

TOPSHAM TRAILRIDERS NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 27
ISSUE #4



May Day!

OFFICERS

Topsham Trailriders/ATV/Snowmobile Club
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Student Representative - VACANT

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MONTHLY TTR SOCIAL NIGHT INFORMATION



Join us for a meal at Topsham Sea Dog Brewing Restaurant at 1 Bowdoin Mill Island #100, Topsham, ME 04086 ! Please let us know if you are coming so we can give the restaurant an accurate count.

Our socials are typically held on the second Wednesday of the month but in April we will be meeting on April 9th. At 6pm. All are welcome to come and enjoy a good meal and good conversation!



1005 Foreside Road, Topsham
207-350-9854

Notes from our President - Jenny Little

Hello Trailriders,

I have the privilege of working alongside an incredible group of people—both our members and our board. This club is made up of individuals who care deeply, show up consistently, and support one another. What we do, we do well, and we do it because we share a common passion and drive. Topsham Trailriders functions because of teamwork, plain and simple. It is not, and never should become, a one person show—and that shared effort is what makes this club so strong.

One of our greatest strengths is our inclusiveness and our willingness to step up for one another. While we are trail riders, we are also individuals, family members, friends, neighbors, and volunteers whose lives extend well beyond the ATV world. Recently, our membership chair relocated out of state after an opportunity he and his family couldn't pass up. While we truly miss seeing him and his family—who were very active and valued members of both the club and the broader Topsham community—we fully support their next chapter.

At this time, our current membership chair, Rick Emmert, continues to assist the club from North Carolina on an interim basis. Rick has graciously remained involved and is helping support the club remotely during this transition. This is a temporary arrangement, and the club is actively seeking someone interested in stepping into the Membership Chair role. Rick has generously offered to assist with onboarding and provide guidance during the transition period.

As a club, we are working to fully integrate Trail Intel and modernize our processes overall. Rick Emmert has been instrumental in helping simplify this transition and move us toward a more efficient, electronic based system wherever possible. His efforts have helped streamline our membership workflow and position the club well for continued growth and long-term success.

Because of this progress, we are looking for someone who is forward thinking, organized, and motivated to work closely with myself and our treasurer—someone who wants to help maintain and build on the strong momentum this club has established. If you have any interest in learning more about this role, or if you simply want to have a conversation about it, I encourage you to reach out.

Topsham Trailriders moves forward because of the people behind it, and together we will continue that progress.

As always be safe and we will soon see you on the trails!



APRIL SOCIAL NIGHT AT PAT'S PIZZA



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News from our Ride Coordinator

With riding season quickly approaching—some riders may be on the trails as early as

Mid-May—Topsham Trailriders’ first official out of town group ride is scheduled for Saturday, June 6th, traveling from Pittsfield to Greenville. For those planning to participate in our group rides this season, it’s important to understand the expectations for the day. Each ride begins with required paperwork and a riders’ meeting to ensure everyone is informed, safe, and set up for an enjoyable ride.



Mike Little

Group ride expectations include:

- * All participants must sign a liability form before the ride begins.
- * A mandatory riders’ meeting will be held prior to departure.
- * Headlights must be on for the entire day to improve visibility.
- * We will ride for the conditions—speeds may range depending on terrain, weather, and posted trail signage.
- * Riders must remain attentive to both the rider in front of and behind them.
- * At intersections or turns, riders must wait to ensure the person behind them knows where to go.
- * We ride legal trails only, except in a true emergency with proper authorization.
- * There is a zero tolerance policy for drugs and alcohol.
- * Radios will be placed throughout the riding group, with designated and easily identifiable riders assisting in communication and coordination.
- * We often utilize a ride app with group-ride functionality (such as Polaris Ride Command) and will be transitioning to using Trail Intel early in the season; riders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with this platform.
- * Our guiding principle is simple: if you ride with us, you come back with us—meaning no rider is left behind, even if it means adjusting the day’s plan.

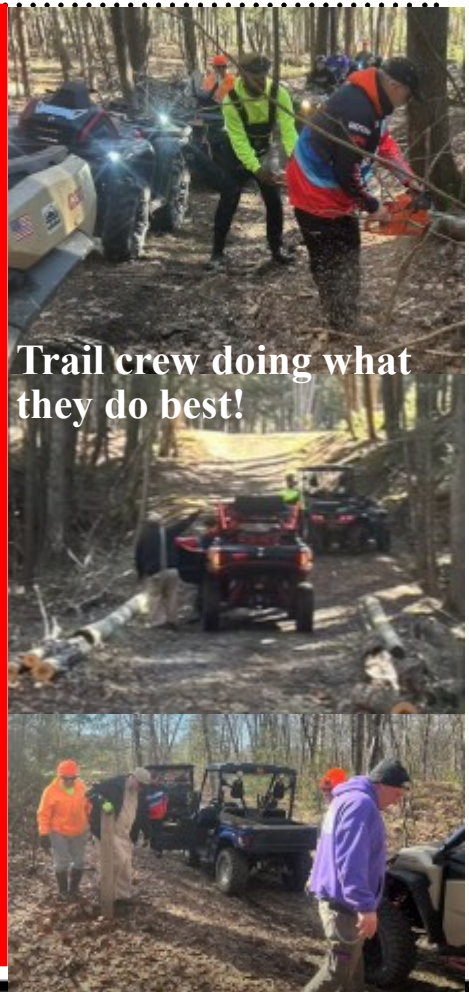
Upcoming Events

- May 9th – **Trail Work Party** – Location TBD – Check Facebook for updates
- May 13th – **TTR Social Night** – Sea Dogs – Topsham – 1 Bowdoin Mill Island – 6 pm
- May 16th – **Trail Work Party** – Location TBD – Check Facebook for updates
- May 23rd – **Trail Work Party** – Location TBD – Check Facebook for updates
- May 25th – **Memorial Day Parade** – 7:30 am – Parking Location TBD
- May 25th at 6:30 pm – **Monthly Club Meeting** – Exhibition Hall— Topsham Fairgrounds — Topsham
- May 30th time TBD — **Trail Intel Demo Class** — Phippsburg Sportsman Club—Phippsburg

Please read the Ride Coordinator article for more details!



More Sportsman Show Photos



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ALL TRAILS ARE NOW CLOSED



Tim Williams
Trailmaster

As we head into May, it's important to note that **trail systems in Topsham remain closed at this time** and will continue to be closed until we are able to complete several critical preseason projects. These early-season efforts—such as gravel placement, park-and-ride improvements, signage, and general inspections—are necessary to ensure the trails are safe, sustainable, and ready for riding once they do open. While some surrounding trail systems may open later this month, May is when Topsham Trailriders puts in the foundational work that sets our trails up for success for the entire season.

Below is an overview of the scheduled May work parties and what each date is expected to involve. Exact meeting locations will be confirmed and posted in the corresponding Facebook events as we get

closer.

Saturday, May 9th – Gravel Work Party

- Primary focus will be hauling and placing gravel into the trail system.
- Machines, trailers, and manpower will all be needed.
- A tractor would be especially helpful for this effort. – Working on acquiring one!
- While the club has some equipment, additional machines and trailers greatly increase efficiency.
- Departure location will be updated in the Facebook event once finalized.

Saturday, May 16th – Flexible / Follow-Up Work Party

- Plans for this date will depend on progress made on May 9.
- If gravel and riprap work is not completed on the 9th, it will continue on the 16th.
- If gravel work is completed as planned, efforts will shift to:
 - A general inspection of a portion of the West Side trail system that may eventually open.
 - Work on a newly approved small park-and-ride location. This park-and-ride will accommodate approximately two to three vehicles.
 - Work will include some leveling, installing poles, setting twine, and signage. (working on getting a tractor there)
- Meeting location will be shared in the Facebook event.

Saturday, May 23 – Wrap-Up / Continued Trail Work

- This date will be used to complete any remaining work from earlier in the month.
- Anticipated focus will likely remain on the West Side:
 - Finishing the park-and-ride.
 - Improving / replacing signage.
 - Addressing additional maintenance needs identified earlier.
- Final details will be shared closer to the date.

The sooner we are able to complete these major preseason projects, the sooner we can open our trail systems. Volunteer participation directly impacts how quickly this work gets done.

Without sufficient turnout, our progress will slow down — and that delays trail openings. Every machine, trailer, tool, and set of hands helps us move us closer to opening day, and we appreciate all volunteers who are able to assist and join us as we work to get our trails ready for the season.



West Side Reroute Prep Work



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Student Representative

VACANT

The Board of Directors may meet on the last Monday of each month at 6:00 PM See our Facebook page for location!

******NOTICE******

This Newsletter is an official publication of the Topsham Trailriders ATV/Snowmobile Club Inc. 2003. We meet at 6:30 PM of each month see our Facebook page for the location of our next meeting!

The membership fee for a family/individual is \$35.00 a year.

EDITOR - Daniel Parlin

ASST. EDITOR - Jenny Little

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Topsham Trailriders

PO Box 421

Topsham, Maine 04086

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 26th! **Note the date change****
We will be meeting at the Exhibition Hall located on the Topsham Fairgrounds located in
Topsham beginning at 6:30pm!!