

TOPSHAM TRAILRIDERS NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 24
ISSUE # 5
MAY 2023



IT'S MUD SEASON STAY OF TRAILS TILL THEY ARE OPEN BY CLUBS

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Notes from our President - Jenny Little

Hello Trailriders,

The weather outside is finally starting to warm up and the peepers are chirping which only means one thing we are nearing the beginning of ATV season. Please note that all of our trails are currently closed so please respect our land-owners and stay off the trails. If you are interested in getting out there on the trails though we do have a few official club trail work parties coming up that we would love to have you join us on. A few of the dates for the trail work events are May 13th, May 20th, and May 27th - all are welcomed to come and help us out. Similar to our other events we've created a Facebook event for each of the dates and we will post updates on each of the trail work parties as they are needed. If you are not on social media please do not hesitate in reaching out to either myself or our trailmaster – Charlie Parkinson.



And remember Topsham Trailriders is always looking for folks just like yourself to help us out. We are a fun and easy-going group to be around, community focused, and we all just everything about the Topsham Trailriders club. I promise if you give us a shot you wouldn't be disappointed. If you would like to help us out please do not hesitate in contacting me or send an email to info@topshamtrailriders.com and we will get in contact with you..



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



April Social Night held at 104 Main Public House



Our Social Night is held on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00pm. This Month on May 10th we'll be at Buffalo Wild Wings located 105 Topsham Fair Mall Rd, 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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Topsham, ME 04086
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Treasurer/ MSA Chair – Tim Moody 207-751-0875
Secretary – Dee Blanchette 207-754-2600

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Asst. Trailmaster - Brad Hoskins—207-837-5671
Asst. Trailmaster James Belanger - 207-522-6750(Winter)
Ride Coordinator - Mike Little - 207-522-3780
Student Representative -Tara Hoskins

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



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EVENTS

Atv/Snowmobiling

April 24th – TTR Monthly Meeting at 6:30 pm with the Board meeting at 6 pm. Our meeting will be held at the Topsham Fair Exhibition Hall!

May 10th – TTR’s May Social Night will be held at at Buffalo Wild Wings located 105 Topsham Fair Mall Rd, Topsham.

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.

DRIVE SAFETLY ON TRAILS

TTR NEWSLETTER CORNER

EDITOR - DAN PARLIN

Our membership year expires April 30th so please have your annual membership dues paid by then. You can find our new forms (regular and business) on our website under the "Club Documents" section.

The form is fillable and we have a paypal donation link on our website so you can fill out your form, make your donation, and email the form directly to info@topshamtrailriders.com. We hope this will make it easier for our members.

https://topshamtrailriders.com/club-documents

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

The riding season will soon be upon us but first we need to do some much needed work on our trails. I am happy to say that Topsham Trailriders recently held a trail work party and it was a very productive one. I am hopeful that all of our future work parties will be as successful as our early season parties have been. As a reminder, 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.



Mike Little

ATV MAINE ANNUAL MEETING!



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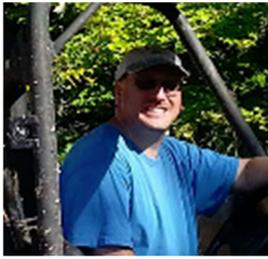
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Trailmaster
Charlie Parkinson
207-319-5142

THE TRAILS ARE EXPECTED TO REOPEN MID MAY - JUNE WEATHER AND TRAIL CONDITIONS PERMITTING. THERE IS NO SET DATE FOR THE TRAILS TO OPEN. MANY FACTORS AFFECT THE TRAILS OPENING DATE WEATHER, TRAIL DAMAGE, AND MOST IMPORTANT THE LANDOWNER.

THE USE OF ATVS ON A CLOSED TRAIL DURING MUD SEASON IS CONSIDERED FELONY TRESPASSING.

If you see any-one on the trails or getting ready to head out on the trails please inform them the trails are closed till they dry up. I will remove all the signs and chains as soon as they are ready for use. We will have some working weekends over the next month so if you can spare some time, please give me a call. The trails are drying up slowly, the frost heave is settling down and the snow is all gone. The east side of town has some erosion.

If the trails are posted as closed and the entry way is blocked then the trails are closed to all motorized vehicles. Going around or through the barriers and riding the trails anyway is felony trespassing and jeopardizes the use of all trails, all individuals caught doing so can deal with the Game Wardens.

The Trails are going to need a lot of work in order to prepare them for the opening of the season this year. We will start doing trail work on the weekends weather permitting. All are welcome and encouraged to help the trail maintenance crew prep for opening day. We will have some working weekends over the next 2 months so if you can spare some time, please give me a call.

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

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.

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, RACE TRACK, #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

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7. Ride only on designated trails and at a safe speed.



ATV/SNOWMOBILE CLUB

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E-mail: info@topshamtrailriders.com



Board of Directors

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(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 please see our Facebook page or website for the location of our next meeting!

Our regular club membership fee for either a family or individual is \$35.00 a year.

EDITOR - Daniel Parlin

ASST. EDITOR - Jenny Little

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Topsham Trailriders

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Our regular meetings will be the **LAST** Monday of each month.

This month we are returning to the Exhibition Hall on the Topsham Fairgrounds in Topsham at 6:30pm