

Protecting the Environment

Tread Lightly!

The Tread Lightly! program supports recreationists by encouraging outdoor ethics. The word “tread” helps us remember to: **Travel responsibly** on roads and trails or in permitted areas.

- ◆ Stay on designated roads. Don't blaze a new trail.
- ◆ Travel only in areas open to your type of vehicle.
- ◆ Drive over obstacles to avoid widening the trail.
- ◆ Cross streams only at designated crossings.
- ◆ Comply with all signs, and respect barriers.
- ◆ Don't mix riding with alcohol or drugs.

Respect the rights of others, including private property owners and all recreational trail users, campers, and others.

- ◆ Slow down around crowds and in camping areas.
- ◆ Never cross private land without permission.
- ◆ Yield the right-of-way when you meet others on the trail.
- ◆ If you meet a horse and rider, turn off your engine.
- ◆ Stay clear of wild animals, and avoid disturbing livestock.
- ◆ Minimize noise, and avoid creating dust.

Educate yourself by obtaining travel maps and regulations from public agencies, and knowing how to use and operate your equipment safely.

- ◆ Get maps that show the area where you plan to ride.
- ◆ Learn about regulations governing OHVs in the area.

Avoid sensitive areas such as meadows, lakeshores, wetlands, and streams. Stay on designated routes.

- ◆ Avoid sensitive habitats.
- ◆ Stay out of designated wilderness areas.

Do your part by leaving the area better than you found it, properly disposing of waste, minimizing the use of fire, avoiding the spread of invasive species, and restoring degraded areas.

- ◆ Practice minimum impact camping.
- ◆ Equip your vehicle with a spark arrestor.
- ◆ Before and after a ride, wash your vehicle to reduce the spread of invasive species.

Michigan's ORV Trails

Michigan's public ORV system offers thousands of miles of trail and route riding opportunities.

- ◆ These trails may be lightly groomed. Riders are likely to encounter narrow sand trails, rough moguls, steep hills, stumps, rocks, brush, loose surfaces, and other hazards.
- ◆ Michigan's ORV trails and routes are designed for two-way travel. Users always need to stay to the right and be alert for oncoming traffic.
 - Trails may be designed for motorcycles and ATVs and are recommended for *advanced riders only*.
 - Be alert at all times when riding on routes designated for other vehicles, including automobiles and trucks. Many times, drivers of larger vehicles fail to notice smaller motorcycles and ATVs.
- ◆ To prepare for safety:
 - Always make sure your ORV is in good operating condition.
 - Check the gas level before riding. In one hour, riders can travel farther than they can walk in eight.
 - Don't forget your tools, trail maps, a first-aid kit, and a compass.
 - Always ride with a companion.
 - Keep your lights on at all times while operating your ORV.
 - Know your local emergency telephone numbers before you ride.

ORV Law Information

Call or write:

Dept. of Natural Resources
Law Enforcement Division
P.O. Box 30031
Lansing, MI 48909-7931
517-373-1230
TDD 517-373-1079

Dept. of Natural Resources
Forest, Mineral, & Fire
Management Division
P.O. Box 30452
Lansing, MI 48909-7952
517-373-1275

TTY Hearing Impaired
711 (Michigan Relay Center)

The Michigan DNR Forest Certification Program

In recent years, forest certification has developed as a way to verify sustainable forest management. It is an outgrowth of the desire of many communities in our nation, and throughout the world, for forest managers to demonstrate responsible, healthy, and sustainable management of our forests.

Forest Certification:

- Reviews on-the-ground forest practices against standards that address environmental, social, and economic issues.
- Provides for an independent, third-party view attesting to how effectively current management maintains a forest's health and productivity.
- Periodically re-verifies and recertifies after initial certification of the forest.

On May 28, 2004, Act No 125, Public Acts of 2004 was signed into law by Governor Granholm. The "Sustainable Forestry Act" required that as of January 1, 2006, the Department of Natural Resources seek and maintain forestry certification by at least one credible, non-profit, non-governmental certification program.

In December of 2005, Michigan's State Forests were certified under both the Sustainable Forest Initiative (SFI) and the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).

Michigan Department of Natural Resources Operation Service Centers

Baraga Operations Service Center

427 US-41 North
Baraga, MI 49908
906-353-6651

Bay City Operations Service Center

3580 State Park Drive
Bay City, MI 48706
989-684-9141

Cadillac Operations Service Center

8015 Mackinaw Trail
Cadillac, MI 49601
231-775-9727

Gaylord Operations Service Center

1732 West M-32
Gaylord, MI 49735
989-732-3541

Marquette Operations Service Center

1990 US-41 South
Marquette, MI 49855
906-228-6561

Newberry Operations Service Center

5100 State Highway M-123
Newberry, MI 49868
906-293-5131

Plainwell Operations Service Center

621 North 10th Street
Plainwell, MI 49080
269-685-6851

Roscommon Operations Service Center

I-75 & M-18 South
8717 North Roscommon Rd.
Roscommon, MI 48653
989-275-5151

Rose Lake Field Office

8562 Stoll Rd.
East Lansing, MI 48823
517-641-4903

Southfield Operations Service Center

26000 W. Eight Mile Rd.
Southfield, MI 48034
248-359-9040

Visit the DNR website

www.michigan.gov/dnr

Obtain information about:

- State parks and recreation areas
- Trail information and maps
- More education courses
- Renewing licenses
- DNR's Division of Law Enforcement

To ensure the enjoyment for future riders,
report riding violations.
1-800-292-7800



ORV Trail Signs



ORV Route Marker

- for ORVs of all sizes
- sections require DNR license unless licensed by Secretary of State



Michigan Cross-Country Cycle Trail Marker

- for motorcycles
- sections require DNR license and Secretary of State license



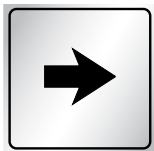
ATV Trail Marker

- for ATVs and motorcycles
- DNR license required



Cycle Trail Marker

- for motorcycles
- DNR license required



Directional Arrow



Mixed Traffic



Stop Sign



Stop Ahead



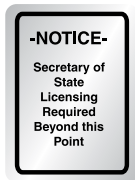
No Motorized Wheeled Vehicles



Stay On Trail



Private Property



License Required

Michigan Department of Natural Resources

To report a violation, call the DNR complaint line at

1-800-292-7800

Law Enforcement517-373-1230

Mason Building

Fourth Floor

P.O. Box 30031

Lansing, MI 48909

TTY517-373-1079

Parks and Recreation517-373-9900

Mason Building

Third Floor

P.O. Box 30257

Lansing, MI 48909

Camping Reservations 1-800-447-2757

FAX517-373-4625

Press Office517-335-3014

Mason Building

Sixth Floor

P.O. Box 30028

Lansing, MI 48909

Wildlife517-373-1263

Mason Building

Fourth Floor

P.O. Box 30444

Lansing, MI 48909-7944

FAX517-373-6705



**Visit our website:
www.michigan.gov/dnr**

**Everything you want to know about what's going on outdoors
in Michigan is just a click away.**