

# TOPSHAM TRAILRIDERS NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER 2023



Central Maine ATV Glow Ride!

## OFFICERS

### Topsham Trailriders/ATV/Snowmobile Club

PO Box. 421  
 Topsham, ME 04086  
 President – Jenny Little 207-837-7328  
 Vice President – Devin Favreau 207-522-1697  
 Treasurer/ MSA Chair – Tim Moody 207-751-0875  
 Secretary – Dee Blanchette 207-754-2600

Trailmaster - Charlie Parkinson - 207-319-5142  
 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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## Notes from our President - Jenny Little

Hello Trailriders,

I think everyone would agree that this riding season has been a bit of a challenge for all clubs. The majority of clubs have unfortunately experienced quite a few monsoons and the lack of sun to help dry things up! Everyone is doing what they can when they can! I would like to commend and thank Topsham Trailriders and all of the ATV clubs for putting their best effort into their trails. Your drive and enthusiasm for the sport does not go unnoticed. Thank you!



You may be asking yourself – how can I help a club? Easy - you can help by either donating your time on the trails/events or by assisting the club fundraise for additional trail funds to help preserve their trails. On Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, Topsham Trailriders will be hosting our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ride and BBQ Fundraiser. This event is one of the club's biggest fundraisers. The event will kick off with a ride beginning at 10 am and the BBQ will be at 12 pm. Tickets can be purchased at any of our meetings, events or online. The cost of tickets is \$20.00 per person or \$50.00 for a family bundle (2 adults & 2 children). Once again, a Facebook event has been created for this event where additional details are available along with a link to purchase your tickets! I hope you will consider joining us!

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



**Our Social Night will be held on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00pm. This month (September 13th) it will be held at the 104 Main Public House! Come and enjoy a night out with family and friends!**



Topsham Fair Clean up Crew! Thanks to all who helped during the Fair week!



1005 Foreside Road, Topsham  
 207-350-9854



207-729-1177



BRUNSWICK, ME - |207.844.8163



104 Main Street in Topsham, Maine  
 Tel: (207) 295-2153/2154



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### EVENTS

#### ATVing/Snowmobiling

- Sept 1st to the 4th — Out of Town Overnight Trip to Machias
- Sept 9th — Road Side Clean Up - Meet at the West Side Park and Ride 9 am
- Sept 10th — A **VERY** important East Side trail work party— 9 am end of Lovers Lane
- Sept 13th — TTR's Social Night at the 104 Main Street Public House 6 pm
- Sept 17th — TTR heads to Central Maine Powersports Scavenger Hunt In Waterford
- Sept 23rd - Another In-town Trail Work Party—We will update on Social Media and website as to which side.
- Sept 24th Out of Town Day trip to - Lakes Region annual Apple Orchard Ride.
- Sept 25th — TTR Monthly Meeting at 6:30 pm with the Board meeting at 6 pm. A reminder that the meeting is being held at the Topsham Fair Exhibition Hall.
- Sept 30th — TTR 2nd Annual BBQ & Ride Fundraiser— 10 am ride and 12 pm BBQ—Buy your tickets soon!

**Please read the Ride Coordinator article for more details!**

DRIVE SAFELY ON TRAILS

### Notes from the Ride Coordinator

We are quickly entering into the best part of riding season – Fall riding! August was jammed pack with riding but September is shaping up to be the same. In September, we have opportunities for out of town day trips but also in town trail work parties!



Mike Little

We begin September by heading to the Machias area. We will travel to Machias late in the day on Friday, September 1<sup>st</sup> and ride bright and early on Saturday and Sunday of that weekend before heading home on Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup>. Please check the event on either our website or Facebook for lodging recommendations and additional details about the event.

Our next event is scheduled for Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> which is a very important in-town trail work party. We will be installing mats on the East Side. We will be meeting at 9 am at the end of Lovers Lane in Topsham. We will need as many hands to help with this major project. Updates for this work party will be posted on both our website and Facebook event.

Our next ride in September is scheduled for Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup> when we head to the Central Maine Powersports Scavenger Hunt in Waterford. We will be leaving from the Topsham McDonalds at 8:15 am. For those who wish to meet us there they can head to 812 Waterford Rd in Waterford ME. The event is an all-day event but I am not planning on staying for the entire day.

We will also be hosting another in-town trail work party on Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> beginning at 9 am. Charlie has not yet determined which side of our trail system we will be work on for this work party so please check on our website and/or the Facebook event for additional details.

Another event scheduled for late September is being held on Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup> when we head to Bridgton to participate in Lakes Region annual Apple Orchard Ride. We will be leaving from the Topsham McDonalds at 6:30 am and heading to 66 Bragg Way in Bridgton ME. The cost to participate in this event is \$20 per machine. This event is a benefit ride for House in the Woods to I hope to see many folks there.

Our final event for September will be TTR's Ride and BBQ Fundraiser. The ride will depart from the Pulling Ring at 10 am and we will return to a BBQ around 12 pm. Please purchase your tickets during any of our meetings, events, or using the link in the event. The costs are \$20 per person or a family bundle is \$50 which includes 2 adults and 2 children. This is one of the club's largest fundraisers so I hope you will consider joining us.

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 and website 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. Or, if you have an area you'd like us to explore please do not hesitate in contacting me.

## Some TTR Activities from Past Month!



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Trailmaster  
Charlie Parkinson  
207-319-5142

The trail entrance to the west side trails is closed until further notice, this means no access to the trails on the west side from or to the gas station due to landowner construction.

The trails seem to be holding up reasonably well this year except for the Brigham trail with all the heavy rain we've had this summer and people not giving it time to dry out before riding. I would ask that you please lay off the gas on the trails because wet areas will only get worse the more people try to power through them so use 4-wheel drive and slow and steady power. There will also be construction starting on the west side trail 1C and 1D early in September month so please be cautious expect delays or blockages depending on the work being done.

We will have a trail work party on Sept 10<sup>th</sup> to finish installing mats on the hill on trail 4 on the East Side. The work party will begin at 9 am and we will be meeting at the end of Lovers Lane. We will need folks to haul trailers as well as working the hill with the mats. We also have another work party scheduled for Saturday, September 23rd. I have not yet decided if we will be working on our West Side or East Side so please check Social Media and the website for additional details. Please note that on September 30<sup>th</sup> we have our 2nd Annual Ride and BBQ happening.

We would appreciate it if you would please stay off the trails during any heavy rains as well as the day after any heavy rains. This cuts down on the damage that has cost our club a lot of time and money to keep the trails in fair share as well as keeping our landowners happy. Please ride safe out there on or off our trails, fun is to be had without getting hurt. Enjoy the ride this summer and always respect the land to which you ride on and the landowners which allow us to ride.

#### **Operating an ATV in wetlands, marshes, rivers, and streams is illegal in Maine.**

Please stay on established trails if not we could lose the use of the trails all together. Please use Marked Bridges to cross WET, STREAM or Marsh areas on the trails. Failure to do so will result in sections of the trail being CLOSED permanently by landowners.

**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.

#### **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**

Dirt bikes and UTV's over 65" wide are not allowed on CMP Property period. This is a CMP rule that the club has no control over. The following trails are on CMP property #1B, RACE TRACK, #1C, and #4 from RT.196 to RT.24. Any dirt bike or UTV over 65" caught on these trails will be charged with criminal trespass.

Landowner's have the right to stipulate what can and cannot be operated on the trails that use their property. If these stipulations are not followed the club will lose the use of that landowner's property. Individuals damaging or abusing their property will result in the loss of all trails for everyone.

The Speed limit is 5 MPH on the Trail behind Nouria shell, this is to help the trail stabilize due to soft soil.

The Speed limit is 15 MPH in the power line behind the shop on rte. 196, if this speed limit is not followed the trail will be closed permanently.

The Speed limit in residential areas like Bay Park and Topsham Crossing is 15MPH to help keep dust and noise to a minimum.

All ATV trails are operated on privately owned land, individuals damaging or abusing their property will result in the loss of all ATV trails for everyone.  
TRUCKS AND CARS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON ATV/SNOWMOBILE TRAILS IN THE STATE OF MAINE WITHOUT LANDOWNER PERMISSION.

**RESPECT LANDOWNER'S - STAY ON MARKED TRAILS AND ONLY MARKED TRAILS AND OBEY ALL POSTED SIGNS. USE IS A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT.**

#### **RIDE AT OWN RISK.**

While riding please wear proper protective equipment and keep speeds at a safe level. Ride Smart, Ride Safe, Ride Sober.

Again, if you're out on the trail please bring a pair of clippers or even a small saw to help cut back the new growth from the summer. Every snip helps.

#### **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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**ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW SPONSORS!**

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*