

MI-TRALE NEWS

P.O. Box 43

Ontonagon, MI 49953-0043

July 2015

www.mi-trale.org

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Cathy Wainio cndwainio@yahoo.com



From Under the Presidents Helmet

Since my last newsletter in March, I have gotten my machine all ready for another great year of AT riding. I have managed to get it quite muddy, washed multiple times, dusty inside and out, and made a few more changes to it. I am sure you are enjoying doing the same thing. I find you can never make too many changes to your “ride”. The aftermarket folks are always coming up with something that I need.

MI-TRALE does the same for you, our members. We always try to develop a new trail or modify a current one that you find that you must ride. Sometimes we share a point of interest that you may have passed up. For this year the opening of the “LL” route that will connect Land O’ Lakes Wisconsin to the Bond Falls Recreational area is a unique route for MI-TRALE. The section that is a result of our important partnership with the Ottawa National Forest is one that you must ride. It is heavily wooded and winds thru the Ottawa, with very few straight sections. The views force you to take it slow and enjoy every bit of it. We are already looking at a few optional rides off the current route to call you back for more. You need to mark your calendar for the August 22, 2015 Grand Opening of this new route. Check www.mi-trale.org for updates on this event. This is a great opportunity for the Michigan and Wisconsin ORV riders to join together in a day of fun.

Note: August 22-23, 2015 is a free ORV riding weekend in Michigan. No license is required for in or out of state riders!

MI-TRALE believes it is important to open up connectors from our border state of Wisconsin, so not only will you have an opportunity to use the new “LL” route, but also the just recently signed Phelps – Iron River “PI” route that connects Phelps, Wisconsin to the “IM” route just west of Iron River. The Michigan side of the connector is signed from Duck Lake Road in Michigan across US2 to American Vets Road which connects to the “IM” route. We will be working with the Wisconsin clubs to work on this trail. The next step is to get approval from the Ottawa National Forest to use several forest roads near the border to connect to the Nicole National Forest which will remove the pavement in the current temporary connector.

Another great route we are working on is the new connector from Ontonagon to Rockland “OR” route. The next step is for the state to approve the route as a Multi-use Designated Route. We hope to have the approval in July. Then the fun begins with engineering evaluations and specifications and then bids to prepare the route for safe use. The route will provide access to Ontonagon from the east and south sides of town.

MI-TRALE is moving into the world of geocaching. The Courtney Equestrian Trails were placed in May, 2015. The Pioneer Route will be completed by the end of June. If this is something that our riding guests enjoy we will make plans to place addition caches on the trails. Share your thoughts. We are using www.geocaching.com to list the details of our sites.

Remember to ride as much as possible, as safe as possible, and above all have fun!

Don

President MI-TRALE

LL Route Grand Opening
Trail Ride and Dedication
August 22, 2015
Michigan's 2nd Free ORV Weekend

Starting at the Michigan and Wisconsin Border by
Land O' Lakes WI on the LL Route and heading to
Bond Falls in Paulding MI. Keep an eye on the
website for more details



Interested in Geocaching?

Contact one of us:

Janet Miesbauer - MITRALE.PR@GMAIL.COM

Cathy Wainio - cndwainio@yahoo.com



Report Trail problems:

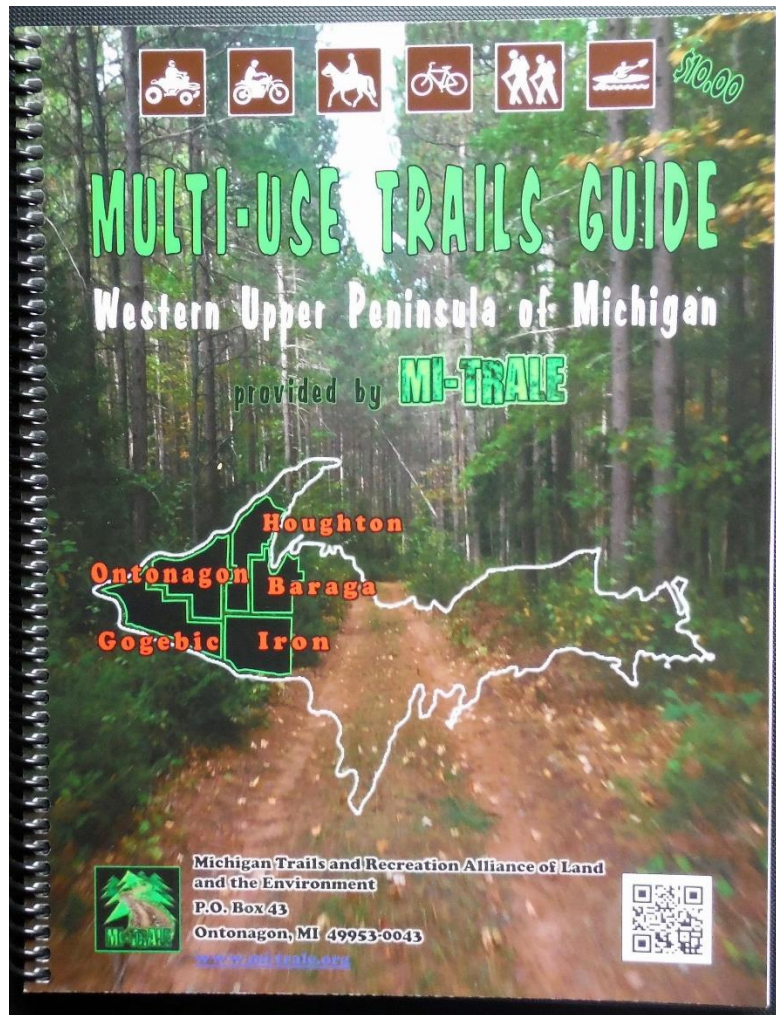
ATV/ORV – Mike Schulz
906-827-3208

Equestrian – Cathy Wainio, Equestrian
Director MI-TRALE

Email at: cndwainio@yahoo.com

H: 906-988-2232 W: 906-358-4577 ext. 4154

Do you have yours yet?



This is a 142 page guide for multiple types of trail users, of which 89 are detailed maps including Ottawa Forest trails, DNR Trails, club trails, horse trails, mountain bike, hiking and water trails! There is a list of sights to see along the trails, a trip planner with loops mapped out and information on lodging, dining and services and so much more. You will be proud to own one, and don't forget to purchase one as a present for the trail riders on your list.

You can purchase a Guide Book on the website using PayPal or through mail order
There is a list of locations where you can buy the guide too.

Now available on **EBAY**.

http://www.ebay.com/itm/2014-Trails-Guide-for-the-Western-UP-of-Michigan-with-Ottawa-Forest-Roads-/201241212550?pt=LH_DefaultDomain_0&hash=item2edae93686#ht_82wt_1153

+++MEMBERSHIP MAP PURCHASE SPECIAL+++

All current memberships will have a 1 time opportunity to purchase one Guide Book for ½ price, that's right only \$5.00 plus shipping.

Contact Map Postmaster Dave Bishop via Email at MITRALE49953@Gmail.com



Courtney Equestrian Trails News

Cathy Wainio EQ Director Reports:

Hello All,

Here we are; mucked out, trailers ready to hitch, truck tuned up, horses shed out and brushed (horse hair cleaned out of our teeth), tack, hay bags and buckets ready to load..... Let's RIDE!

If you are up to snuff on these things you are doing great. If not, you may want to start checking things off "the list", because...we are getting ready to ride and camp out. Pass the word; we would love to have you join us.

MI-TRALE EQ RIDES (OR CAMP OUTS) 2015:

We have set 2 days each month as target dates. We would like to propose a camp out at the Ontonagon Township Park on Lake Superior... (YES on Lake Superior)..., where EQ camping has recently been set up. Huge thanks to those recreational planners. I am excited about this, are you?

TIMES AND LOCATIONS TO BE ANNOUNCED:

If anyone is interested in any or all of the rides, RSVP us. I will put you on a "MI-TRALE EQ Ride List"...and keep you updated. If you have a favorite location to ride and want to include it in our schedule, please let us know.

RIDE DATES ARE:

Sat June 27, Sat July 11, Fri July 24, Mon Aug 17, Sat Aug 29, Fri Sept 18, Sat Sept 26.

OBJECTIVES for 2015:

Beyond the joy of riding together, we have an objective; to become familiar with and help the DNR to promote the EQ trails in our area. We have a goal to work with the DNR, and suggest we help to map and sign them and get them on the DNR web site. Some of the DNR trails to ride: Bill Nicholls Route, Ottawa East Connector Route, Sidnaw-Bergland Route and Iron River-Marenisco Route. We also plan to ride prospective future trails south of Bruce Crossing. Again, this is a part of your fun and a part of helping to promote EQ opportunities in the Western U.P.

COURTNEY EQ TRAILS:

A reminder, we maintain these trails via our maintenance agreement with the Ottawa National Forest, supporting each other in trail improvements and projects. If you would like to join the team, you can visit MI-TRALE.org for a membership application. If you would like to help for just "the day" at any of our work bees, you can simply sign a FREE day membership form offered on site by MI-TRALE.

Trails are groomed and maps are posted. There is still logging activity on trails south/east of the lake, which limits riding in that area. YEAH....a river crossing is not just being talked about, but IN THE PLANS. MI-TRALE has significant grant funds to repair the ground and post more signage in the future. Suggested; shared trail etiquette, invasive species, and highway signage.

GEOCACHING WITH MI-TRALE:

MI-TRALE is now an official Geocaching member; Visit GEOCACHING.COM. We have stashed Geocaches on the Courtney EQ Trails and there are plans to do the same on the ORV "Pioneer Trail". We had fun putting them in place. We hope you have fun searching for them!!!

MICHIGAN DEPT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (MDNR) PROPOSED CAMP SITE - NEAR THE COURTNEY EQ TRAILS:

MI-TRALE with a lot of public support, proposed this camp ground some time ago. The DNR has been reviewing it. The proposal is to have equestrian sites available yet to have a camp ground which will be open to the general public. MI-TRALE plans to "partner-up" with the DNR and offer help throughout the proposed project.

There are other great roads to ride in the area, north of Highway M-38, on DNR managed property.

We welcome any comments, concerns about the trail conditions and of course, your help. Our meetings are open to the public on the first Monday of each month.

On a personal note, I have been told to ride my horse more, so I can keep up. Yes...that is the plan. Hope to see you this summer. Wishing you all the best.

Cathy Wainio, Equestrian Director MI-TRALE

Email at: cndwainio@yahoo.com H: 906-988-2232 W: 906-358-4577 ext. 4154

Did you know.....

- The horse has one stomach. In contrast, cattle, sheep, goats, bison, deer, elk, caribou, moose, and camels are "ruminants" which means (among other things) they have four digestive chambers instead of just one stomach.
- The horse is an herbivore, which means it feeds mostly on plants.
- The normal horse's small intestine is about 70 feet long.
- The normal horse's large intestine is about 12 feet long.
- The average horse's heart weighs approximately 9 or 10 pounds. The great New Zealand / Australian racehorse, Phar Lap, had a heart that weighed 14 pounds. The great American racehorse Secretariat had a heart estimated during his autopsy to weigh 21 pounds, though the heart was not weighed.
- Horses produce approximately 10 gallons of saliva a day.



MI-TRALE awards Educational Scholarships for the 2nd Year.

Michigan Trails and Recreation Alliance of Land and the Environment (MI-TRALE) supports the believe that you must give back to the communities that support them. One of the ways that they do this is to contribute toward the education of our youth. The winners of the 2015 MI-TRALE scholarships are:

Aleksei Pestka from Ontonagon High School

Cody Isabel from the Ewen- Trout Creek High School.

MI-TRALE extends their congratulations to both, and wish them the very best.

The selection was based on a brief essay written by the competing students on themselves which included their GPA, community volunteering they have done, and their plans after graduation.

The MI-TRALE Educational Committee read the essays and selected the winners based on criteria including continuing volunteerism and their educational success. The committee feels this criterion will build a successful citizen for the community.



Aleksei Pestka –Ontonagon School
Kim Sims – Director MI-TRALE



Jim Altenburg – Vice President MI-TRALE
Cody Isabel – Ewen-Trout Creek School
Kim Sims – Director MI-TRALE
Mary Lou Driesenga – Scholarship Committee MI-TRALE

RIDE, EAT & MEET! Does it get any better than that??

July 6 General Membership Meeting & BBQ

Ride at 5pm to 6:30pm; Dinner at 6:30; Meeting at 7pm in the outdoor Pavilion – Bring your own meat, drinks and something to share. Running Bear will have the grill going.

Running Bear Resort is conveniently located at:
US Hwy 45 Paulding MI

*Next Newsletter deadline
for article & picture
submissions is 9/4/2015.
mitrale.pr@gmail.com*

MDNR Multi-Use Routes & Horses

Equestrians have use of the multi-use routes maintained by MI-TRALE and are found in the trail guide book:

Bill Nicholls Route

Ottawa East Connector Route

Sidnaw-Bergland Route

Iron River-Marenisco Route

These routes are open to other uses including motor vehicle travel, ATV's, ORV's, motorcycles, hikers and mountain bikes so be prepared and stay alert!

www.michigan.gov/dnr

MICHIGAN TRAIL FACTS

The Michigan ORV trail/route system covers 3,700 miles with 73% on state forests. Of the system, 30% is cycle trail, 50% is ATV trail and 20% is route.

In the Lower Peninsula, the system is the only legal place to ride Non-Secretary of State licensed ORVs on public lands other than frozen waters.

In the Upper Peninsula, it is legal for ORVs to operate on state forest roads as well as the designated trail system, unless a specific state forest road is posted closed to ORV use. Trails are lightly groomed and riders are likely to encounter narrow sand trails, rough moguls, steep hills, stumps, rocks, brush, loose surfaces and other hazards.

Information courtesy of:

<http://www.michigan.gov/dnr>



**MICHIGANS 2015
FREE ORV WEEKEND**

August 22 & 23

This means you can ride on
Michigan trails for free.
You do not to purchase
a permit or license

MI-TRALE has a ride scheduled!
Come ride with us!

2015 MI-TRALE ORV Safety Class Held

On May 26th MI-TRALE presented its first in-school ORV Safety Class to Linda Johanson's 6th grade class at the Ontonagon Elementary school. There were 15 students that took the class and passed to get their safety cards. The instructors for the class were MI-TRALE VP Jim Altenburg and he was assisted by Michigan CO Brian Lasanen.

MI-TRALE will be scheduling a class in south Ontonagon County for mid-July. The date will be announced in June by MI-TRALE. If you have an interest in the July Safety class please contact Jim Altenburg. His email is: meaandme12@gmail.com

MI-TRALE has been providing the ORV safety training for several years. The training is required before an ORV safety certificate can be issued. It is important that all ORV users are familiar with how to safely operate an ORV, and the rules that must be followed in the state of Michigan. When an ORV is used safely and within the law, we have a better chance of keeping our trails open.





Michigan Trails and Recreation Alliance of Land and The Environment

Links you may find handy.....

MI-TRALE Website:

<http://mi-trale.org/>

Follow MI-TRALE on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/MI-TRALE/120763167985263>

Multi-use Trail Guide on EBAY:

http://www.ebay.com/itm/2014-Trails-Guide-for-the-Western-UP-of-Michigan-with-Ottawa-Forest-Roads-/201241212550?pt=LH_DefaultDomain_0&hash=item2edae93686#ht_82wt_1153

MI-TRALE apparel:

<http://mi-trale.org/club-news/apparel/>

MDOT Highway weather cameras:

<http://mdotnetpublic.state.mi.us/drive/Default.aspx>

Do you have some riding photos you'd like to share? ATV, bicycle, horse, other.....

MITRALE is in need of new photos for use in promotional items and the Newsletter. Send them to Janet at:

MITRALE.PR@GMAIL.COM



MI-TRALE & DNR 4th Annual SPORT Ride

On June 13th over 100 ATV riders participated in the 4th annual State Park Off Road Trek (SPORT) ride. This year the ride started at the Twin Lakes State Park, or the Baraga State Park with a social hour at Twin Lakes State Park from 9:00 to 10:00 with beverages, donuts, and cookies provided. After a brief welcome and safety talk the riders headed out for the Ontonagon Township Park. Brief stops were taken at the triple trestles over the Firesteel, and the Adventure Mine in Greenland. Khrist Kennedy stated “Was a great day for a ride, we had a wide variety of trail conditions and weather. There were even a few flat tires and breakdowns to challenge us. The Parks at either end of the ride offered a very special treat with a small inland lake at one end to the largest freshwater lake in the world at the other.”

After a leisurely 3 hour ride the riders arrived at the Ontonagon Township Park on the shore of Lake Superior where food was made available by the Ontonagon County Animal Protection (OCAP) group. At the park there were tables set up by the Ontonagon County Historical Society, Friends of the Porkies, Ottawa National Forest, MI-TRALE, and the Ontonagon County Chamber of Commerce, each sharing what they do for the community.

After a good meal the riders headed on their own afternoon adventures, with a few getting back to Twin Lakes after 7:00.

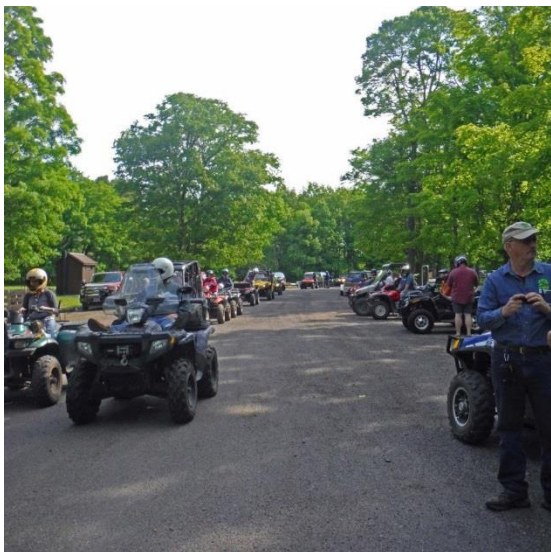
It was a great day of riding even with some rain in the afternoon that kept the dust down, but did not dampen spirits.

Don Helsel stated “That without the active support of our partners this ride would not happen. MI-TRALE would like to thank the Michigan DNR, especially the Twin Lakes and Baraga State Parks, the Ontonagon County Chamber of Commerce, Ontonagon County Animal Protection organization, Ottawa National Forest (Ontonagon District), Ontonagon Township Park, the Village of Ontonagon, and all of the services that stepped up to make this ride another success for the area.”

4th Annual S.P.O.R.T. Ride

June 13, 2015

Michigan's Free ORV Weekend



Dates to Remember, Volunteering & Fun!

July 6 - General Membership Meeting, Ride & BBQ

– Ride at 5pm to 6:30pm
Dinner at 6:30 & Meeting at 7pm in the outdoor Pavilion

– Bring your own meat, drinks and something to share.

- Running Bear will have the grill going ☺

– Running Bear Resort is at:
US Hwy 45 Paulding, MI.



All meeting dates can be found on our website at: www.mi-trale.org

8th Annual Senior Citizen Fall Color OHV Tour

September 24, 2015

Side by Sides needed to transport the seniors!

Spend the day sharing the fall colors from the trails with a senior

It's a day you won't forget!

Contact Kim if you can help or for more info

863-528-5156



The MI-TRALE Newsletter is accepting your news, events & photos at the new email address for the Newsletter:

MITRALE.PR@GMAIL.COM

Please send Janet your submissions.

WE NEED TRAIL SPOTTERS!

A trail spotter is someone who will ride the trails throughout the season, especially after storms or strong winds and report back to us if there are downed trees or problem areas. The spotter can also remove the downed trees if they are capable. We need someone from the Iron River or Watersmeet area to check the IM trail which runs between these two towns. We have other trails we need help with also, call Mike if you are interested
906-827-3208