

# **MONTANA** **JAN. 2013** **TRAIL RIDER NEWS**

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE MONTANA TRAIL VEHICLE RIDERS ASSOCIATION



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## ELECTRONIC NETWORK

**Attention: Members if you are not receiving email news, please send in your email addresses. The cost of producing the newsletter, shortage of volunteers, and the real time lag in getting information to you in a timely fashion make the electronic network an important tool**

**now and for the future. We promise we will not deluge you with excess notices. All news releases sent to MTVRA will be reviewed for importance to Montana before sending out. To be added to the network, simply email infomtvra@bresnan.net and ask to be added.**

## MONTANA TRAIL RIDER NEWS

Is published by the Montana Trail Vehicle Riders Association. Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the MTVRA or its officers. Your editorial or news contributions would be appreciated.  
Bob Walker, Editor.

Display and classified advertising is gladly accepted. For more information, call or write: (406) 454-9190

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MTVRA BYLAWS - Current bylaws, with changes approved June 2006, are posted on our website, [www.MTVRA.com](http://www.MTVRA.com)

## MTVRA Newsletter - Let Us Know What You're Doing!

Your Board of Directors of the Montana Trails Vehicle Riders Association will regularly publish a quarterly Newsletter beginning January, 2013 to be distributed to members by email and hard copy where appropriate. The purpose is to disseminate information among Montana and other state associations and clubs, motivate members by sharing information about successes and challenges, and promote unity among OHV recreationists. We need your help to succeed!

Please send information/articles about your club programs, activities, and schedules. Let us know about successes and challenges in your area. Share information about how you have succeeded or advice on procedures to avoid. Where do you ride and what is your favorite trail? We would like to highlight a trail or trail system in each newsletter.

Send your information by email to Bob Walker, Newsletter editor, at [mttrails@bresnan.net](mailto:mttrails@bresnan.net). Deadlines for publication in the MTVRA Newsletter: March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 1.

Thanks in advance for your hard work in providing improved opportunities for OHV recreationists and others!

Bob Walker, [mttrails@bresnan.net](mailto:mttrails@bresnan.net)



# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

At the October 13, 2012 Annual Meeting, I was elected president of the Montana Trail Vehicle Riders

Association (MTVRA). I'm sure many readers of this newsletter have no idea who I am and what my background is in the off road vehicle riders world. For the last fourteen years, my wife Cynthia and I have been active members of Treasure State ATV Association (TSATV) based out of Billings, MT. Thinking back, I believe we have been members of MTVRA for at least ten years.

TSATV is primarily a social ATV riding club which was established in 1998. For a number of years TSATV has virtually taken over the town of Basin, MT, on Labor Day weekends. Basin has been a great place for the club to recreate, camp and socialize. Each year TSATV participates in the Billings Holiday Parade and is known for giving away close to 1,000 stuffed animals to children each year. Like many other OHV and pro-access groups in Montana, we felt it necessary to get involved with USFS Travel Management Plans, comments, appeals, lawsuits and legal interventions. I have personally been involved with USFS and BLM activities in eastern Montana and northern Wyoming, which includes the Custer, Gallatin, Lewis & Clark and Shoshone National Forests.

In 2012 two new OHV groups were formed. Friends of Pipestone was organized and will be very influential in regards to OHV recreation in the Pipestone area which is used by many MTVRA member groups across the state. The northwest corner of

Wyoming was lacking an organized OHV group. A member of TSATV is now president of the newly formed Northwest Wyoming Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance (NWWYOHV). This new group has already been very active in BLM and Shoshone NF travel plans. Many people in eastern Montana recreate in Wyoming and many people in Wyoming recreate in Montana. Congratulations to both new OHV groups and their efforts to date.

Right after the Holiday Season, but before the completion of the college football championships, the 2013 Montana legislative session will be upon us. MTVRA has again retained a lobbyist who will help MTVRA officers, directors and members monitor legislation which could possibly help or hurt our ability to recreate. As with past sessions, the 2013 session will mean many hours of work and meetings. Thank you to all who have helped in the past and will help again in 2013.

Thank you to all who attended the October 13th Board and Annual meetings of MTVRA. It was well attended and very successful. I look forward to meeting more OHV enthusiasts from across the state. I would like to know more about what is going on, what's important and where there are opportunities for maintaining current riding areas and pursuing new ones.

Have a great Holiday Season, and I'll see you in the future.

Thanks!

Bruce Reiersen, President

## Montana OHV Clubs

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Billings    | Billings Motorcycle Club                  |
| Billings    | Rimrock Trail Riders                      |
| Billings    | Treasure State ATV Association            |
| Butte       | Mining City Trail Riders                  |
| Glendive    | The Ranch Riders                          |
| Great Falls | Great Falls Trail Bike Riders Association |
| Hamilton    | Bitterroot Ridge Runners                  |
| Hamilton    | Ravalli Co Off-Road Users Association     |
| Helena      | Capital Trail Vehicle Association         |
| Libby       | Kootenai Ridge Riders RTV Club            |
| Lincoln     | Blackfoot Valley OHV Association          |
| Manhattan   | Gallatin Valley Dirt Riders               |
| Missoula    | Western Montana Trail Riders Association  |
| Seeley Lake | Seeley-Swan ATV Club, Inc.                |
| Trout Creek | Cabinet Ridge Riders                      |



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## HB 24

## MTVRA Supports A New State Park and Recreation Board

By Bob Walker, Coordinator, State Parks and Recreation Friends Groups

During the past 2 years, an interim legislative committee studied the importance and process of more adequately addressing the needs and desires of Montana's public for parks and recreation. The result of their effort is HB 24 that would create a State Parks and Recreation Board. We testified to the interim committee in support of this concept and anticipate a more positive future for parks and recreation if this bill becomes law.

Currently the Parks Division of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) administers state parks and recreation programs under the oversight of the Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission. That Commission deals primarily with fish and wildlife season settings and bag limits, and statewide controversy over wolves, bison, brucellosis, grizzly bears, and large land purchases. Given FWP Commission time constraints and their lack of background in park and recreation activities, little time is invested in parks and recreation programs and issues.

HB 24 would create a State Parks and Recreation Board separate and distinct from a Fish and Wildlife Commission, all within the department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks. The Board would consist of five members appointed by the Governor. People appointed to the board would be informed or experienced in the conservation and protection of state parks, heritage resources, natural resources, tourism promotion and development, or outdoor recreation.

The board would provide direction to the department for the management and protection of state park properties in a way that promotes their importance to tourism and the economic health of Montana. It would also coordinate and promote education and recreation at these sites, including but not limited to camping, hiking, snowmobiling, off-highway vehicle use, horseback riding, mountain biking, and boating. Finally, the board would work with local, state, and federal agencies to coordinate and promote recreational opportunities statewide.

The State Parks Division has been the administrator of outdoor recreation programs for more than 30 years. We have been very pleased with State Parks cooperation and coordination. They have voluntarily involved community staff and leaders and private citizens in developing programs through advisory groups. They have helped in developing statewide training programs in parks and recreation management for cities, counties, state and federal agencies, and private organizations. We hope to see these programs and services enhanced with a separate Parks and Recreation Board.

Please contact your legislators and ask for their support for HB 24 and a state Parks and Recreation Board! For more information, contact Bob Walker at [mtrails@bresnan.net](mailto:mtrails@bresnan.net), 406-933-5326.

## Great Falls Trail Bike Riders Association

The volunteers from the Great Falls Trail Bike Riders Association are an essential part of the trail maintenance on the multiple use trail system on the Lewis & Clark National Forest mountain ranges. The Highwood, the Castle, and the Little Belt mountains offer a wide range of multiple use trails that accommodate the motorized recreational opportunities for the people from Great Falls, surrounding communities, and is known by riders from around the state as providing a premier single track trail experience.

The Trail Safety and Maintenance Program has been an ongoing project since 1996 with funding for various years thru the OHV Grant program, the RTP program and the Yamaha Access Fund. In years when funding has not been available, the trails have been monitored by our members volunteering their time to see the motorized trails are safe and open for riders.

Our volunteers and their participation with the trail crew are intertwined, the combination made possible by the OHV grant funds. The volunteer crew most active is the "on any Wednesday" group. The regulars of this group are Ken Jacobson, Les Howard, Bert Beattie and Jim Super. These four retired fellows ride every Wednesday as well as weekends with other volunteers. Whenever there is a project, they are willing to take their time to help.

The trail crew consists of John Vehrs and George Chamarro, both have their saw and first aid certifications are available from June through August.

Early in the year, club representatives meet with the USFS personnel to discuss the projects and plans for the trail system in the Little Belt Mountains and establish the priority list of trails, and complete the cost share agreement for each summer.

This is a 'we are the first to be there' project for our trails. Beginning in the spring when the snow goes out of the Highwood Mountains and onto other areas as the snow leaves and the trails are open, these riders are the first to cover the trails within the Highwood, Castles, and Little Belt Mountains. The mobility and ability to cover distances with the motorcycles allows us to monitor and inspect more miles of trails within our system than by any other means.

The trail crew is equipped with the tools necessary to accomplish many needed trail services on the spot. They are able to report back to the Forest Service of any trail problems with safety or environmental concerns that make the trails hazardous to travel. Any major safety maintenance issue encountered is reported immediately by phone or email.

Club volunteers report trail conditions and the information is relayed to the trail crew and the USFS contact. They report what was encountered on the trails weekly and work they have completed along with the trail numbers.

The grant for funding for 2013 summer has been submitted. Now we tune up saws, polish polaskis and wait for spring.





# Pipestone - Montana's Premiere OHV Recreation Area

## BLM Pilot Project at Pipestone

The 28,000 acre BLM Pipestone Recreation Area, the most popular OHV area in Montana, received very little management attention prior to 2011. Late that year the BLM initiated a Pilot Project with the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council (NOHVCC) to make needed improvements to the area.

During the 2011 field season, 30 of the most heavily-used miles of travel routes in the area were maintained with a SWECO trail dozer. Trail treads were groomed and water rolling dips were installed to reduce erosion and sediment concerns in riparian areas. On September 10-11, the BLM and NOHVCC conducted an effort that was attended by 50+ volunteers from all over Montana. They built jack-leg fencing to help delineate parking areas and protect cultural resources and riparian areas. Volunteers also helped with trash clean-up and trail maintenance work.

During the 2012 field season, BLM developed a trail numbering system for the area and installed approximately

150 signs. Each sign contains a travel route number, route restriction information, a difficulty rating, and a GPS coordinate. A new map depicts travel routes with corresponding numbers that matches actual travel routes on-the-ground. The map and a well maintained and signed OHV travel route system have greatly reduced user confusion and unauthorized uses in the area, and thus have led to significantly improved user experiences.

The positive results derived from these efforts also led to the creation of a "Friends of Pipestone" group, which was created to assist BLM with volunteer projects. This group of 100+ members consists of OHV riders, mountain bicyclists, hikers, and equestrian users. This diversity of representatives helps to ensure that the Pipestone area will continue to be able to provide sustainable and positive recreational opportunities and experiences to a multitude of users now and in the future. Due to the overwhelming success of this project, this management approach is now being used as a model for other BLM areas nationwide.



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# News From Local Associations

## Friends of Pipestone (FOP)

A grant has been submitted to the RTP, Recreational Trails Program, for mechanical maintenance, using a small trail dozer, on US Forest Service trails that adjoin the BLM area at Pipestone. This work would piggy-back onto similar work being accomplished by the BLM, so mobilization and demobilization costs can be reduced.

A second grant submitted to the Montana Off-Highway Vehicle Program will be for funding to print a map of BLM and USFS areas, and to purchase materials to construct nine (9) new informational kiosks on USFS and BLM staging areas and trail heads. The labor to construct and install the kiosks will be donated by the USFS and Friends of Pipestone members. The USFS has volunteered their GIS staff to work with the BLM and FOP to develop the map and will provide the files to FOP to be printed. FOP has provided grant-support letters to the USFS and BLM related to these grants, and has in turn received grant support letters from the BLM and USFS, as well as other FOP members and organizations.

## Capital Trail Vehicle Assn. (CTVA), Helena

CTVA hosted our 3rd annual FUN RUN in June, headquartered at the Hellgate Campground. More than 60 riders from all over Montana took part.

In 2011, we helped treat 41 miles of trails for noxious weeds in the Big Belt Mountains through a cooperative agreement with the Helena National Forest. The National Forest Service Resource Advisory Council (RAC) provided \$10,000 for this project.

This year we secured a \$6,000 RAC grant to add approximately 1 mile of new trails in the Little Camas Creek area east of Townsend. Volunteers spent several long days in the hot sun clearing trees and debris. Not often can we report that we added new trails. It's been a real pleasure working with the staff of the Helena and Townsend Ranger Districts on this and other projects. The Helena National Forest also awarded CTVA a \$10,000 RAC grant for more trail maintenance in 2013. We are planning that effort now.

The Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic has devastated forests in the Helena area. Some of our members took the sawyer and first aid classes to get their sawyer certificates and many members worked all summer clearing fallen trees from the trails. Every time we had a wind storm, new trees would be blown across the trails. Many thanks go out to those individuals who help keep our trails open for all the public!

We are looking forward to working with the Montana Trail Vehicle Riders Association on the 2013 State Ride. It will be held in the Boulder area where we have many trails for all types of off-highway vehicles. Watch the news for more details in the winter/spring 2013.

Have a very Happy New Year from CTVA!

David Koch, President CTVA

# NOHVCC ADVENTURE TRAIL

Getting the riders of tomorrow on the right track now

It's an old cliché, but the words actually ring quite true: The future lies with our youth. When it comes to having plenty of places to ride off-highway vehicles in the future, it may in fact depend on how the kids of today conduct themselves on the trails tomorrow.

If off-highway recreationists are seen as rowdy, littering, loud, rude trail wreckers, then trail access gets closed to them. However, if the perception of ATV, dirt bike and four-wheel drive enthusiasts is that of friendly and courteous folks who respect other trail users, the land they ride on, and the creatures that inhabit them, then there can be a completely different outcome as to whether OHVs are welcome to share the trails or not.

With that in mind, the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council (NOHVCC) has set out to educate future ATV, dirt bike and four-wheel enthusiasts at a young age, well before they could develop any bad habits. The NOHVCC's idea was to devise an interactive "adventure trail" that children can walk through, learning OHV safety and ethic messages in a fun way. An added bonus, it appears, is that the kids behavior can end up influencing the adult riders!

## EXPLORING THE ADVENTURE TRAIL

Since 2002 when the original Adventure Trail made its debut, several thousand youngsters have enjoyed the original display as it traveled to dozens of OHV events and shows. It soon became the highlight of the NOHVCC's in-the-field activities and got much praise from other OHV and trail-access organizations. It not only stood alone as a great educational tool for youth enthusiasts, but also drew many folks attention to the NOHVCC booth set up outside the truck. At most events, youngsters entered the exhibit armed with a 10-question quiz that coincides with the ten primary messages that are found in the large plastic panels.

## MINI VERSION AVAILABLE NOW

To get their message out to even more folks, a newly developed Adventure Trail poster series is now available to any OHV group, dealership, or land management organization that wishes to utilize it at their events or dealerships. The twelve 2-foot by 3-foot posters are easy to display and are a great compliment to any event as well as helping to ensure a positive future for OHV recreation. Along with the posters, the Adventure Trail Kit includes a copy of the activity book, a collage poster, reproducible copies of the quizzes, and some samples of the NOHVCC ATV and Dirt Bike temporary tattoos. Additional activity books, collage posters, and tattoos can be obtained from NOHVCC for the cost of shipping.

The cost of the Adventure Trail Kit is \$20 (the cost of shipping) and can be obtained by contacting the NOHVCC or by visiting their website at [www.nohvcc.org](http://www.nohvcc.org) or by calling (800) 348-6487.



# STATE Ride 2013

The Montana Trail Vehicle Riders Association will host the 2013 State Ride at the Fairgrounds at Boulder, Montana June 14-16. The area offers many opportunities for all types of off-highway vehicle recreation. Camping is available on-site. More to come on this in our April newsletter! Mark your calendars now so you can ride and enjoy Montana's beautiful mountain routes with old and new friends!



**Questions? For more information call  
(406) 454-9190 or (406) 899-0898**

**YOUR MTVRA DUES MUST BE PAID TO ATTEND THE STATE RIDE.**

## ADVENTURE TRAIL



**CROSS RIVERS AND WETLANDS ONLY WHERE  
YOU ARE SUPPOSED TO.**

Splashing around hurts wetlands and all of the plants and animals that live there!



*"Creating a Positive Future for Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation"*

### From: AMA (American Motorcyclist Association) News and Notes (November, 2012)

A U.S. House committee sent a letter to the Environmental Protection Agency on Sept. 10 seeking answers on the agency's recent decision to mandate that consumers buy at least four gallons of fuel from certain blender pumps that dispense both E15 and E10 gasoline-ethanol blends. The House Committee on Science, Space and Technology sent the letter to EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson. Currently, no manufacturer has introduced a mass-production motorcycle or all-terrain vehicle designed to operate on E15 fuel.

The federal agency failed to meet the Sept. 24 response deadline in the letter. The AMA has repeatedly expressed concerns to government officials and federal lawmakers about possible damage to motorcycle and ATV engines caused by the inadvertent use of E15 when the new fuel becomes widely available, and has asked that motorcycles and ATVs be part of any scientific study into the effects of E15.

The AMA is concerned because E15 burns hotter than gasoline that contains a lesser amount of ethanol. In engines not designed to dissipate that extra heat, damage in the form of premature wear can result. Although this is a concern in all motorcycles, it's particularly problematic for air-cooled engines found in many motorcycles and ATVs. Moreover, use of E15 may void the manufacturer's warranty.

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## Yamaha Approves New GRANTs Funding OHV Projects in Six States

**More Than \$75,000 in Yamaha GRANTs Support Local Efforts to Expand and Protect Safe, Responsible Access to OHV Riding Areas and Trails**

**CYPRESS, CA** – November 20, 2012 – (Motor Sports Newswire) – Yamaha Motor Corp., U.S.A.'s, OHV Access Initiative – the industry leader in Guaranteeing Responsible Access to our Nation's Trails (GRANTs) – approved new funding last month that will help seven different organizations across six states.

About the Yamaha OHV Access Initiative

The Yamaha OHV Access Initiative is the industry leader in Guaranteeing Responsible Access to our Nation's Trails (GRANTs). Through this program, Yamaha has directly and indirectly supported thousands of miles of trails, maintained and rehabilitated countless riding areas, improved staging areas, built bridges over fish-bearing streams and partnered with local riding communities across the country to improve the OHV experience.

Each quarter, Yamaha accepts applications from non-profit or tax-exempt organizations including OHV riding clubs and associations, national, state and local public land use agencies and other members of the OHV community in the United States. A committee then reviews each application and awards GRANTs to deserving projects.

Examples of appropriate projects for GRANTs include, but are not limited to:

- Trail development, restoration and maintenance
- Trail signage and map production
- Staging area construction, renovation and maintenance
- Land stewardship, trail safety and education

To date, Yamaha has funded projects in 36 states in pursuit of its goal to support OHV access projects nationwide. This number continues to increase as Yamaha receives quality applications from around the country. New Hampshire received its first Yamaha GRANT this cycle with funding provided to the North Country ATV club based in North Stratford.

“Yamaha remains focused on supporting quality projects that represent significant opportunities for local OHV communities,” said Steve Nessler, Yamaha ATV and SxS marketing manager. “These projects take many forms; from improving a trail systems' access to local amenities and protecting sensitive environmental zones near and within riding areas to expanding legal riding areas.”

Yamaha is actively seeking qualified projects at local, state and federal levels. The current OHV Access Initiative GRANT application form and guidelines are available online at [www.yamahaohvaccess.com](http://www.yamahaohvaccess.com). For specific questions about the OHV Access Initiative, call Yamaha's dedicated OHV Access Initiative Hotline at 1-877-OHV-TRAIL (877-648-8724), email [OHVAccess@yamaha-motor.com](mailto:OHVAccess@yamaha-motor.com) or write to: Yamaha OHV Access Initiative Review Committee, 6555 Katella Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630-5101.



*By Bob Walker, Chair, Western Montana Resource Advisory Council*

## Bureau of Land Management Resource Advisory Councils – Off-Highway Vehicle Recreationists Encouraged to Participate!

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act directs the Secretary of the Interior to involve the public in the planning and management of the public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The Department of the Interior established Resource Advisory Councils (RACs) in 1995. Montana includes 3 – Western operating out of Butte, Central operating out of Lewistown, and Eastern operating out of Miles City.

Each council has 15 members who serve staggered terms. Members serve without salary, but are reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current rates for Government employees. Members also may serve on/represent the RAC on subcommittees to study and develop recommendations on selected issues for consideration by the full Council.

Council membership must reflect a balanced representation of the various interests and users of the public lands. These include persons who represent the following categories:

Category 1 - holders of federal grazing permits; energy and mineral development; timber industry; transportation or rights-of-way; off-highway vehicle (OHV) use; or commercial recreation;

Category 2 – nationally or regionally recognized environmental organizations; dispersed recreation; archeological and historic interests; or wild horse and burro groups; and

Category 3 - elected state, county or local government; employees of state agencies responsible for management of natural resources; Native American tribes; academicians involved in natural sciences; and the public-at-large.

Notice that Category 1 includes, among others, off-highway vehicle use and commercial recreation. This is your opportunity to become more involved in what happens on BLM lands! I can say from experience that the members of the Western Montana RAC work very well together, respect each member's viewpoints, and achieve positive outcomes through consensus.

For more information go to the web at <http://www.blm.gov/mt/st/en/res/rac.html>. If you are interested in participating on a RAC, contact an area BLM office at:

Butte Field Office	Lewistown Field Office	Miles City Field Office
106 North Parkmont	920 Northeast Main Street	111 Garryowen Road
Butte, MT 59702	Lewistown, MT 59457	Miles City, MT 59301
406-533-7600	406-538-1900	406-233-2800



## MTVRA BOARD and 2012 ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The MTVRA Board of Directors met in Great Falls on October 13 with 19 members in attendance. They plan to publish quarterly Newsletters to keep members informed about MTVRA activities. Members should receive a newsletter by mid-January. Each club is asked to get information to Bob Walker at [mtrails@bresnan.net](mailto:mtrails@bresnan.net) in the future so it can be included in the newsletter.

The board unanimously decided to include ROV's (recreational off highway vehicle or UTV's) under the umbrella of MTVRA.

The board reviewed and accepted the financial statement as presented by Mona Ehnes.

A discussion on RAC and RTP grants included the problem with these reimbursement grants. Contractors usually want to be paid upon project completion and not wait for the grant to clear the agencies. There was discussion about MTVRA loaning funds to clubs so the contractors could get paid in a timely manner. A committee was established to identify needed documents, and the MTVRA Board will consider each request for a loan on a case by case request, depending on available funds.

#### Election of Officers:

Bruce Reiersen, President

Vice President: Mike Jeffords

Members at Large: Gary Peterson, CTVA: Bill Black, Hinsdale/Neihart: Jim Brown, Livingston

Tom Reilly, State Parks Assistant Administrator, spoke about updates on Grants and on-line grant applications. OHV grants are now simpler to fill out. Rusty Ruchert, OHV Program Manager, explained they will redo the scoring program for grants. OHV grants will be online in 2013. Tom explained he would like to see more grants used for safety education in schools for children.

Russ Ehnes volunteered to work on Legislative issues. January 17th is reserved for the 'day in the rotunda' where motorized groups & agencies are invited to display and host lunch for the legislators. Tom spoke about Legislation coming up next year, HB24, which would create a Parks and Recreation Board appointed by the Governor. He distributed a few pages from the Bill and explained how this could have a positive effect on OHV recreation.

Russ brought up the need for temporary license plates or stickers for people who come to MT for a weekend from states that don't require a license plate. Currently they can't legally ride without a sticker or license. The Board approved pursuing legislative action on this matter.

There was discussion about MTVRA getting involved in legislation to allow FWP game wardens to enforce the 96 decibel law. No decision was reached at this time.

OHV Program Funds: The Board discussed how OHV funds are decreasing each year due to permanent registrations. The OHV program could be getting more state fuel tax funding if a new fuel use study is completed and we need information about how permanent registration affects the OHV program. The Board plans to present a proposal to the 2015 legislative session.

The Board approved a motion to provide an online safety course for children 12 and older.

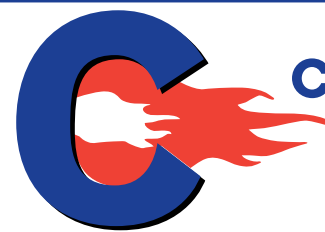


Ronna Alexander will serve as the lobbyist for MTVRA in the 2013 legislative session.

The Capital Trail Vehicle Association will host the State Ride, tentatively scheduled for early June at the Boulder Fair Grounds.

Next Board Meeting will be February 2nd in Helena.

For a complete copy of the MTVRA Board Minutes, contact Mona Ehnes at [monaehnes@bresnan.net](mailto:monaehnes@bresnan.net).



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# Boy Scout Camp Partners With NOHVCC To Build A Sustainable ATV Trail System

by Dave Halsey, National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council (NOHVCC) Contributing Writer

When businesses and organizations work together to give America's youth new opportunities for outdoor recreation, great things can happen. Case in point: a new, state-of-the-art ATV trail system being built at the K Bar M Scout Ranch near Lewistown, Montana.

Phase 1 of the new trail, scheduled to open for the 2013 camp season, includes an ATV safety training range and 5 miles of sustainable, beginner-level ATV trails on the 600 acre property. The new ATV program will be available to Scouts 14 years of age and older.

"It's a big deal. We're very excited about it," said Gordon Rubard, Scout Executive with the Montana Council of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). "After a young man has been to camp a couple years, there has to be new challenges for him. We see this as an opportunity for older Scouts to learn the use of an ATV the right way and the safe way."

Providing guidance and assistance to the K Bar M are staff and board members of the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council (NOHVCC). "For us, what makes this program so exciting and unique is that we're able to start with a sizable area and not have to rely on using existing roads or infrastructure," said Russ Ehnes, NOHVCC Executive Director. "It's a really cool camp. We're going to help them put in a purpose-built trail system, specifically laid out for this activity. It's going to be totally sustainable, and a lot of fun."

"The other important aspect of this project is by providing a sustainable trail, and giving the kids the training they need to really ride an ATV, rather than just making it go, we have exposed the kids to ways where they know they can ride in a safe and responsible manner, yet still have fun in the outdoors. It is imperative that our kids learn those lessons."

Planning the new ATV trail system -- which the camp also plans to use for hiking, mountain biking and horse riding -- began with preliminary discussions at the camp to identify the needs of the camp and the Scouts. "We spent a lot of time looking at the property and discussing the options, their advantages and challenges," said Ehnes. "We captured and documented this work, and the net result is a preliminary ATV trail system map created from on-site visits, topographic maps and aerial photographs."



Drew Stoll, owner of Great Outdoors Consultants, Fort Collins, Colorado, played a key role on the planning team. A landscape architect and outdoor recreation planner, he donated his time to provide the preliminary trail layout, using on-site GIS mapping technology. "He did a fantastic job and really helped us get the planning off on the right foot with his GIS work and field experience," said Ehnes. NOHVCC and the scout executives are also planning to draw on the experience of Trails Unlimited, Monrovia, California, to assist in building the trail next spring. Its trail experts have decades of experience in "on the ground" problem solving of difficult trail design, construction and maintenance situations.

The local ATV dealer has also joined in on the project. Lewistown Honda is working with the camp to provide ATVs through American Honda Motor Co. and Polaris Industries, both of which have formal programs to loan vehicles to the Boy Scouts. "The guys at Lewistown Honda are totally enthused about the program. They'll even go out on the site, pick up the machines, bring them back and do the maintenance on the vehicles and get them back out there," said Ehnes.



Phase 2 will add another 5 miles of ATV trails to the system. It will be designed as an intermediate-level trail to attract young riders back to the program and provide a destination trail to a ghost town on the camp property. The proposed trail system does not cross any existing corridors for other activities and leaves the current core uses of the camp unchanged.

The new ATV trail system may serve as a case study for other Boy Scout Councils, said John Manz, volunteer and VP of Administration with the Montana Council. "We intend this to be a "Best in Class" trail," said Manz. "I also think that it will be useful for others, not just those of us in Scouting. If we have a documented case study of doing it right, it can help other organizations who want to do this and understand what it takes to break in a new area."

The BSA Montana Council is one of over 20 in the country with ATV programs. ATV riding became an official BSA program starting with the 2012 camping season, following a successful 2-year pilot project created by BSA with the help of the ATV Safety Institute (ASI). BSA updated their camp standards to allow for ATV use at approved camps. It adopted the ASI RiderCourse curriculum as the official training course for leader/instructors and Scouts. Over 200 Boy Scouts participated in the pilot program. American Honda Motor Co., Inc. provided the ATVs -- including 150 vehicles for the 2012 camping season -- through its Rider Training Loan Program. Individual councils pay for helmets and safety gear.

Incorporated in 1910, BSA has 296 councils throughout the U.S., with over 500 summer camps, 2.8 million active youth members and 1.1 million active adult volunteer members. In addition, there are over 50 million former youth members.

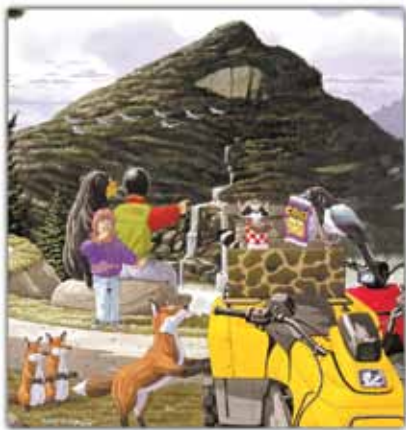




*Scout Camp continued*

The Montana Council's Rubard believes the partnership between BSA, ASI, NOHVCC, professionals who plan and build trails, and others in the OHV industry will benefit Scout programs in the future. "If it's done right it's a win-win," said Rubard. "We're all looking for that, because it becomes sustainable when everybody participating shares the same goals."

In the meantime, flagging of the preliminary trail layout for Phase 1 continues at the K Bar M Scout Ranch. And the entire team couldn't be happier, especially Ehnes: "We will have the trail system on the ground by June, so it has time to harden up and settle, and in July when the camp programs start, the trail system will be ready to roll."



Enjoy outdoor adventures. Off-highway vehicle (OHV) recreation is a healthy way for family and friends to have fun, explore trails and discover wonderful things along the way!



# Montana's OHV Program - an update as winter arrives...

*By Tom Reilly, Assistant Administrator, Montana State Parks*

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) use in Montana has increased annually, both for recreational use and for work. Montana State Parks, a Division of Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, is responsible for the OHV Program within the Department.

Traditionally, the OHV Program has involved the management of an annual grant program. The program provides approximately \$150,000-to-\$180,000 each year to worthy OHV-related projects statewide on a competitive application basis. OHV registration decal fees and a portion of the state fuel tax paid by OHV users fund this program. The program has been in place since 1991.

Earlier in 2012, a full-time OHV Program Manager was hired by Montana State Parks to better interact with constituents, the federal agencies who manage the lands where most recreational OHV riding occurs in Montana, and to develop a more comprehensive safety, ethics, and education plan for OHV interests statewide. It is recognized by the entities involved with OHV issues in Montana that this aspect of OHV usage can be improved upon, but to-date there has not been a primary focal point to advance the efforts.

The Off-Highway Vehicle Advisory Committee (OHVAC), a long-standing citizen's advisory group, advises the Parks Division on the allocation of grant funds and general OHV issues statewide. The six citizen members have traditionally been involved primarily with the grant process, but will be more engaged with OHV topics and ideas which focus on OHV safety, ethics, and education being a priority for the future.

Montana State Parks is actively working

with the citizens, OHVAC members, the MTVRA, the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council (NOHVCC), and other interests in Montana on OHV-related issues and projects. OHV riding is a recognized and important outdoor recreational activity in Montana, one worthy of more attention.

For questions about Montana's OHV Program or other Montana State Parks programs, please feel free to contact Rusty Ruchert, OHV Program Manager at 444-7642 (rruchert@mt.gov) or Tom Reilly, Assistant Administrator, Montana State Parks, at 444-3752 (treilly@mt.gov).



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## CHOOSING AN ATV HELMET

**Your best insurance against injury**

There's an old saying in the off-road world, "If you've got a \$10 head, buy a \$10 helmet." Basically, it's warning riders to steer clear of the really cheap helmets. Not all helmets are as effective as the next, and the quality helmet makers have gone to great lengths to give their customers the best protection available.

In fact, one of the first things to look for when buying a helmet is to see if it meets one of the two performance ratings (these are stitched on the inside of the shell and on the box). The first is the Department of Transportation rating that shows the helmet meets a certain set of standards as a legal helmet for street and off-road use. The Snell rating signifies that the helmet goes beyond the DOT standards and can withstand even harder blows.

Another important helmet decision is whether you want a full-face or open-face helmet. Common sense says have the extra protections of a full-face helmet (your chin and teeth are pretty vulnerable in an open-face helmet). Full-face helmets combined

with goggles also offer much better protection against the elements than open-face helmets.

Consider air vents that can be opened or closed for hot or cold weather. Then compare the weights (a lighter helmet is much more comfortable during a long day of riding). You should also check the construction of the visor for durability. You may want a visor that is adjustable to your taste.

Getting a helmet that fits right is important for two reasons: 1) a proper fit is much more effective in a mishap, and 2) you'll want to wear it all the time because it's comfortable! The best way to check fit is of course to simply try on a lot of helmets.

The perfect fit for a helmet is as snug as you can get it while still being comfortable. You should not be able to easily insert a finger between your forehead and the helmet lining.



Similarly, the padding of a full-face helmet should press lightly against your cheeks, but here you are much more likely to insert a finger or two. With the helmet in place, try to rotate it without turning your head. If the helmet turns significantly on your head (especially if it turns enough to interfere with your vision), it is too loose and you should try the next size down. If the next size down is too tight, consider trying another brand, as each helmet manufacturer has fairly unique shell shapes. Without tightening the chinstraps, shake your head briskly from left to right a few times. The helmet should follow your head and not come out of place. Same goes if you move your head up and down quickly.

Now try the retention strap system. You should be able to easily strap on the helmet you choose. Once the strap is snug, grab the helmet with both hands and move it around

vigorously. Your head should be moving with the helmet.

If you're going to be wearing glasses with your helmet, make sure you try them on at this time as well. You may need a slightly looser fit in the side of your temples.

**Helmet Care**

With helmets, most feature removable liners that can be thrown into the washing machine. But to stay on the safe side, don't throw this liner into the dryer; instead let it air dry. If the liner isn't removable, clean it with soap and water. Keep in mind, though, that you shouldn't use any solvents on any helmet materials-the styrofoam inner liner can easily get melted, ruining the most important part of the helmet.

If you know you are going to be riding in muddy conditions, you can make the chore of cleaning the outer shell much easier by applying a thin coat of WD-40 or Armor-All before you go riding.

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## RESPONSIBLE RIDING

Basically, two of the worst-case scenarios for ATV riders are A) having an accident during a ride, or B) seeing your favorite riding areas get shut down. The first one leaves you at best with bumps and bruises on your body and machine, while the other results in your beloved quad on the front lawn with a big For Sale sign on the handlebars. Both of these sorry situations appear to be out of your control. Or are they?



Riding responsibly dramatically decreases your chances of ever getting hurt or causing your favorite riding areas to close their gates. In many ways, responsible and ethical riders also have a higher quality ATVing experience knowing that other outdoor recreationalists are not bothered by your chosen activity.

OK, now that you're convinced that this is the way to go, what does it really mean to be a responsible rider? Isn't it simply a matter of using common sense and common courtesy? Well, yes, a lot of it is, but while we're having fun tooling along the trails there are many things we don't necessarily notice that could endanger ourselves and others, wildlife and the environment, or just plain tick off other outdoor recreationalists.

Responsible riding is three-fold. It means being responsible for 1) your own safety, 2) the safety of other riders and trail users, and 3) the environment.

### THE GOLDEN RULES OF SAFE ATVing

- Always wear the appropriate safety gear. At minimum this should include a helmet, shatter-resistant eye protection, long pants, long-sleeved shirt, and over-the-ankle boots.
  - If you have never ridden before, take an approved training course. Call toll-free (800) 887-2887.
  - Only carry passengers if your ATV is specifically designed to do so. Carrying passengers can alter the balance of the machine, causing a loss of control.
  - Ride an ATV that is the right size for you. Children riding adult-sized ATVs are a recipe for disaster (see Chapter 3 for more on kids and quads).
- Supervise riders younger than 16; ATVs are not a toy.
- Avoid riding on public roads and paved surfaces. Cars and ATVs don't mix.
- Ride only on designated trails and at a safe speed.
- Never ride under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
- Always ride in control. Ride within your abilities and your machine's capabilities. Never attempt anything that is beyond your skill level.

### TREAD LIGHTLY

The Golden Rules of Safe ATVing serve to protect yourself and other riders. However, when it comes to keeping trails and ride areas open, it's the environment that needs protection. A common term and attitude in the

outdoor recreation world is that of "tread lightly". There is in fact an organization called Tread Lightly! which serves to educate many outdoor recreation groups including ATV and dirt bike riders, 4x4 drivers, mountain bikers, boaters, snowmobilers, hikers, equestrians, and hunters. Their mission is to encourage recreationists to "tread lightly" in the outdoors, leaving as little evidence as possible that they were ever there. The reasons being are two-fold; to leave other outdoor recreationists and future generations with an unspoiled environment and to ensure that the great outdoors will continue to be accessible to a wide variety of users.

### LEAVE NO TRACE

- Protect your riding privilege by staying on the trail! Avoid riding in wet meadows or on stream banks. Avoid riding on steep or erodible slopes.
- Avoid riding over small trees and shrubs. Trampled vegetation not only looks bad, but also damages critical wildlife habitat and contributes to soil erosion.
- Ride in the middle of the trail to avoid widening it. Trail widening is unsightly and expensive to repair.
- Honor seasonal and permanent trail closures.
- Never harass wildlife or domestic animals that you may encounter while riding. Always view wildlife from a respectful distance.
- Never litter. Always carry out what you carry in. Carry a trash bag with you to pack out other people's trash that you may come upon.
- Protect and respect cultural resources, such as old cabins, historic mining sites, fossil areas and traditional cultural properties. They are an important part of our heritage; leave them for others to enjoy.
- To prevent the spread of noxious

weeds wash your ATV after ride. Weed seeds are caught in the tires and caked-on mud.

- Keep your exhaust system quiet. Don't buy loud aftermarket pipes and re-pack your muffler as needed.
- Cross streams only at designated crossings. Try not to splash and spin your wheels excessively.
- When you come to a gate leave it as you found it.

### SHARING THE TRAILS

Many public trails that allow OHV use also cater to horseback riders and hikers on the same trails. Serious conflicts between user groups usually result with the "motorized" recreationists getting closed out the next time the land managers meet. How the non-motorized public views us is of utmost importance when it comes to land access issues. There are a couple ways we, as OHV riders can put our best foot forward and avoid user group conflicts.

- Always yield the right-of-way to non-motorized trail users.
- When encountering hikers or horses on the trail, pull over and shut off your engine. With horses, remove your helmet (horses are sometimes startled by them) and let them pass out of sight before restarting.
- Whenever you're riding near a parking or camping area keep your speed way down. Don't kick up dust or make a lot of noise with your engine.
- Always yield to any users (motorized included) who are traveling uphill.
- Give everyone you meet a wave and a smile- it's worth a million bucks in good will (and it also happens to feel great!).

## PLANNING AHEAD FOR YOUR ATV TRIP AND KNOWING THE RULES AND REGS

How to have a safe and fun ride without any troubles

By Steve Casper

Responsible ATV riders generally don't get themselves into situations that involve the words "search parties" and "rescue crews." They avoid those scenarios by following the tips listed here:

- Ride with a partner. It is really hard to ride an ATV with a broken arm! Riding solo can leave you vulnerable in case of an accident or breakdown.
- Check that your OHV is in proper working condition, all fluids are topped off, and there are no loose or broken parts.
- Contact the land manager for area restrictions, and if crossing private property, be sure to ask permission from the landowners.
- Be certain each rider in your party has a map and knows where the group is headed. If you become separated, stay on the correct trail and let the group find you. Taking different trails could result in you becoming lost.
- Know your machine's fuel range and plan accordingly.
- Check the weather forecast before leaving home. For winter riders in mountainous areas, always check the avalanche forecast.
- Always tell someone where you are going and when you will return. Provide them with a map of your intended riding area.
- Bring along a proven lifesaver—your cell phone!
- Be prepared for any emergency. Always carry a tool kit and spare parts, a tire repair kit, tow strap, a first aid kit, and survival equipment when you ride. Carry plenty of extra food, water, and fuel.

### Know the Ride Area's Rules and Regulations

Before you think about going to any public riding area, know all the rules and regulations. This will not only keep you from being sent home as soon as you arrive, but it could keep you from getting a ticket (or even worse, from getting hurt). There are several ways to find out what the rules and regulations are: the Internet (search for the name of the ride area), by phone, or by picking up a brochure on the ride area.

Begin your search by determining which land management agency runs the show. Privately held ride areas and parks are becoming more and more common and adhere to their own set of rules, which can be quite different from the ride areas run by government agencies.

Because the rules and regulations at riding areas throughout the country differ considerably, there are a wide variety of rules. However, below is an example of some of the regulations you will encounter.

### Typical Rules and Regulations


- Wear your helmet. Some areas require all riders to wear a helmet while others do not. Some require them only for children under a certain age. But we recommend that everyone always wears a helmet when trail riding.
- Have a registration sticker, decal, or plate. Many states with public ride areas require a sticker. Most will honor out-of-state stickers, but some do not.
- Carry safety whips or flags. These are generally required at all dune ride areas and attach to the rear grab bar. They cost around \$10 to \$20 and are sometimes sold near the ride area.
- Be aware of seasonal closures. Many ride areas prohibit ATV use during wet or snowy times of the year. Some even close down during the summer if conditions get bad, so be sure to call ahead of time.
- Use spark arrestors. This is more of a concern in the western states. At some parks, the rangers check for a spark arrestor on every OHV coming through the gate.
- Stay on the trail at all times. Most state and national forests strictly enforce this rule. Other parks, such as those at sand dunes, allow free ride, cross-country travel. Some ride areas have special free ride areas set aside (mud bogs, small dunes, dried lakes, etc.)
- Know the rules about riding double. Some areas allow it, others do not. Also, there are quads designed specifically for two-up riding.
- Know the speed limit. Some sections of a ride area may have certain speed limits (along the beach, near the parking or camping areas, etc.). Some multiple-use trails may have a set speed limit for the entire trail system.
- Carry a safety certificate. Some states require proof that riders under a certain age have taken a safety-training course. Some have limits as to just how young a rider can be.
- Know the sound limit. This relatively new regulation is popping up at ride areas all over the country. Rangers do a stationary sound check on your ATV to make sure it meets the decibel limit for that particular ride area. Currently, all riders on state lands in California must meet a 96 dBA limit. Most stock quads easily pass the test.
- Check your headlight. If the ride area allows night riding, you'd better have a working headlight!
- Know the rules about washing your ATV. With all the concern over invasive weeds, some riding areas require riders to wash their machines at the provided washing station to get rid of any seeds stuck on the quads.
- Know the rules about riding on public roads. Virtually all states allow riders to safely cross from one side of the road to the other at a 90-degree angle. Some states and communities actually allow riders to legally operate their ATVs on public roads (either limited or unlimited), and some ATVs are even licensed to ride on the street (with some modifications such as turn signals, tires, etc).

## BlueRibbon Coalition

Have you heard about the associate membership program? If you are a member of MTVRA, a current member of BlueRibbon Coalition, you are being offered a special associate membership. An Associate membership costs \$15 for one year, in the USA and \$25 in Canada.

You will receive a copy of the BlueRibbon Magazine delivered direct, voting rights and a membership card. However this is an introductory offer and is good for only one year. At the end of the year, you will be offered the option of continuing as a full member at the regular \$29 dues. If you aren't a member, MTVRA urges you to support BRC by becoming an associate member.

Yes, I would like an Associate Membership (\$15) in the BlueRibbon Coalition.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Organization:  Montana Trail Vehicle Riders Association

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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Mail to: **BlueRibbon Coalition, 4555 Burley Drive, Ste A, Pocatello, ID, 83202-1921**



## Extending ATV Safety Messages On Club Web Sites Is Easy And Important

by Dave Halsey, NOHVCC Contributing Writer

Have you thought about putting the "Golden Rules" of ATV Safety on your club's web site, member emails and newsletter? Or adding a link to safety information related to driving an ATV or side-by-side?

Promoting ATV safety to



members and the general public is of utmost importance for all ATV clubs and associations. Thanks to hundreds of clubs holding regular ATV safety training for kids, some states are seeing a decline in the number of youth accidents and injuries. However, some are also reporting a spike in the number of adults involved in avoidable accidents, as many are buying their first ATV. Everyone, including adult members new to your club, should be educated on riding safely and responsibly.

The All-Terrain Vehicle Safety Institute® (ASI) is a not-for-profit division of the Specialty Vehicle Institute of America® (SVIA). It was formed in 1988 to implement an expanded national program of ATV safety education and awareness. ASI's primary goal is to promote the safe and responsible use of ATV's, thereby reducing accidents and injuries that may result

from improper ATV operation by the rider. At your club's next board meeting, consider adding the ASI "Golden Rules" to your web site and other member communications:

### The ATV Safety Institute's Golden Rules:

1. Always wear a DOT-compliant helmet, goggles, long sleeves, long pants, over-the-ankle boots, and gloves.
2. Never ride on paved roads except to cross when done safely and permitted by law - another vehicle could hit you. ATVs are designed to be operated off-highway.
3. Never ride under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
4. Never carry a passenger on a single-rider ATV, and no more than one passenger on an ATV specifically designed for two people.
5. Ride an ATV that's right for your age.
6. Supervise riders younger than 16; ATVs are not toys.
7. Ride only on designated trails and at a safe speed.
8. Take a hands-on ATV Rider Course and the free online E-Course. Visit [ATVsafety.org](http://ATVsafety.org) or call 800-887-2887.

ASI also has banner ads available to put on your club's web site -- providing those

visiting your site with a direct link to a wide variety of ATV safety information. ASI also has public service announcement (PSA) ads you can download to include in your club newsletter or place in local newspapers. Check them out at <http://www.atvsafety.org/asi.cfm>.

Are more and more of you club members riding recreational off-highway vehicles (also called side-by-sides)? Consider adding a banner ad to your web site that links riders to the Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association (ROHVA). This non-profit is dedicated to enhancing ROV safety awareness, and is sponsored by Arctic Cat, BRP, Kawasaki, Polaris, John Deere and Yamaha.

The ROHVA web site is <http://www.rohva.org/>, and includes ROV safety rules, a free ROV e-course, and all kinds of helpful safety information that your club or association can put to use.

*Editor's Note: Don't forget dirt bikes and the Dirtbike School safety tips at <http://dirtbikeschool.org>. Increased safety not only makes our community stronger but helps us keep trails open. Every club should make safety a priority.*

## Ravalli County Off-Road Users Teach OHV Safety & Ethics To 800 Youths Annually!

The Ravalli County Off-Road User Association started a Youth OHV Education Program in cooperation with the Bitterroot National Forest in 2009. Our first program was at Conservation Days, a program that was started 20 plus years ago to educate 6th grade youths on the importance of conservation for the Bitterroot valley. Since then, we have expanded, by request, to the local schools, youth summer vacation groups, local Hunter Education Programs and the Superior Ranger District with the "On the Right Trail" program. We teach OHV ethics, safety and responsible riding to approximately 800 youths each year.

Mike & Kathy Jeffords, Betty Frost and Marsha Waliser helped Monte Monroe, the national forest ranger, with OHV ethics education. We use an On The Right Trail OHV Ethics Education trunk, funded by the Montana State Parks OHV program that includes proper riding gear, ethics education posters, laws, and ethics brochures. The kids and teachers are organized into groups of 4-6 and they rotate between 9 stations for a 15 minute period. We are able to show them the proper safety gear, go over resource damage caused by going off road or trail including the spread of noxious weeds, explain the laws, and discuss responsible OHV recreation. We provide handouts to the kids and teachers including OHV Licensing Requirements, OHV Safety Check List, a printout

of hand signals, several pamphlets on OHV riding and an interactive CD.

Another example of the Associations cooperation with youth education includes Mike & Kathy Jeffords and Jim and Marsha Waliser from the Association who assist with the Earth Stewardship Program with local 7th graders. They focus on recreational ethics and etiquette lessons with motorized use on public and private lands. This program is in cooperation with Monte Monroe, Bitterroot National Forest OHV Ranger, and Janeen Curtis, Healthy Kids ~ Healthy Forests Coordinator.

The Association realized after a youth class in 2011 the need for a Helmet Program. When asked what they wear when they ride, many kids mentioned bicycle helmets or their parent's helmets. As we all know, helmets need to be the right size and DOT or Snell approved to protect OHV riders. Rusty Ruchert, OHV Program Manager for Montana State Parks, provided \$960 to start our youth helmet program. The Association is working on details to fairly distribute helmets and secure funding for this valuable program in the future.

The Ravalli County Off-Road User Association deserves a great deal of credit for developing these cooperative youth education programs with the Bitterroot National Forest, local schools, and Montana State Parks.



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Permit #237

## OUR MISSION

*"TO CREATE A POSITIVE FUTURE FOR MONTANA OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE RECREATION BY CREATING AN ONGOING COMMUNICATIONS FORUM THROUGH WHICH OHV ENTHUSIASTS AND ORGANIZATIONS CAN SHARE INFORMATION AND EXPERIENCES; PARTICIPATE IN EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES; BUILD PARTNERSHIPS WITH LAND MANAGERS, LAND OWNERS, AND SUPPORTERS; AND BECOME PARTNERS IN PROTECTING, PROMOTING AND CREATING A POSITIVE IMAGE OF OHV RECREATION."*

# JOIN THE MTVRA TODAY!

Application for membership in the **Montana Trail Vehicle Riders Association**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ AMA# \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Member Type:

Individual \_\_\_\_\_ \$22.00

Family \_\_\_\_\_ 36.00

Business \_\_\_\_\_ 55.00

Organization \_\_\_\_\_ 100.00

*(Includes \$4 individual, \$8 family, \$15 business for the legal defense fund)*

Make checks payable to

**MTVRA**

P.O. Box 2884

Great Falls, MT 59403

Additional money included for donations to the legal defense fund are greatly appreciated!