbitt ATV Club

REGISTRATION \$25  
All proceeds go to Special Olympics Minnesota  
ROUTE: TBD · START: BABBITT, MN  
SOFTBALL FIELDS ACROSS FROM HIDEAWAY ON HWY 70

OCTOBER 10th, 2020  
DEPART TIME : 10 AM  
Lunch provided along the ride!

To register or for more information  
Mary Zupancich 218.349.1825 Deb Campbell 218.235.0155



\* \* \* \* \*

**Region 3:**

**Central Lakes ATV Club**

August 12 - Club Ride at Spider Lake Trail, 9:30 am  
August 22 - Club Ride at Round River Drive Trail, 10am  
September 26 - Club ride at Red Top ATV Trail, 10 am  
Details at club Facebook page

**Lake Country ATV Riders**

August 22 - Cookout and Night Ride, Spider Lake Trails, 5pm  
Details at club Facebook page

**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

\* \* \* \* \*

**Region 4:**

Please submit for next newsletter.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Region 5:**

**South Metro ATV Club**

August 21-23, Club Ride at Hayward, WI  
See club website for updates on ride status: [www.southmetroatv.com](http://www.southmetroatv.com)

\* \* \* \* \*

**Region 6:**

Please submit for next newsletter.



**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 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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