



## **ATV Minnesota**

*"Your Voice For ATV Recreation in Minnesota"*

**Member Newsletter**

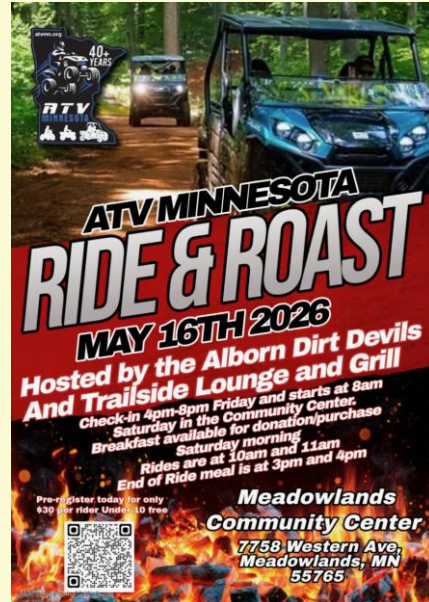
**April 22, 2026**

## Ride & Roast Is Less Than 3 Weeks Away! Register your ride group today.

The Alborn Dirt Devils ATV Club, Trailside Lounge & Grill, and ATV Minnesota are hosting the 2026 ATV MN annual Ride & Roast on May 16, 2026, in Meadowlands, Minn.

**Registration is open!** Go to [atvmn.org](http://atvmn.org), and tap the Events tab, register and choose one of several guided rides or the "ride on your own" option. You'll find lodging and camping lists on the registration page.

**Please Note:** St. Louis County is an ATV-friendly county. You can legally drive ATVs on any road except designated highways, i.e., Hwy 73, 53, 169. **Reminder: there are no gas stations in Meadowlands and Alborn.**



### Can You Help?

The Alborn Dirt Devils would greatly appreciate your support by volunteering to help at the event, or by making a cash or merchandise donation to support club activities. Please send them to the address below, or call for more information. Watch the club's Facebook page for updates.

Money raised from this event goes toward maintaining and improving the ATV trails in the local area, purchasing equipment to help in the maintenance of trails, and Youth ATV Safety Training, where each participant receives a free helmet and goggles to get them started in the right direction. All ATV clubs, groups and businesses making donations are being recognized on the Alborn Dirt Devils ATV Club Facebook page. They will also be recognized at the event.

#### Send donations to:

Alborn Dirt Devils ATV Club, 9166 Aerie Lake Rd., Alborn, MN 55702  
phone: 218-390-1197 email: [albornatvclub@gmail.com](mailto:albornatvclub@gmail.com)



**Wow! Thanks to these awesome businesses and clubs for their generous donations to Ride & Roast (as of April 22)**



**Alborn Sno-Devils  
Alborn Tavern  
Burger's Shoes & Repair - Cloquet  
Clip Joint - Alborn  
The Dawghouse - Canyon  
Duluth Lawn & Sport - Duluth  
Five Seasons Sports - Eveleth  
Hoss Construction - Saginaw  
Johnson Rock & Gravel - Alborn  
Melrude Whistle Stop  
MotoAlliance - Rogers  
Prospector ATV Club - Ely  
Ray's Sport & Cycle - Grand Rapids  
Rendezvous Sports Bar and Grill - Cloquet  
RJ's Sport & Cycle - Hermantown  
Rustic Bar & Grill - Duluth  
Subaru Dealership  
Swan Lake Market - Culver  
Tim's Auto Care - Hermantown  
Top Hat Tavern - Superior  
Trailside Lounge & Grill - Meadowlands  
Twig Area Trail Riders  
Up North Land Clearing - Duluth  
US Postal Workers Union  
*ATV MN Corporate Sponsor:*  
Timber Bay Lodge & Houseboats - Babbitt**



### **Babbitt ATV & Snowmobile Club Acquires New Mini Excavator**

*From The Ranger newsletter, April 2, 2026*

The Babbitt ATV & Snowmobile Club purchased a new mini excavator, replacing one that was aging and failing. The new equipment enables their volunteers to better maintain and improve trails. Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation supported the project with a \$39,572 Culture & Tourism grant. Total project investment is estimated at

\$79,144.

The Babbitt Club maintains 60 miles of snowmobile trails and 65 miles of ATV trails, serving both local riders and visitors traveling between Ely, Tower, Aurora, Virginia and

the North Shore. These trail users help support the local economy, spending at area restaurants, gas stations, retail shops and lodging establishments.

Many of the trails follow old service roads built in the 1940s and 1950s, when logs were used to stabilize the ground. Over time, those logs have begun to surface, and the original culverts are now rusting and breaking down. The excavator allows volunteers to remove the exposed logs, as well as boulders and trees, and supports the replacement of deteriorating culverts.

Club Vice President Glenn Warlof explained that a key to keep tourists returning to the region is having the ability to efficiently maintain snowmobile and ATV trails that provide not only beautiful scenery, but also smooth, safe trails for families to ride.

[Learn more about Babbitt ATV & Snowmobile Club.](#)

**Email Danae Beaudette** or call her at 218-735-3022 for Culture & Tourism grant information.

*In photo, from left, Dave Soular, Craig Warlof and Mike Rhein are shown with the Babbitt ATV & Snowmobile Club's new mini excavator. Tom Bissonette also assisted with delivery.*

### **Let's Build on What Works for Minnesota's ATV Trails—Not Break It**

*An Op/Ed by Ron Potter, President, ATV Minnesota, printed in the April 3 edition of the Minnesota Star Tribune newspaper during the Legislative Session*

Minnesota's ATV trail system is one of the best in the country, not by accident, but by decades of collaboration, careful planning, and local stewardship. From the forests of the Iron Range and Northeastern Minnesota, to the rural communities that depend on outdoor recreation, our trail system reflects a uniquely Minnesota approach: balance access with environmental protection, empower local voices, and build partnerships that work.

That's why many of us are concerned about Senate File 1245 and its House companion. At its core, SF1245 would fundamentally change how ATV trails are established and managed in Minnesota. It shifts us away from a long-standing system—particularly north of Highway 2—that has allowed responsible riding while protecting natural resources, and toward a more restrictive “closed unless designated” model.

Supporters of the bill raise valid points about consistency and oversight. But the reality is that Minnesota already has a robust, thoughtful process in place. The Department of Natural Resources works with counties, clubs, land managers, and stakeholders through a detailed planning framework that includes environmental review, public input, and long-term sustainability.



It's not perfect—but it works. And importantly, it has allowed Minnesota to build a trail system that supports local economies, connects communities, and provides safe, responsible recreation for families across the state.



**SF1245 risks disrupting that balance.**

It could make it significantly more difficult to maintain existing trails, slow or halt new trail development, and create uncertainty for the very volunteers and local governments who have built this system from the ground up. And this concern is not limited to ATV riders. We are hearing from counties, county land managers, hunters, trappers, cabin owners, and others across northern Minnesota who share serious concerns about this proposal. These are the same stakeholders who rely on responsible access to public lands and have long worked in partnership with the state to manage them. They understand that sweeping changes to access policy don't happen in a vacuum—they affect how people recreate, how land is managed, and how rural economies function.

At the same time, there is strong bipartisan support for policies that *do* move Minnesota

forward.

Legislation to modernize ATV registration fees ensures that riders are fairly contributing to trail maintenance and infrastructure, something our organization supports as a responsible investment in the future of the system. Similarly, updating ATV definitions reflects the reality of today's machines and helps ensure that regulations are clear, enforceable, and aligned with how Minnesotans actually ride.

**These are practical, forward-looking solutions.**

And they are being advanced with leadership from both sides of the aisle. We appreciate legislators—including Republicans and DFL Senators Grant Hauschild, John Hoffman, and Rob Kupec—who have taken the time to listen to riders, local governments, and stakeholders and have raised concerns about SF1245. That's the kind of engagement we need more of, not less.

This conversation should not be about “for” or “against” ATV use. It should be about how we continue to improve a system that already delivers real benefits: economic activity in Greater Minnesota, outdoor recreation opportunities for families, and a model of responsible land use.

Minnesota's ATV community is ready to be part of that conversation.

We are committed to working with legislators, state agencies, and stakeholders to find solutions that enhance safety, protect our natural resources, and strengthen our trail system, not undermine it.

**Let's build on what works.**

Because when we do, Minnesota riders, communities, and landscapes all benefit.



## A Grant Opportunity For ATV Clubs!

*Trails Capacity Grant Call For Proposals Now Open. (Deadline May 15, 2026)*

American Trails and Bronco Wild Fund are pleased to continue the Trails Capacity Grant Program in 2026. This program is targeted for projects on all federal public lands, as well as state, local, and private lands accessible to the public. Project applicants may include nonprofit organizations, businesses, or agencies at the federal, state, or local level. American Trails is administering this grant program, and is soliciting proposals for funding, with awards between \$2K and \$15K

per project. Deadline is May 15, 2026 by 11:59 PM Pacific Time.

Special Focus for 2026: American Trails and Bronco Wild Fund are particularly interested in proposals that enhance the following areas:

- Opportunities for multi-use trails, particularly those that cater to both motorized and nonmotorized activities.
- Projects that establish crucial links to expand trail networks or broaden the scope of current trail systems.

### IMPORTANT DATES:

Application Portal Opens: Mid-April 2026

Application Deadline: May 15, 2026 by 11:59 PM Pacific

Announcement of Awardees: May 31, 2026

Funding Provided to Awardees: Early June 2026

Report Deadline for Awardees: November 15, 2026

Deadline for Funds to be Used: December 31, 2026

More details and to submit your application at this link:

<https://www.americantrails.org/the-trails-capacity...>



River, MN

## ATV Safety Instructor Certification & 4H Partnership

This training is designed for adults who wish to become certified **Minnesota DNR Volunteer ATV Safety Instructors** and for 4H-screened volunteers looking to lead youth ATV certification courses in their communities.

### Training schedule

Date: Saturday, May 2, 2026

Classroom time: 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Location: Sherburne County Fairgrounds, Elk

Register for ATV Instructor

Training: [https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/events/safety\\_training\\_class.html?id=71](https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/events/safety_training_class.html?id=71)

ATV Instructor

requirements: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/safety/instructors/atv/index.html>



## Minnesota DNR celebrates volunteers during National Volunteer Week

More than 13,500 volunteers helped the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources do everything from monitoring

rainfall levels to clearing trails in 2025, according to the **annual DNR volunteer report** (<files.dnr.state.mn.us/volunteering/2025-annual-DNR-volunteer-report.pdf>). The DNR is releasing the report in celebration of National Volunteer Week, April 19-25, a time when organizations across the country honor volunteers and recognize the impact of their efforts. (*DNR Enforcement volunteer programs shown in table*)

| Division    | Volunteer Position                            | Number of Volunteers | Number of Hours | Conservation Impacts  |
|-------------|---|----------------------|-----------------|---|
| Enforcement | Advanced and Bow Hunter Education Instructors | 465                  | 17,670          | Educated and certified approximately 651 students to hunt safely using a bow  |
|             | ATV Safety Instructors                        | 914                  | 5,484           | Educated and certified 115 classes of students to safely operate All-Terrain Vehicles   |
|             | Firearms Safety Instructors                   | 3,598                | 71,960          | Educated and certified 694 classes of students to safely hunt using firearms  |
|             | Snowmobile safety instructors                 | 1,241                | 14,892          | Educated and certified 189 classes of students to safely operate snowmobiles  |
|             | Trail Ambassadors                             | 186                  | 5,205           | Monitored thousands of miles of trails for safety hazards, signage, and washouts to keep the community safe, as well as educated adults and/or youth on trail etiquette |
|             | Training Academy Actors                       | 143                  | 1,088           | Provided real-life, hands-on scenarios for cadets training to be Conservation Officers to prepare them for working with the public                                      |

**Coming Soon! Save The Dates!**

*Send Us Your Ride & Event Fliers (to [d.halsey@atvmn.org](mailto:d.halsey@atvmn.org))*

## VOYAGEUR COUNTRY ATV CLUB SPRING RIDE

APPAREL | HATS | RAFFLES

**Guided Rides**

- Cabins On Crane & 800am
- Breakfast @ 10:30 am
- Departure @ 11:30 am
- Return @ 1:00 pm
- WT 100000

**DON'T MISS IT!**  
**MAY 2, 2026**  
LUNCH 11:00-1:00

## ROSEAU/LOW SPORTSMAN'S CLUB FISH FRY & MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2026  
WILLIAMS ARENA  
4PM - 7PM

\$20 PERSON, 12 AND UNDER \$15

RAFFLES  
FUN & GAMES  
RAFFLE TICKETS  
AVAILABLE  
DOOR-PRIZES  
FOR MEMBERS

meal raffles  
**50/50**  
SINGLE & FAMILY  
CLUB  
& ATV-MN  
membership  
available!

VETERANS will get  
**\$5 OFF** their meal!

## 4TH ANNUAL LIDS 4 KIDS HELMET FEST 2026

**FREE ADMISSION!**

**Big Air**  
SHOW  
STARTING @ 1PM!

\$100 GIFT CARD  
TOWARDS  
PURCHASE OF  
HELMET FOR  
KIDS UP TO THE  
AGE OF 16  
(LIMITED TO 350)

HOSTED BY: **HSC**  
HILMERSON SPORTS CENTER

**MAY 30TH, 2026** | **TIME: 10-2PM**  
HILMERSON SPORTS CENTER  
1473 IRIS RD, LITTLE FALLS

THE ORIGINAL  
**Log's**  
REAL WOODS TOUR

DONATIONS  
CAN BE  
MADE HERE

**CRT** Coalition for  
Recreational  
Trails

# 2026 RTP ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

★

The RTP Achievement Awards recognize outstanding trail projects funded by the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) that demonstrate excellence, innovation, and community impact.

GAIN  
NATIONAL  
RECOGNITION

CELEBRATE  
YOUR COMMUNITY'S  
IMPACT

SHARE  
YOUR TRAIL  
STORY

**DEADLINE TO NOMINATE:**  
**MAY 20, 2026**

**LEARN MORE:**  
[americantrails.org/crt](http://americantrails.org/crt)

The Coalition for Recreational Trails is a partnership program of American Trails.



**ATV MINNESOTA**  
*"Your Voice To Ride"*  
*(And Have Fun!)*

Seventy-two dedicated ATV clubs and their volunteers, building and maintaining fun, sustainable ATV trails for the riding public (and bridges, boardwalks, kiosks, parking, selfie stations and more).

**Invite friends and family to join today.**

**Gift memberships available!**

*Photo: Reach our members with your ads! ATV-related businesses, tourism bureaus, chambers, resorts and non-profits are invited to advertise in our Minnesota Wheelin member magazine. For details, rates and deadlines, see the 2026 media kit at [minnesotawheelin.org](http://minnesotawheelin.org). Or contact Creston Dorothy with Pro Print in Duluth, the magazine publisher: [cdorothy@proprintus.com](mailto:cdorothy@proprintus.com). ATV MN business members get discounted rates!*

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|---------------------------------|--|-----------------|
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| 726245 5/31/2024 ↩ RENEWAL DATE |  | U.S. POSTAGE    |
| Mudslide McWheelie              |  | PAID            |
| 1234 Mudtrack Lane              |  | 55806           |
| RoughRider Falls, MN 56789      |  | PERMIT NO. 1003 |

**See the mailing label on your Minnesota Wheelin magazine for your membership renewal date.** Be sure to include your email address on the renewal form we send you to

receive our twice-monthly newsletter. Send renewals to ATV MN, PO Box 300, Stacy, MN 55079. You can also join/renew at [atvmn.org](http://atvmn.org).

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 Belonging to ATV Minnesota, you join thousands of riders throughout the state, have fun, and help create a positive future for ATV riding in Minnesota.



**As a family or individual member, for \$30, you receive:**

- A subscription to Minnesota Wheelin magazine (published times 6 a year).
- Twice-monthly newsletter by email with the latest news.
- Membership card and ATV MN logo sticker for your ATV.
- Invitations to events, including our Legislative Summit, Vision Conference, Ride & Roast in the spring, and State Convention "Ride & Rally" in the fall, as well as membership meetings.
- A full-time lobbyist at the State Capitol, helping create pro-ATV legislation, and moving forward bills to provide funding for new trail systems.

**As a business member, for \$90 you**

**receive:**

All of the above, plus:

- Your business name and contact information listed in our Minnesota Wheelin magazine and on the ATV Minnesota website.
  - Discounts on advertising in Minnesota Wheelin. For details on rates and deadlines, send an email to Creston Dorothy at Pro Print in Duluth: [cdorothy@proprintus.com](mailto:cdorothy@proprintus.com).**
  - Opportunities to reach more customers by sponsoring or donating to our events.
- To join, contact **ATVAM** or call (800) 442-8826.



**Thanks To Our Corporate Sponsors For Their Generous, Financial Support Of ATV Minnesota!**

**-MotoAlliance (\$5,000 Silver**

Sponsorship) - Check out their cargo boxes, winches, plows and more at [motoalliance.com](http://motoalliance.com).

**-Remer Motel & Campground (\$5,000 Silver Sponsorship) - Ride all day, then rest easy in a comfortable room or at the full-service campground. Reserve your stay today at [theremermotel.com](http://theremermotel.com) or call 218-566-2555.**



**-Timber Bay Lodge & Houseboats** (\$2500 Bronze Sponsorship) - Visit [timberbay.com](http://timberbay.com) to learn about its amazing lodges (sleep up to 15), traditional cabins and fleet of houseboats. Timber Bay Lodge & Houseboats is on the south shore of Birch Lake, near Babbitt, Minn, with direct access by ATV to the Prospector Trail system.



**Be A Corporate Sponsor!**

Financial support from businesses large and small are helping ensure a positive future for ATV recreation in Minnesota.

**Four levels:** \$2,500 Bronze / \$5,000 Silver / \$10,000 Gold / \$25,000 Platinum

Each includes ads in Minnesota Wheelin magazine, and publicity of your business, organization or club at ATV MN events, on websites, social media and more!

**To learn more, visit [atvmn.org](http://atvmn.org) and tap the "Sponsorships" tab.**



**ATV Association of Minnesota**  
PO Box 300, Stacy, MN 55079  
800-442-8826  
[atvmnoffice@atvmn.org](mailto:atvmnoffice@atvmn.org)  
[www.atvmn.org](http://www.atvmn.org)

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