

TOPSHAM TRAILRIDERS NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 24
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JUNE 2023



TRAILMASTER CHARLIE GIVING WORK PARTY ASSIGNMENTS

OFFICERS

Topsham Trailriders/ATV/Snowmobile Club

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Ride Coordinator - Mike Little - 207-522-3780
Student Representative -Tara Hoskins

Membership Chair/Editor - Dan Parlin 207-751-8651

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Notes from our President - Jenny Little

Hello Trailriders,
Riding season is finally here! I would like to begin by thanking the many volunteers who gave up their time over the past couple of months to help us prepare our trail system. Please know we do have more trail work parties scheduled throughout the season since there is always work to be done. However, we also have many rides planned for this upcoming season for folks who want to get out and ride. The rides vary from out-of-town day trips to overnight weekend trips so please navigate to our events page on either the website (www.topshamtrailriders.com) or on our Facebook page specifically the Events section. You do not need to be a member of Topsham Trailriders to ride with us.

I'm happy to share that our first in-town club event is scheduled for Saturday, June 17th and it is our benefit ride for House in the Woods. House in the Woods, is a Lee, Maine-based organization that brings veterans, active duty, military and their families together to experience outdoor adventures like hunting, fishing, canoeing and hiking. With many who served their country dealing with grief, loss and stress, House In The Woods helps those who serve share stories, tears, and laughter, all while fostering new friendships and bonds. The ride will be leaving from the Pulling Ring located on the Topsham Fairgrounds at 12 pm. The cost for this event is \$10.00 and everyone is welcome to ride with us. All proceeds collected that day will be donated to House in the Woods.

As we kick off our riding season a few important things to remember:

- Register your ATV/UTV for the current year.
- Ride Safely and Responsibly!
- Adhere to ATV laws governed by the State of Maine.
- We leave no rider behind.
- Have fun!

As always be safe and hope see you on the trails!



Our Social Night is held on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00pm. This Month on June 14th we'll be at Topsham Fairground Café' located Topsham Fair Mall, Topsham. We will need to provide the restaurant with a headcount of how many that will be joining us so please mark our Facebook Page if you are coming. **Come and enjoy a night on the town with family and friends!**



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EVENTS
2023
TTR CLUB ACTIVITIES

EVENTS

ATVing/Snowmobiling

- May 29th — TTR Rides in the Memorial Parade
- May 29th — TTR Monthly Meeting at 6:30 pm with the Board meeting at 6 pm. A reminder that this month the meeting is being held at the Topsham Fair Exhibition Hall.
- June 3rd— First Ride of the ATV Season—Pittsfield to the B52 Memorial Ride. Leaving from the Park and Ride in Pittsfield at 8:30 am. Bring a bagged lunch and extra fuel.
- June 14th - TTR's May Social Night will be held at Topsham Fairground Café Topsham Fair Mall, Topsham.
- June 17th— First In-town ATV ride of the year—Meeting at 11:15 AM - TTR's Ride to Benefit House in the Woods for Veterans Pulling Ring at the Topsham Fairgrounds at 54 Elm St., Topsham ME 04086
- June 24th — Out of Town Ride — TTR Rides the Corinna Loop. Leaving from the Newport Park & Ride at 8:30 am. Bring a bagged lunch and extra fuel.
- June 26th — TTR Monthly Meeting at 6:30 pm with the Board meeting at 6 pm. A reminder that this month the meeting is being held at the Topsham Fair Exhibition Hall.

Please read the Ride Coordinator article for more details!

DRIVE SAFELY ON TRAILS

TTR NEWSLETTER

CORNER

EDITOR - DAN PARLIN

Our membership year expires April 30th so please complete the appropriate membership form on our website under the "Club Documents" section.

The forms are fillable and you may use the Paypal link on our website to remit your membership dues. Once you've completed and signed your form please email the form directly to info@topshamtrailriders.com. We hope this will make it easier for our members.

https://topshamtrailriders.com/club-documents

If a red label appears on this month's newsletter that reads "DUES ARE OVER DUE!" that means we have not yet received your annual club dues.

IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID AS OF MAY 30TH YOU WILL BE REMOVED FROM OUR ACTIVE MEMBERS DATABASE!

RIDE COORDINATOR MIKE LITTLE

Ride Coordinator Write Up for June Newsletter

Here it is folks - the event you've been waiting for— Topsham Trailriders first ride of the season. The first event is an out-of-town ride and it is scheduled for Saturday, June 3rd and we are riding from Pittsfield to the B52 Site in Greenville. Reminder that a group will be meeting at the Topsham McDonalds at 7 am and heading to the Park and Ride on Crosby St. in Pittsfield where we will be departing as close to 8:30 am as we can. Please remember to bring extra fuel and a bagged lunch.



Mike Little

Later in the month, on Saturday, June 17th, we will be hosting our first in-town event. This is a benefit ride for House in the Woods. The ride is scheduled to occur on our East side of our trail system. Registration for the ride begins at 11:15 and the ride will be depart, at 12 pm.

And finally on Saturday, June 24th, we will be hosting another out of town ride. For this event, we are currently planning on heading to Newport to ride the Corinna Loop. I will be leaving from the Topsham McDonalds at 7:00 am and head to the Newport Park & Ride located across the street from Varney Ford (237 Moosehead Trail, Newport). We will be leaving from the Newport Park & Ride at 8:30 am. Please pack both extra fuel and a bagged lunch.

If you have any questions these events please do not hesitate in reaching out to either myself or the club.

As a reminder, all of our 2023 ATV events and trail work parties have been posted on our Facebook page so please check them out. As always if you would like to help during any of these events please contact me, Michael Little, Ride Coordinator, for Topsham Trailriders at 207-522-3780.



Recent TTR trail work with help from many volunteers - Thank you!



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Trailmaster
Charlie Parkinson
207-319-5142

We are hopeful that the trails will open in the near future dependent on weather, current trail conditions, and most importantly our landowners. We have been very busy this past month doing a lot of trail work to prepare our trails and I would like to thank you everyone who has joined us during our work parties. Having said that there is still a lot of work that needs to be done to maintain and better our trails. I have scheduled a couple of trail work parties in June to begin some of our projects such as bridge repair and trail erosion prevention. The dates for the work parties are Sunday, June 4th and Sunday, June 11th each of those events will begin at 9 am weather permitting. Check Facebook for locations for each of these work parties. I know we are entering into riding season but remember to help your local ATV club maintain trails. If you have any questions about the work parties please do not hesitate in contacting me.

REMINDER THAT WHILE OUR TRAILS ARE CLOSED THE USE OF ATVS ON A CLOSED TRAIL DURING MUD SEASON IS CONSIDERED FELONY TRESPASSING.

Please note that if the trails are posted as closed and the entry way is blocked, then the trails are closed to all motorized vehicles. If you proceed to by-pass the barriers and ride the trails it is felony trespassing and jeopardizes the use of all trails, all individuals caught doing so be dealing with our local Game Warden.

When the trails do open and you encounter a trail obstacle please give me a call at 207-319-5142 and leave me a detailed message the approximate location of the issue and I will do my best to address it.

THINK AND DRIVE

1. Make sure your registration is up to date. Properly attach your Registration stickers.
2. Check your helmet. Invest in a new one if it's damaged by any dents or cracks.
3. Give your ATV a twice-over. Check that all equipment, including brakes, lights, engine, and tires are in good condition and functioning properly.
4. Familiarize yourself with local regulations and bylaws regarding ATV usage.
5. Get your emergency kit ready to go, including any or all of the following: blanket, snacks/food, waterproof matches, a whistle, insect repellent and sunblock, a flashlight, spare fuel, tea or coffee, water/water purification tablets, duct tape, signal mirror, tool kit, first aid supplies, rope, flares, spare keys, a sharp knife, and/or compass.
6. If your children want to ride, ensure they have completed the ATV safety course. If you haven't ridden before or could just use a re-fresher, do the same. Don't let your children use adult-sized ATVs.
7. Consider taking a first aid course. It doesn't hurt to be prepared.
8. Get yourself in the mindset for a great riding season. Have fun!

Golden Rules for Safe ATV Operation

Permission required. A person may not operate an ATV on the land of another without the permission of the landowner or lessee. Permission is presumed on designated state approved ATV trails or in areas open to ATVs by landowner policy. A landowner may limit the use of a designated state-approved ATV trail on that landowner's property through agreements with the State or an ATV club to address environmental, public safety or management concerns. Written permission of the landowner or lessee is required on cropland or pastureland or in an orchard. As used in this subsection, "cropland" means acreage in tillage rotation, land being cropped and land in bush fruits, and "pastureland" means acreage devoted to the production of forage plants used for animal production.

The **registration** number in the form of **stickers** issued by the commissioner must be clearly displayed on the front and rear of the vehicle. A registration is valid for one year commencing July 1st of each year, except that any registration issued prior to July 1st but after May 1st is valid from the date of issuance until June 30th of the following year. A person may not operate an ATV that is required to be registered under this section unless registration numbers are displayed in these spaces or as otherwise required by the department.

Dirt bikes are no longer allowed on Topsham trails this is permanent because landowners want the long-standing rule enforced. That is no dirt bikes allowed on their property.

Dirt bikes are not allowed on CMP Property period. The following trails are on CMP property #1A, #1B, RACETRACK, #1C, #2, and #4 from RT.196 to RT.24. Any dirt bike caught on these trails will be charged with criminal trespass.

UTV's over 65" wide are not allowed on CMP property.

To further simplify the width restriction regarding ATV trails which numerous people are misunderstanding:

- (1) Trail Width Restriction is NOT new.
- (2) Trail Width Restriction was NOT created by ATV Maine.
- (3) Trail Width Restriction was NOT created by ATV Clubs
- (4) Trail Width Restriction is NOT a law.
- (5) Trail Width Restriction is NOT statewide.
- (6) Landowners have requested that the EXISTING width restriction be enforced to gain control over what has been overlooked for MANY years.
- (7) Maine Warden Service will document any violations as Criminal Trespass, Title 17, Section 2806, a Class E crime.
- (8) ATV clubs are being contacted by the landowner(s) that this enforcement will affect.
- (9) ATV Maine has only shared this information to help educate those who will soon be on the trails! - This was NOT created by ATV Maine.
- (10) 65 inches is 65 inches

Golden Rules for Safe ATV Operation

1. Always wear a helmet and other protective gear.
2. Never ride on public roads – another vehicle could hit you.
3. Never ride under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
4. Never carry a passenger on a single-rider vehicle.
5. Ride an ATV that's right for your age. The CPSC age/size guidelines are:

Age 6 and older	Under 70cc
Age 12 and older	70cc – 90cc
Age 16 and older	Over 90cc
6. Supervise riders younger than 16; ATVs are not toys.
7. Ride only on designated trails and at a safe speed.
8. Take an ATV Rider Course; to enroll call toll free (800) 887-2887.



ATV/SNOWMOBILE CLUB

Phone: 207-837-7328

E-mail: info@topshamtrailriders.com



Board of Directors

Richard Arsenault
(207) 513-6947

Randy Bickford
(207) 576-6194

Ron Dumont
(207) 751-3230

Mike Little
207-522-3780

Rocky League
(207) 353-3257

Student Representative

Tara Hoskins

The Board of Directors meet on the Last Monday of each month at 6:00 PM See our Facebook Page for Location!

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

This Newsletter is the official publication of the Topsham Trailriders ATV /Snowmobile Club Inc. 2003. WE MEET AT 6:30 PM ON THE LAST MONDAY 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

THANKS TO OUR BUSINESS SPONSORS!

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Topsham Trailriders

PO Box 421

Topsham, Maine 04086

Our regular meetings will be the **LAST** Monday of each month.
We meet at the Topsham Fairground Exhibition hall at 6:30pm