## Michigan Trails and Recreation Alliance of Land and the Environment

# **MI-TRALE NEWS**

P.O. Box 43

Ontonagon, MI 49953-0043

November 2016

www.mi-trale.org

### **BOARD of DIRECTORS**

PRESIDENT – Don Helsel <u>dhelsel1@charter.net</u> VICE-PRESIDENT–Marvin Westerdahl <u>kc2ku@toast.net</u> SECRETARY – Linda Schulz <u>lschulz@runningbearresort.com</u> TREASURER – Dave Bishop <u>mitrale49953@gmail.com</u> DIRECTORS - Russ Diethert <u>rfd403@aol.com</u> - Cindy Grams <u>peppermillgrams@charter.net</u> Khris Kennedy <u>kkennedy64@yahoo.com</u> - Dan Sullivan <u>ninepilot@aol.com</u> Cathy Wainio <u>cndwainio@yahoo.com</u>



## From Under the President's Helmet:

#### **2016 Recap**

It has been an interesting year for MI-TRALE. Your club has been awarded grants totaling \$174,000 (\$127,000 DNR Grants, \$40,000 RAC Title II Projects, \$4,000 LVD 2% Grant), supported the training of over 100 6 grade riders to become ATV safety certified riders, published our new 134 page Trails Guide with an included folding map insert, and graded and refurbished over 64 miles of ORV trail. MI-TRALE sponsored and participated in 9 major events, and initiated the MI-TRALE Ambassador Program. MI-TRALE has continued to grow each year, and with your support we will continue to grow in years to come. I do ask that you reach out to your riding friends and encourage that they join MI-TRALE and help us grow. The larger we become, the more people will listen to what we have to say and the more we can give back to our members. I believe that most of you know that MI-TRALE receives funding from the Michigan DNR to brush and sign your designated trails. However, that leaves 250 miles of club sponsored connector trails that your club must fund. This year the multiple storms that came through the area resulted in down trees and washed out trails. All of which required additional volunteer hours to manage and clean up so riders could enjoy our trails safely. All of the hours that we spend on the trails doing maintenance are done without compensation or reimbursement. We feel that it is important to put your membership dollars on the ground and not in someone's pocket. This can only continue if our volunteer base continues to grow. This is where you can help your club, your trails. Offer to volunteer some time in 2017 to complete some trail work. If volunteers do not increase, we will have to reconsider how to manage our trails maintenance program.

Not bad for a small club in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, your club.

## **Counting You:**

MI-TRALE placed several counters on the trails this year as a pilot to help us understand how to improve our trail maintenance program. The counter located at Twin Lakes on the Bill Nicholls trail had a count of 12,000 machines from April 1<sup>st</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>. We will collect readings from additional counters later this fall and review the data this winter.

## **Your Support Requested:**

Folks, here is an opportunity to participate in developing the next 5 year Recreation Plan for the County of Ontonagon.

Please log into the site below and take the short survey to support an increase of recreational opportunities in the county and provide your opinion on several projects. Your input is important. https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ontonagoncountyrecreation

Forward to friends that live in Ontonagon County or those that comes to the county for recreation. The more response that we have the better the plan will represent your recreational priorities.

There are several projects that MI-TRALE is currently supporting: The development of a Family Recreational Facility located on nearly 1,000 acres of county property located off of Himanka Hill Road, A rustic camp ground (open to ORV users) across from the County Campground which is located on Lake Gogebic, and a ORV/Paddlers rustic campground located on the Firesteel River mouth.

Note that the survey closes the end of October, but we were told that it would remain open a few weeks longer. The board encourages you take the survey, even if you do not live in Ontonagon County. We care that you visit and spend recreational time in the county. Please mark the survey as not in the county, but complete the survey.

## **Tread Lightly Coming to Michigan**

MI-TRALE, which is a member of Tread Lightly, was contacted to ask us to partner with the Michigan DNR and the Ottawa Nation Forest to introduce the Tread Lightly program to Michigan. You will start seeing the campaign logo (**Ride on Michigan**) in the next few months. This is an important initiative and will be instrumental in helping us to not only keep open our current trails, but to add additional trails in the future. We have an article on this program in this newsletter. Please watch for the press releases and support this program where ever you ride.

On a fun note. My wife and I took some time out to ride across the 5 mile bridge (Mighty Mac) that connects the lower to the upper peninsula of Michigan this past October. It was the ride of a lifetime. If you get the chance you need to sign up for the 2017 ride. If you have an interest; Google "Trek the Mighty Mac", and enjoy. Enjoy your winter and remember to prep your machine for the winter season. See some useful hints in this newsletter. As always let us know what you like or do not like about your trail system.

Thank you for your support

Donald Helsel President: MI-TRALE





## **Courtney Equestrian Trails News**

Cathy Wainio EQ Director Reports:

#### **NEWS FROM THE MI-TRALE EQUESTRIANS**

We are having some wonderful beautiful fall weather. Crisp cool air, a warming sun and beautiful foliage color. What a pleasure. I really appreciate living in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan with it's "four seasons". The summer flew by. I look forward to a few more rides on grass and leaves, and I am looking forward to winter riding on my new horse.

As the summer winds down, we are busy with finalizing our trail projects.

New signs have arrived for the Courtney Equestrian Trails; invasive species, trail etiquette and trail courtesy yield signs. We hope to have them installed in the spring. They are the beginning our MI-TRALE's overall goal of helping trail users to understand how to safely share the trails and enjoy encounters with any and all trail users. The Courtney EQ Trails are shared with ATV'rs and hikers, so these signs include instruction and yield signs for these user types. The invasive species sign will help us to identify and report findings to the Ottawa National Forest. Invasives seem harmless, until they "grow" into a larger problem. So noticing and removing them early is a good idea.

The Forest Service's Pori Projects are actively improving the forest. We appreciate the care they are taking for vegetation, fish and wildlife. One logging project is complete and has left great improvements for the trails. Two future logging projects will do the same. We will do our best to keep tabs on them and post signs at the trail head, so you know what to expect.

We are managing three grants for trail improvements. One will help pay for the signs mentioned above and on future trail needs. A second grant has a small amount of remaining funds which we expected to be spent yet this fall on trail maintenance and repairs on one of three locations. Other grant funds will be spent on or near the future river crossing.

We have told you about a proposed Equestrian friendly campground on DNR property near the Courtney EQ Trails. There are new thoughts on this. One of which is that large rigs may have problems because of the sandy ground. So, alternate locations are being considered. This may bring us new opportunities to ride and enjoy more trails. I am looking forward to investigating the possibilities with our DNR friends.

Next summer we will catch up with Ontonagon County and the Himanka Hill area's "Family off Road Riding Facility", where both ATV and Horse trails are being proposed. Again there is logging going on there, which will enhances trail possibilities. It is an area with small rolling hills and the proposal will offer a nice place for disbursed camping and riding. We are looking forward to this project also.

On a personal note, my older horse that has befriended me on the trails, camping and in parades, is not able to make the miles anymore. So, Babe and I have welcomed a new horse Cheyenne, into the barn. These two mares are great medicine for me. They greet me and follow me. They welcome chickens into their stalls and pasture, and believe it or not they both enjoy petting the barn cat with their lips, and they don't mind my crazy overactive dog. Horses are gentle giants...one of God's best, I think.

Let's talk a bit about volunteering. We look for and appreciate your input and any help you offer. There are only a few of us who are spreading ourselves too thin. It is often the case that 90 percent of our free time spent on the trails are not enjoyed in our chosen recreation, but power sawing, shoveling, clearing brush and posting signs. This is actually how some volunteers spend their vacation; working for others. Please ask yourself; can you help out? Thanks much! And remember why we do it...so you and others can enjoy the trails.

Have a great day! Have a great ride!

Cathy Wainio, EQ Director H #906-988-2232 cndwainio@yahoo.com

Janet Miesbauer, EQ Committee and Public Relations MI-TRALE UP Representative for Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources EQ Trails Subcommittee Cell/Text: 906-231-6424 Email: <u>MITRALE.PR@GMAIL.COM</u>



## January 9, 2017 Annual Membership Meeting and Elections

We hope you can join us!

## Location: Stannard Township Building, Bruce Crossing

We will start at 6pm ET with a Spaghetti potluck dinner – please bring a dish to pass.

7pm ET the meeting will begin with elections, then an overview of our year and finishing up we will set our 2017 calendar of meetings, events, trail work days and club rides.

The positions up for election are: President, Secretary and 3 Directors.

# WE NEED HELP! Just ONE DAY would really help out! Any day you have to give we surely could find a job for you! You don't need a 4-wheeler to help, we have trails you can check in a truck, by foot, by bike or horseback. Jobs of very light work to heavier work We even have paperwork you could help with. Please keep us in mind Just give us a call 906-827-3208, 906-884-4546

## **Ambassador Program**

Thank You Ambassadors! The program has been well received by the public and judging from the comments received on the trail and from other individuals, the introduction of the Ambassador Program has been a success.

The program was formally introduced in August, although some of us have been performing as Ambassadors since June. Currently, we have 11 ambassadors out on the trails. Because of the success of the program, it has been expanded to include our Michigan Department of Natural Resources partners while we perform maintenance and ride their sponsored trails.

The Mission Statement of the Ambassadors is MI-TRALE specially trained volunteers will interact with the recreation public in partnership with the Ottawa National Forest to promote and monitor the trail system; providing trail services, assistance and education while providing a positive and informative role model. Ambassadors will by example promote responsible riding, rules of the trail and trail safety. Ambassadors will encourage and promote the protection of the natural resources, proper conservation practices and the future of the sport. Ambassadors may complete minor trail repairs and report those repairs beyond their capabilities.

The ambassadors while on the trails wear a neon green vest and fly a pennant of the same color. Please stop to say hi to them should you see them on the trail. They will also provide assistance and even sell you one of our new Guides. If you have not seen the new guides, they have been updated to contain all our new trails and contain a great deal of expanded information packed into the 135 pages of the guide. And, they now contain a "pull out" folding map which you can take with you on the trail.



TRAVEL RESPONSIBLY, RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS and AVOID SENSITIVE AREAS







#### Report Trail problems:

**ATV/ORV** – Mike Schulz 906-827-3208

**Equestrian** – Cathy Wainio, Equestrian Director MI-TRALE Email at: <u>cndwainio@yahoo.com</u> H: 906-988-2232 W: 906-358-4577 ext. 4154





# RIDE ON DESIGNATED ROUTES IN MICHIGAN

Did you know Michigan Department of Natural Resources has partnered with Treadlightly! and the U.S. Forest Service to spread the message of the importance of riding only on designated routes throughout the state? The national Ride On campaign is being introduced throughout the state to educate outdoor recreationist who use motorized vehicles on private and public lands.

Why you might ask? It is as simple as the Ride On campaign slogan: Respected Access is Open Access. Simply put, when you fail to stay on the trail, should it be public or private lands, you and others may very well lose the ability to use that trail. And, other trails. We have all seen those who have left the trail and caused damage to the surrounding environment. There are many within MI-TRALE who have worked very hard for many years to obtain trails you now ride. MI-TRALE members work closely in partnership with the Ottawa National Forest and Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and private landowners so that you may enjoy the trails. When you ride off the trail, you not only damage the environment, but make it more difficult to obtain additional trail access. In addition, provide ammunition for those who would like to remove all motorized vehicles from not only the trails but the forests, countrywide.

So, you like to ride or even use our public lands for other sports. How do you preserve your ability to access those lands? Well, Treadlightly! has produced some hangtags specific for Michigan and they state in part:

#### **Avoid Sensitive Areas:**

- Such as meadows, lakeshore, wetlands
- Stay on designated routes
- Protect wildlife habitat and sensitive soils
- Don't disturb historical, archaeological or paleontological sites
- On water, avoid operating your watercraft in shall waters or near shorelines at high speed

#### Do Your Part by:

- Model appropriate responsible behavior
- Leave an area better than you found it
- Properly dispose of waste
- Minimize the use of fire
- Avoid the spread of invasive species

#### And, respect the land of others.

Now really is it that hard? Of course not and in doing so, you will preserve the ability of others and even future generations to use the land. At MI-TRALE, as volunteers, without compensation, even for our personal equipment, we work very hard for you our members. We work hard to not only obtain trails for your use, but monitor and provide maintenance on them so that you have a great experience while riding them. We work closely with many partners such as the DNR, Ottawa, landowners, local municipalities and businesses. We do this for you. All we ask is you respect the land and stay on the trail so we can obtain access to even more trails and make your rides even a greater and more enjoyable experience!

# Volume II is here!



#### GREAT NEWS FOLKS - THE "MULTI-USE TRAILS GUIDE - VOLUME 2" IS HERE!

Your Guide Book Committee has been working on the new guide book for the past several months and we believe it is the best trail guide book you can buy. It features trails for the Western Upper Peninsula of Michigan that will take you through some of the most beautiful remote forested areas you would want to visit. Trails are mapped for ORV, motorized trail bikes, horses, mountain bikes, hiking, and water trails, all our favorite wilderness summer sports. Also featured are destination spots, suggested "trips" for various users to help you plan your ride, as well as informational ads from enthusiastic businesses who offer all you need to make your trip enjoyable.

We have had some excellent feedback from trail travelers about our maps and guides, who have encouraged us and helped us to improve the guide. From that, we have decided to include a Bonus Removable Map attached within the guide book. The folding removable map provides a basic trail map and basic business contact information. It is convenient and easy to carry. The guide book gives you a very comprehensive detailed guide for Western Upper Peninsula trails, various amenities, and information on trail signs and rules. It has all you need to know.

We welcome you to the trails and are sure you will enjoy your visit to the great Western Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Guide books can be purchased for \$15.00 from our supporters which are listed on our website at: <u>http://mi-trale.org/atv-orv/maps/</u> information on how to order online can also be found there.

## MI-TRALE Speaks at the Ottawa National Forest 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

In 1931 our land in the western U.P. had been eroded and decimated by the lumber and mining industry. Little timber remained as it had been cut over without regard to the future as it was felt the timber would last forever. Without environmental controls, the land was mined without regard for the future and our environment. Fortunately, in 1931 President Hoover signed a proclamation, creating the Ottawa National Forest. As noted in the Ottawa's tagline, Caring for the land and serving the people, they have done just that and in a manner which returned the beauty of the land to what it is today. For which, we should all should be extremely grateful.

On August 4th the Ottawa celebrated their 85th anniversary at their Kenton office. It was nicely attended by not only personnel from the Ottawa, but environmental groups, MI-TRALE and many local residents.

The program commenced with Ontonagon County Veterans Association raising the flag for the ceremony. Linda Jackson, Ottawa Forest Supervisor then gave opening remarks which went into some detail of the history of the Ottawa. She was followed by Frank Pentti, Duncan Township Supervisor who spoke to the importance of the Ottawa's presence in the local community. He gave a very interesting and detailed history of the township and the very important part the forest industry and the Ottawa plays in the community. A MI-TRALE representative then spoke going briefly into to the history of the Ottawa, noting appreciation for all they have achieved in the 85 years of their history. Next, discussed the importance of MI-TRALE's partnership not only with the Ottawa but other partners such as the Michigan DNR, other clubs, groups, local communities and businesses. A brief history and composition of MI-TALE was voiced stressing we are a multi-use club, comprised of volunteers who give freely of our time and equipment and without compensation. And, work very hard to not only maintain and protect the trail system and environment, but encourage tourism to expand the opportunities of those in the area. The Ambassador program was given as an example of our partnership with the Ottawa as well as the DNR. Special thanks were given to not only the Ottawa but a number of our Ottawa partners. Lastly, special thanks for all the folks within the Ottawa who have been so great to partner with on almost a daily basis.

The last speaker was Randy Charles from the Ottawa who opened the Time Capsule and discussed the contents of items to be added. It is expected the next time it will be opened will be for the 100 year anniversary.

The attendees then moved to the Duncan Township Hall where the Cutover was introduced and scenes reproduced. It went into the history of the area and the results of the wood and mining prior to President Hoover's proclamation. It was very interesting and very well done.

Lastly, a cake was cut by Smokey the Bear, followed by pictures and open house to meet the Forest Service staff. Very well done by our Ottawa National Forest partners.

## **GEOCACHING WITH MI-TRALE 2016**

We have had an active and successful year. We have added to the caches throughout the year; some varied and creative caches.

-5 Caches on the Courtney EQ Trails

-7 Caches on the Pioneer

-2 Caches on the SB

-1 Cache on the OC

At the request of some land managers and to insure we do the best job of maintaining our caches, some will be removed from remote areas for the winter months. Some caches will not last the elements without a little extra attention and some areas cannot be reached during the winter. But where we are able, we have placed some adventurous caches out there for you to find.

Janet is MI-TRALE's Geocache Manager and has tracked 54 hits so far this year. Our travel bugs are on the move and being enjoyed. "Ted the Turtle" is on his way to visit his relatives the sea turtles and "Urho of Courtney" is on his way to the next Kentucky Derby.

Ted the turtle has travelled 3203 miles! He is taking the scenic route he has been to 5 different places in Tennessee, two places in Florida, 2 places in Illinois and now he is in Colorado

Urho of Courtney has travelled 289 miles. All of his stops have been in Wisconsin, seven different stops.

A big thank you to all who put out for this project. A big thank you to Janet for keeping track of and managing our caches.

Last year one of the forest's fine furry friends showed some intense interest in one of the caches and we had to replace it. This year we have only human "hits" on the caches, and we have had allot of positive feedback on Geocache.com.

We are happy to contribute to such fun. If you notice that any of the caches need maintenance, please let us know. If you want to become involved please do, because planting caches is half the fun.

Be safe and have fun out in the forest, in the great and beautiful Western Upper Peninsula of Michigan. We love it here.



# **Thank You**

For our members who took the time to send in their comments regarding the Forest wide Designated Motorized Use Project, thank you.

The board of MI-TRALE works hard to open new trails and maintain those we have currently. We appreciate your support and especially those who find a few hours to support the club by working on our trails. We are all volunteers, working without compensation and without your support we would not be able maintain the 550 miles of trails for you. Volunteers are the life blood of our club and if you have a few hours to ride the trails as spotters or assist in trail maintenance, it would be very much appreciated.



## **MI-TRALE Benefits from LVD 2% Grant**

Michigan Trails and Recreation Alliance of Land and the Environment (MI-TRALE) would like to announce that the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians (LVD) has identified MI-TRALE as a recipient of 2016 2% grant funds.

Don Helsel, the president of MI-TRALE stated that "This is an example of how by working together we can make things happen for our area." Helsel further stated "MI-TRALE will be evaluating several projects in the Watersmeet area that this grant could be applied toward. All of us involved would like to thank the LVD 2% Committee for providing these funds."

MI-TRALE currently maintains over 300 miles of DNR Designated trails/routes and over 550 total miles of trails/routes in the 5 counties in the Western UP. If you would like to plan your experience on the trails in the Western UP, please purchase Volume 2 of the 134 page MULTI-Use Trails Guide of the Western UP of Michigan. These can be found in the Ironwood, and Houghton Walmart's, and at many local businesses that are listed at www.mi-trale.org.





## **Upcoming Activities for the Year 2016**

- Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting Bruce Crossing Township building
- **Dec**. 5<sup>th</sup> General Membership Meeting Bruce Crossing Township building

## TBA:

S.P.O.R.T. Ride

Monthly rides dates & location TBA

09/28/2017 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Color Tour.



Follow MI-TRALE on Facebook for times and ride details! https://www.facebook.com/pages/MI-TRALE/120763167985263

## **MI-TRALE Holds its Annual Banquet**

On Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, MI-TRALE held its annual banquet at the Honey House in Greenland. It was a special and very relaxing evening beginning with a social hour, followed by opening remarks and the welcoming of guests and members.

Special guests who attended were Shelly Garber, of the Ottawa National Forest who is a Natural Resource Specialist. Also attending from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources was Rich Pirhonen who is a Parks and Recreation Ranger at the Twin Lakes State Park.

We were also very fortunate to have in attendance Mr. Gary Murrey, Lac Vieux Desert Resort and Casino General Manager.

After introduction of the special guests, the MI-TRALE board members and their spouses were introduced, recognizing their individually hard work throughout the year.

A delicious roast beef dinner followed by homemade apple pie was served by the Honey House. The food and service was very, very good.

After dinner, Mr. Gary Murrey, the General Manager of the Lac Vieux Desert Resort and Casino presented MI-TRALE with a check for \$4,000. The proceeds for the check will be used to improve the trails in and around the Watersmeet area. Special appreciation was given to the resort for their continued support of MI-TRALE and their volunteers who give so much without pay and compensation.

Linda Schulz provided a presentation outlining the highlights for the year. It was a great power point presentation, complete with photos of our accomplishments and actions throughout the year. Thank You Linda for a great job. It was very enjoyable.

Next, several people were recognized for their special achievements and going over and above what may be expected in their volunteer efforts throughout the year. Those recognized are as follows:

President's Award – Linda Schulz President's Award – Marvin Westerdahl Unity Award – Twin Lakes State Park Special Award – Cindy Grams Special Award – Kim Sims Partner Recognition – Ottawa National Forest Special Thank You – Linda and Mile Schulz

The banquet was concluded with closing remarks and thanks to all those who gave so much of their time throughout the year in support of Ottawa, DNR, ATVers, businesses and communities throughout the year.

Everyone had a nice time and it was great to just relax and enjoy each other's company. Hopefully, more members will be able to attend next year's banquet which has been a highlighted annual affair.



In Photo: L – R: Cindy Grams (MI-TRALE Director), Cathy Wainio (MI-TRALE Director), Linda Schulz (MI-TRALE Secretary), Marv Westerdahl (MI-TRALE Vice President), Gary Murrey (LVD General Manager), Dave Bishop (MI-TRALE Treasurer), Mike Schulz (MI-TRALE Trail Manager), Khris Kennedy (MI-TRALE Director).

## **MI-TRALE Annual Senior Fall Color Tour Held**

On Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> MI-TRALE conducted its 9<sup>th</sup> annual fall color tour ORV ride. The ride left the Ontonagon County Fairgrounds stopping for photo opportunities at the triple trestles over the Fire Steel, and then continued to Twin Lakes State Park at which time the morning guests were provided a pasty lunch courtesy of Krupp's Mini Mart of Toivola. Once riders finished lunch, they were bused back to Ontonagon and of the afternoon guests, who were bused to the park, had lunch and took the 16 mile ride back to the fairgrounds. In total 125 people took the color tour this year. Although the weather was a little cool and colors not fully in bloom, a really great time was had by all those who attended.

Many of the riders indicated they had been on the ride on numerous occasions. Several riders wanted to make reservations for next year. The oldest guest was 91 years young, the greatest distanced traveled was from Minnesota.

Channel Six News covered the event, interviewed many riders and even rode to Twin Lakes on the morning ride. You may have seen the report on the 7:00 news the evening of the  $22^{nd}$ .

The ride was made possible by MI-TRALE volunteers, The Michigan DNR personnel and Krupp's Mini Mart. The ride would not have been possible without the donation of vehicles from Headwaters Polaris, Pat's Motorsports, Timberline Power Sports and the numerous private individuals who volunteered their machines to take our seniors on the ride.

Thanks to all who helped to make this a success. The generous use of ORV's is very much appreciated!

Hope we see you on the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Color Tour which will be held during the fourth Thursday in September of 2017. Mark this date to attend next year, you will not be disappointed.



## Winter is coming.....

Before bedding down your ATV for the winter, make sure cold, condensation, chemical breakdown, and critters don't turn your spring start-up into a letdown.

1. **Clean and lubricate:** Wash, rinse, and dry your ATV. Bugs and brake dust will only increase the chances of winter corrosion. Wax painted and chromed parts. Lubricate every item that could corrode during a long period of storage: chains, sprockets, cables, and lug nuts, to name a few.

2. **Coolant**: For liquid-cooled machines, top up the coolant, or change it altogether if it's more than two years old. Use the manufacturer's recommended coolant, and make sure the new mix has adequate anti-freeze pro-tection. Freshen up your brake fluid too, or change it if it's due.

3. **Fuel system**: Fill the tank with fresh fuel, and add fuel stabilizer (alcohol-free stabilizer is best, though it can be hard to find). Run the engine for 10 minutes or so to get it up to operating temperature and to distribute stabilizer through the lines. Top up the fuel to 7/8 full, about the bottom of the filler neck, to prevent condensation inside the tank.

4. **Cylinders**: Manufacturer recommendations vary, so check your manual. Some mechanics fog the engine to prevent corrosion: Remove the air filter and spray fogging oil directly into the intake while the engine is running, until the exhaust gets smoky. Replace the filter. (Don't fog if your ATV has a catalytic converter.) Other mechanics drain the carburetor (see Step 5), then remove the spark plugs and pour about a tablespoon of clean motor oil into each cylinder. With the plugs out, cover the holes with a clean rag and turn the engine over a few turns to distribute oil in the cylinders. Replace the plugs. And some mechanics skip this step entirely.

5. **Carburetor:** On carbureted engines, it's important to drain the carburetor, especially if your fuel stabilizer isn't alcohol-free. With the machine running, close the fuel petcock valve and let the engine run out of fuel. Let the engine cool, then locate the drain screw for the float bowl and release the remaining fuel from the carburetor.

6. **Oil**: While the engine is still warm, change the oil and oil filter. Used oil contains acids and combustion by-products that will eat away at the internals over the winter.

7. Battery: Remove the battery and charge it. Store it where it won't freeze and hook it up to a trickle charger.

8. **Tires**: To prep radial tires for winter, some manufacturers suggest doing no more than inflating to slightly above riding pressure. With bias-ply tires, deflate to expel any moisture. Re-inflate to the recommended pressure to avoid flat-spotting—damage caused by sitting in one spot. Even more effective: Set your ATV on a jack stand or blocks.

9. Critter control: Block animals from nesting: Tape over any potential entry points, such as exhaust pipes and intakes.

10. **Protection**: Use a waterproof tarp to protect an ATV stored outside; a breathable cover is better for indoors.



#### Article courtesy of Cottagelife.com



Next Newsletter deadline for article & picture submissions is 02/**10/2017**. 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:

BN OC SB IM LL

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

#### The Michigan Trails Advisory Council

The purpose of the Michigan Trails Advisory Council (MTAC) is to advise the Director of the DNR and the Governor on the creation, development, operation, and maintenance of motorized and nonmotorized trails in the state, including, but not limited to, snowmobile, biking, equestrian, hiking, off-road vehicle, and skiing trails.

#### Quotes about da UP:

"It's an edgy place. I mean, in the sense that it still hangs on out there like a rawhide flap of the old frontier, outposted from the swirl of mainstream America. The U.P. is a hard place. A person has to want to hurt a lot to live there".

---- John G. Mitchell, Audubon Magazine, November 1981---

"In winter we shovel snow and in summer we swat mosquitoes. During the spring and fall we rest up for swatting and shoveling".

---Peter Oikarinen's reply to the often-asked question of Yoopers, "What do you people do up there?" 1987---

"The best thing that could happen to the U.P. would be for someone to bomb the bridge".

---John Voelker, former Michigan Supreme Court Justice and the author of Anatomy of a Murder and Yooper resident---

"Nowhere, probably on the continent, is fall foliage more beautiful in brilliancy or contrasting colors".

---George Shiras, National Geographic, August 1921

"It is one of the prettiest places in the world".

---Henry Ford, 1920's---





Michigan Trails and Recreation Alliance of Land and The Environment

## Links you may find handy.....

MI-TRALE Website: <a href="http://mi-trale.org/">http://mi-trale.org/</a>

Follow MI-TRALE on Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/pages/MI-TRALE/120763167985263">https://www.facebook.com/pages/MI-TRALE/120763167985263</a>

Michigan ORV info: www.michigan.gov/orvinfo

MI-TRALE apparel: <a href="http://mi-trale.org/club-news/apparel/">http://mi-trale.org/club-news/apparel/</a>

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: <u>MITRALE.PR@GMAIL.COM</u>

MDOT Highway weather cameras: <a href="http://mdotnetpublic.state.mi.us/drive/Default.aspx">http://mdotnetpublic.state.mi.us/drive/Default.aspx</a>

Michigan's Invasive Species Program is cooperatively implemented by the Michigan departments of Agriculture & Rural Development, Environmental Quality and Natural Resources. For more information, go to: <u>www.michigan.gov/invasivespecies</u>



# Dates to Remember, Volunteering & Fun!

Volume II of the Trail Guide is available now! Please check out our website for more info and ordering details.

http://mi-trale.org/atvorv/maps/

Our new trail guide contains a fold out map as well!





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

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

## MITRALE.PR@GMAIL.COM

Please send Janet your submissions.

#### Trail License and/or Permit

In Michigan, individuals riding in any place other than private property (trails, frozen surface of public waters and public roads) must purchase an annual ORV license. In addition, riders using state-designated trails must purchase an annual ORV trail permit.

#### **ORV License Requirement:**

An ORV license (\$26.25) is required on eligible county roads, frozen surface of public waters, state forest roads in the Upper Peninsula and eligible national forest roads. A license is not required to operate on private lands. ORV licenses are available at DNR Customer Service Centers, online at www.mdnr-elicense.com, by mail (write to Michigan Department of Natural Resources, PO Box 30181, Lansing, MI 48909), and through participating DNR license agents.

#### **ORV Trail Permit Requirement:**

An ORV trail permit (an additional \$10 for a total of \$36.25) is required when operating on designated ORV Trail / Routes and special ORV-use areas. A trail permit is not required for private lands. ORV trail permits are not valid as a stand-alone license; an ORV license must also be purchased.

## 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