

2026 Summer Newsletter



Greetings to our all of our members,

Here is hoping that all of you are doing well and enjoying our warmer weather, except of course this week which is certainly a little cooler than normal.

It was a welcome relief to finally get some decent rain, which we badly needed, and fortunately did not experience any of the storms other parts of the state received. Hopefully it will knock some of the dust down for those of us who enjoy the trails.

Membership

Your renewal membership invoice was sent out at the beginning of April. Just a reminder that dues should have been paid by May 1st and I would like to extend my appreciation to all those who have already sent theirs in. We have had a great response for club renewals this year.

And again, if by chance you did not receive an invoice please reach out to the club via email and we can make sure that we have the correct mailing address. Or you can go on our website <https://pelchomuddnutz.com/> and download a form and mail it in.

And please don't forget that when you are out and about, and strike up a conversation with fellow riders, ask them if they would be interested in joining the club as well and just provide them with a copy of the membership form or direct them to our website for a copy.

Annual Meeting

A reminder that our annual meeting will be held on Saturday, June 20th at the CJ's Elcho Clubhouse located at 10595 County Rd K, Elcho, just across the street from the Shell Station and North Trail Store. Starting time will be noon, with a lunch to follow.

The club will provide the pizza and chicken. If you would like to bring a side dish or a dessert that would certainly be appreciated.

Again, we will have a display of our club clothing and accessories available for immediate purchase as well as the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets for the following.

The \$50 Raffle Ticket for our annual BIG RAFFLE with the Parrish Highlanders. There will only be 150 tickets sold with the payout as follows:

1st - \$1000, 2nd - \$750, 3rd and 4th - \$500, 5th - \$300, 6th and 7th \$200, 8th-10th - \$100

The \$100 Raffle Ticket for our 2nd annual UTV Raffle, this is for a brand new 2025 Honda Talon 1000X with Trailer

Election-Board of Directors

There are three Board of Director positions that will come up for election this year. Should you have an interest in becoming a Board Member please let me know, or if you would like to nominate someone for the Board please so advise.

Board positions are for a period of three years, and the Board is responsible for electing the President, Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer.

Trails

Our funded trails are in great riding condition so I hope that you have been able to get out and enjoy them. Just a reminder funded trails are those that we get reimbursed for from the state for their maintenance. Our funded trails are the Enterprise Forest Trails in the northeast corner off Zimmer Road, Hwy 8 trail from Monico to Forest County line, Dump Rd between the gates and Cemetery Road to McGinnis Road.

It takes quite a bit of effort to get them in shape after the winter thaw and I would like to extend my appreciation to the following for their time and effort put forth working on getting them in tip top shape:

Jeff Herman, Jeff Johnson, Dennis VandenHeuvel, James Tallafuss, Bill Christian, Ed Miller, Scott Krueger, Barb Krueger, Bruce Dantoin, Andy Herman, Tom Morris, Paul Schmidt, Mary Schmitzer, Dave Schmitzer, Tom Allard, Tim Keller, John Knudsen, Ron Traub, Diane Traub, Bob Kluever and Ed Steger.

The Pelican River Forest designated ATV/UTV roads are considered under private ownership. The primary maintenance of which is the responsibility of The Conservation Fund. The easement calls for those roads to be navigable by off-road vehicle and pick-up trucks which means that you will encounter some rough areas if you are accessing those roads.

If by chance you do encounter a dangerous situation please let me know as soon as possible so we can notify them of it. We do exercise a gentleman's agreement with The Conservation Fund that the club will assist in light maintenance and brush clearing if needed and mutually agreed upon.

Trail Development

The club is looking at developing two additional funded trails and is currently working with the county to obtain approval and funding from the Off-Road Vehicle Council.

One is a short approximately one-mile trail from Town Road just north of Hwy 8 that would run west along Hwy 8, thru the Wayside and connect with Haymeadow Road. This would provide access to the rest room and picnic facilities at the Wayside.

The other is an approximately 2.75-mile trail north of Monico from Baade Rd to the east along Hwy 45 north to Maker Rd, which then would connect with a Pelican River Forest Road and County C in the Town of Piehl

Events and Fund Raising

Another reminder, please mark your calendars for this year's club events.

- July 4th - Brat Fry, 50/50, Club Merch. With Pelican Lake Women's Civic Club - Pie sale, Craft Sale, Bucket Raffle Shoepke Town Hall 10am-3pm
- Sept 12th - Meat Raffle, 50/50. Roadside Pub 3-6:30
- Sept 19th - Cash Raffle with Parish Highlanders. Cash Raffle, 50/50, Food. Dive on 45 3-6:30
- Oct 3rd - UTV Raffle Drawing, Club Merch, 50/50, Bucket Raffle, Food. Boiling Springs 2-7

Again, we certainly appreciate any donations that you may like to provide or if you would just like to make a cash donation that is fine as well.

Our thanks to all of those that came out and enjoyed a brat or burger on May 24th - Brat Fry at the Shoepke Town Hall.
And congratulations to Joy Herman who won the 50/50 raffle.

New Rules and Regulations for 2026

Last year, there were at least 300 ATV or UTV crashes reported to the DNR, which resulted in 277 reported injuries and 41 deaths, over half were on public roads or trails. Only four of those deaths were in vehicles other than a UTV, DNR data shows.

Unfortunately, it was the second-deadliest year for Wisconsin UTV/ATVs on record with the majority of serious injuries and fatal crashes occur because of occupants choosing to not wear a seat belt or helmet according to the DNR.

As a result, a number of new laws and regulations have been implemented effective June 1, 2026.

BASIC INFORMATION ON WHAT'S NEW

UTV maximum weight increased to 3,500lbs.

UTV's must have 2 working tail lights.

"Dune buggy" is now defined. See definitions.

Intentionally causing damage with an ATV or UTV can cost you more than a fine. See page 40.

There is no longer a 1,000-foot bridge restriction on a roadway.

Headlamps and tail lamps must all be maintained in working condition. Example: A UTV has 2 headlights. Both headlights must be lit and working when the UTV is being operated.

ATVs and UTVs may not be operated (replaces modified) on public trails or roads if their width exceeds statutory limitations. 50 inches for ATVs and 65 inches for UTVs.

ATVs and UTVs may not be operated in a manner which is unreasonably loud, disruptive, or otherwise interferes with peace, welfare, and safety, including unnecessary spinning or squealing of tires, revving of an engine, or blowing of a horn.

Operators and passengers are all required to wear a seatbelt in a UTV.

ATV or UTV operators may not tow objects bearing any person on a trail or route. Towing persons on ice is limited to 10 mph. Towing disabled ATVs or UTVs with occupants is allowed.

No person may operate or be a passenger in an ATV or UTV without wearing glasses, goggles, or a protective faceshield. (Exception for ATVs or UTVs with windshields.)

ATV and UTV operators must maintain an unobstructed view through the windshield and windows when operating the vehicle.

UTVs now have window tint standards. See Page 44 for details. Follow the link below for specific pages referenced above.

https://widnr.widen.net/s/vxqlbz9kc7/wisconsin-atv_utv-regulations (Control Click to Follow Link)

Here is a quick referral sheet of the new law changes published by the Wisconsin ATV Association.



2026 Wisconsin ATV/UTV Law Updates

Key changes from 2024 to 2026

1 UTV max weight increased to 3,500 lbs.	8 All UTV occupants must wear seatbelts.	 <p>2026 Wisconsin All-Terrain / Utility Terrain Vehicle Laws</p> <p>The official resource for Wisconsin riders.</p> <p>Available from the Wisconsin DNR or online at dnr.wi.gov</p>
2 UTVs must have 2 working tail lights.	9 Eye protection is required unless the vehicle has a windshield.	
3 Dune buggies are now clearly defined and do not qualify as UTVs.	10 No towing people on trails/routes; towing disabled machines is allowed.	
4 Careless operation/property damage may cost 3x repair costs.	11 Towing people on ice is limited to 10 mph.	
5 The 1,000-foot bridge restriction is gone.	12 Windshield/window view must stay unobstructed.	
6 Width rule now focuses on operation, not just modification.	13 UTV window tint standards now apply and match DOT.	
7 Loud/disruptive operation is now called out.	14 Crash duty: stop, identify, and render aid.	



Check local ordinances and read the official 2026 Wisconsin ATV / UTV lawbook for full details.

Rules and Regulations-Reminder

I still see so many people that do not seem to be aware of some of the most basic of the ATV/UTV laws, so I thought it best to include this reminder. The most important I have summarized below.

ATV Passenger Rules

Previously only on the roadway were passengers restricted to those ATVs that were designed and intended for passengers. Now that requirement has been extended to all other areas. ***ATV operators cannot have a passenger riding in or on any part of an ATV that is not designed or intended to be used by passengers. If the machine did not come from the factory as a two-up machine, aftermarket seating is illegal***

Lighted Headlamp Display Requirements

Previously ATVs and UTVs were required to have a lighted headlamp & tail lamp during hours of darkness or during Day light hours when within a highway. ***ATVs and UTVs are now required to have a lighted headlamp & tail lamp at all times during operation.*** Most machines headlights go off when you turn the machine off, so the easiest thing to do is put them on and leave them on.

ATV & UTV Auxiliary Lighting Restrictions

No person (except EMS personal) may operate an ATV or UTV that is equipped with any of the following:

1. A lamp that emits any color of light other than white or amber and that is visible from directly in front of the ATV or UTV.
2. A lamp that emits any color of light other than red, yellow, amber, or white and that is visible from directly behind the ATV or UTV.
3. A flashing, oscillating, or rotating lamp that emits any color other than yellow or amber.

Any person operating an ATV or UTV must dim his or her high-beam headlamps and any auxiliary lamps when within 500 feet of an approaching ATV/UTV or vehicle, and within 500 feet to the rear of another ATV/UTV or vehicle. In addition, an operator must dim his or her backup lamps unless actively backing.

Speed Limits

I have heard from some that you can drive the highway speed limit on your ATV/UTV. This is not entirely true and will only get you a ticket. To clarify the speed limit question, Oneida County does not allow ATV/UTV operation at the posted speed limit if it exceeds 35 MPH. The 35-mph speed limit applies to all county highways. The following is from the ONEIDA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE POLICY FOR ATV ROUTES ON COUNTY HIGHWAYS

All ATVs must stay on the right side of the pavement next to the gravel but on the asphalt surface and must not exceed 35 miles per hour.

There are some adjoining counties who have gone to the posted speed limit rule but unfortunately the counties are not uniform in their speed limit laws so please be careful and know what county you are in and what their laws are.

Age and Helmet Concerns

No person under 12 may operate an ATV.

No person under 16 may operate an UTV.

All ATV and UTV operators at least age 12 and born on or after January 1, 1988 must possess a valid ATV safety certificate issued by this state or any other stator province.

Children age 12 – 15 years may operate small UTVs (200 CCs or less) on public, off-road ATV trails only.
No children under 16 years may operate on a roadway.

The child must be accompanied by a designated adult and possess a valid ATV Safety Certificate.

All ATV/UTV operators and passengers under the age of 18 are required to wear a minimum DOT standard ATV or motorcycle helmet with the chin strap properly fastened. Bicycle helmets do not meet this requirement.

The above is not meant to be an all-inclusive list of current rules and regulations and speed limits. It is a reminder that if you own and drive a machine you are responsible for knowing the laws and regulations.

For a comprehensive listing of all current ATV/UTV regulations please go to the DNR Website. https://widnr.widen.net/s/vxqlbz9kc7/wisconsin-atv_utv-regulations (Control Click to Follow Link)

Website, News Letter Comments, Feedback, Questions and Volunteering

The website for the club is... <https://pelchomuddnutz.com/> The email for the club is.....pelchomuddnutz@outlook.com

If you have any questions, comments or would like to volunteer for any club event or make a donation you can easily let us know by emailing us at the above email address or my address below. We will be happy to respond to any inquiry or suggestion, as well as extend our appreciation for any additional donation or support you can offer.

We thank each and every one of you for being a member, and hope to see you out enjoying the trails and routes. Remember, please drive safe, drive sober, drive responsibly, and enjoy your fun with the club.

Again, a big thankyou goes out in advance to all of you for your continued support and participation in your club.

Gary Dominski

Club President

presidentpelchoatvutvclub@yahoo.com

Welcome to our New Members

Jerry and Chris Berenz
William Braeger
Gordy and Linda Breier
Jerry Harvey

Scott Jansen
David Kell
Scott and Christine Kluge
David and Donna Polzin

Bob Larsen and Jean Schulrud
Wayne and Renee Morgan
Eric Rusch
Matt and Randi Williams

New Businesses

Palace of Mirrors
Pelican Piers LLC
5 O'Clock Somewhere Travel

WIN ME



Brand New 2025 Honda Talon 1000X SxS, 999cc parallel-twin engine, a 6-speed Dual-Clutch Transmission (DCT) with automatic/manual modes, and i-4WD technology.

14.4-14.6 inches of front suspension travel and a 15.1-inch rear

Direct Front and Rear Driveshafts

Fox Live Valve Shocks

2nd Prize-\$1000 Cash 3rd thru 6th Prize-\$500 Cash each

Only 400 tickets sold

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Northwoods Powersports Adventures

Parrish Highlanders ATV Club

Palace of Mirrors

PB&J's Place-Hwy 45

*Pelican Lake Campground ***

Pelican Lake Chamber

Pelican Lake Motel

Pelican Piers

Pickeral Pearson Wolf River Riders

R & L Property Management

*Roadside Pub ***

*Rock n Dick's ***

*Rocky's Roadhouse ***

Shady Brook Campgrounds

Sokaogon Chippewa Community-

*Spencer's Country Store ***

Sunset View Resort & Tavern

The Riverside Art Studio & Art Gallery

*The Winding Trail Grill and Bar ***

*Twin Oaks Resort ***

*Vern's Antigo ***

*Weavers Campground and Resort ***

Winding Trail Bar and Grill

5 O'Clock Somewhere Travel



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Financial Sponsor of the Yamaha/Romsa ATV Trail

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