

TOPSHAM TRAILRIDERS NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 25
ISSUE #12



OFFICERS

Topsham Trailriders/ATV/Snowmobile Club
PO Box. 421
Topsham, ME 04086

President – Jenny Little 207-837-7328
Vice President – Tim Williams 207-890-8479
Treasurer/MSA Chair – Tim Moody 207-751-0875
Secretary: Jessica Emmert 207-841-4904

Trailmaster - Tim Williams 207-890-8479
Asst. Trailmaster - Brad Hoskins—(East Side)207-837-5671
Asst. Trailmaster - Sam Bulmer (West Side) 207-409-3440
Asst. Trailmaster James Belanger - 207-522-6750(Winter)
Ride Coordinator - Mike Little - 207-522-3780
Land owner Relationship - Matt Nixon - 207-350-9854
Student Representative - Anika Emmert
Membership Chair/Editor - Dan Parlin 207-751-8651

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Notes from our President - Jenny Little

Hello Trailriders,

I hope everyone had an amazing Thanksgiving holiday! Hard to believe we are entering into the last month of 2024!

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of you for being avid supporters of the Topsham Trailriders ATV / Snowmobile club. Without our 119 club members and our landowners, the club would not be in existence. The club continues to make great strides and it is because of all of your hard work and dedication that makes that happen. A shout out to entire trail crew that volunteered more than 850 hours on our trails.

I also would like to remind everyone that we will be hosting our annual TTR Christmas Holiday Party at the Fair-ground Café on Wednesday, December 11th at 6 pm. However, you are welcome to arrive before then if you would like to. We will once again be doing Yankee Swap during the party so if you would like to participate in the swap, please bring gift no more than \$20 to join in the fun.

And finally, with guidance from the Board, the club is always trying to explore ways to minimize our operational costs. One of the items we diligently discussed was our monthly newsletters that we send to you each month. The Board has made the decision to remit our newsletter to you in an electronic format ONLY. Beginning next month, you will no longer receive a paper copy of the newsletter. We understand that some of you may not agree with this decision but I hope you can recognize it was a difficult decision for us. Don't forget that the newsletter is always on our website (www.topshamtrailriders.com).

Topsham Trailriders would like to take the opportunity to wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

See you on the trails!



SOCIAL NIGHT



We're having a party and you're invited! The club is having its annual Christmas party at 6:00 pm on December 13th at the **Topsham Fair-ground Café**. All are invited, we simply ask that you RSVP to this event so we can give the restaurant a heads up. Please feel free and arrive early!

The club will provide some door prizes to be raffled off. For fun we will be doing a Yankee swap. The Yankee swap cap will be \$20 so please don't spend your heating money on us!

Everyone is responsible for their own meal costs!

Come and enjoy a night on the town with family and friends!



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Photos from November Social Night at PATs Pizza



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Notes from the Ride Coordinator

E I imagine that some of folks are still doing some riding given the warm fall temperatures we've been experiencing. I imagine that the cold temperatures will arrive soon enough or then again maybe they won't. I am keeping a close eye on the weather along with TTR's schedule but most importantly the trail conditions. If things line up, we might just be able to squeeze in one last ride before the end of the year. I do not have a date at this time but I would recommend that you continue to check both our Facebook page and our website. If the trail conditions don't allow for it don't worry though I've already put together the 2025 ride calendar with the help of We-ATV 207! We pooled together all of the feedback we've received over this past season and used it to help create the calendar. I really think a lot of folks will be very pleased and as always all are welcomed to ride with Topsham Trailriders. The facebook events are being created but if you would like a digital copy of the schedule, please email us topshamtrailriders@gmail.com. If you would like to help during one of these events, please feel free and contact myself, Michael Little, Ride Coordinator, for Topsham Trailriders at 207-522-3780.



Mike

EVENTS FOR AT-Ving/Snowmobiling

December 2nd – **Topsham Fair Annual Meeting** -- 6 pm – American Legion Post 202 on Foreside Road Topsham

December 11th — **TTR Holiday Party** – 6 pm Fairground Café – Topsham Fair Mall Road – Topsham

December 14th – **Santa's Downtown Day in Bath** – ATV Parade begins at 11 am

Please read the Ride Coordinator article for more details!

DRIVE SAFELY ON TRAILS

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Sam Bulmer (West Side)
Brad Hoskins (East Side)
James Belanger (Winter)

ATVing season is quickly drawing to a close. At this time our trails are still open and we are hoping to keep them open until the middle of December provided the conditions allow for it. I would recommend checking both our Facebook page and website for the most up to date information on our trails. A reminder that hunting season is still in full swing so remember to **stay alert and wear orange when in the woods**. Please leave all hunting setups along as they are on private property and may belong to the landowner.

If you do head out and ride our trails we would appreciate it if you would please ride prudently on them. There are trails that are still very wet such as the Brigham Trail and we would appreciate it if you utilized 4-wheel drive to preserve the condition of the trail. Please take note that there are deep water holes on the West side of our trail system. If you are riding alone please use caution.

The leaves have fallen and the temperatures get colder, it reminds us that snowmobile season will soon be upon us. It is time to start prepping for snowmobile season so get you're riding in now before Mother Nature blankets us in snow!

Please ride safely out there on or off our trails, fun is to be had without getting hurt. Enjoy the ride the remainder of the season and always respect the land to which you ride on and the landowners which allow us to ride.

Miscellaneous Information from the Trail Master

All of our 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. 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 land owners' property. Individuals damaging or abusing their property will result in the loss of all trails for everyone. And remember that trucks and cars are not allowed on any ATV/Snowmobile trails in the State of Maine without landowner permission.

And remember if a Landowner wishes to limit the use of their property either for a short window of time or for an extended of time they have the right to do so. Any club in the state cannot do what they do without the support of their landowners. So please help us help you by respecting our landowners.

Permission is 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.

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 all 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.

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.

The Speed limit is 5 MPH on the Trail behind Nouria Gas station, 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 down and the noise to a minimum.

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.

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!
- 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.**



Ashleigh Rolfson
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Help Us Help You
The section is designed to offer tips from fellow members to other members. We would appreciate it if you would share a tip or two for us to use in our newsletter.
Name: _____
Tip: IF YOU SEE SOMEONE ON SIDE OF TRAIL - PLEASE ASK IF THEY ARE OK - (LET'S HELP EACH OTHER)

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Topsham, ME 207.725.0955
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TOPSHAM TRAILRIDERS NEWSLETTER

ATV/SNOWMOBILE CLUB

Phone: 207-837-7328

E-mail: info@topshamtrailriders.com



Board of Directors

Cindy Sheain
(207) 522-4888

John Bursley
207-751-6982

Mike Little
207-522-3780

Stephanie Burnham
207-402-9036

Rick Emmert
207 449-6459

Student Representative

Anika Emmert

**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 OF EACH
MONTH SEE OUR FACE-
BOOK PAGE FOR THE LO-
CATION OF OUR NEXT
MEETING!**

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EDITOR - Daniel Parlin

ASST. EDITOR - Jenny Little

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Topsham Trailriders

PO Box 421

Topsham, Maine 04086

Our next regular meeting is scheduled for **Monday, January 27th** .

****Please note the location change—We will be meeting in the Public Safety Building located at 100 Main St. Topsham at 6:30pm**