



New OHV Policy on the Chippewa National Forest

Effective September 14, 2004

The Chippewa National Forest is implementing the revised Forest Plan. As a result, Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) users will find some policy changes about where it's legal to ride. These policy changes apply only to national forest system lands.

- **The new OHV policy on the Chippewa National Forest continues the prohibition of cross-country motorized travel off of roads and trails.**
- **Big game retrieval and other OHV use off roads and trails for purposes, such as, bear baiting or trapping, also continues to be prohibited.**
- **Users can ride on designated OHV trails.**
- **The new policy officially becomes effective September 14, 2004 although full implementation will occur throughout 2005.**
- **During Fall 2004, users can ride OHVs on low standard developed system roads, unless they are posted closed to motorized use.**
- **The new OHV policy allows for OHV use only on roads and trails that are designated open for such use.**
- **Roads and trails will be inventoried and decisions made concerning their designation for OHV use during the upcoming year.**

chippewa national forest ohv

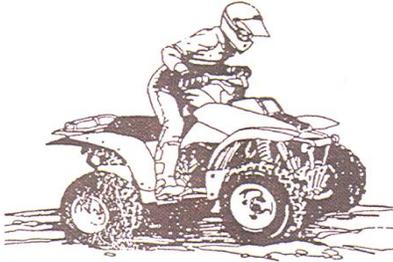
For more information, refer to the Questions and Answers on the back of this brochure.

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Q: What is an OHV?

An off-highway vehicle is a term referring to all-terrain vehicles (ATV), off-highway motorcycles (OHM) and off-road vehicles (ORVs such as four wheel drive trucks).

Q: What are the highlights relating to OHV policy in the new Forest Plan?

- All cross-country OHV travel continues to be prohibited.
- ATV summer use continues to be permitted on the Soo Line Trail.
- This fall only, OHV use is permitted on low standard developed system roads unless posted closed.
- OHV use is prohibited in some management areas.
- The status of OHV use will change (be allowed or prohibited) following site-specific analysis.
- OHV travel is not allowed in ditches and shoulders of National Forest Systems roads.
- Low standard developed system roads may be gated closed.

Q: When does the new policy go into effect?

This policy officially becomes effective September 14, 2004, although full implementation will not occur until 2005.

Q: What are low standard developed system roads?

These are Forest Service roads that were planned, constructed, and maintained for long-term use. They are managed for use by high clearance vehicles. Passenger car traffic is not encouraged.

Q: What is considered an unclassified road?

These roads are user created or old Forest Service temporary roads that were not effectively closed or obliterated. Unclassified roads may be considered for OHV routes in the future.

Q: Can I ride on higher standard roads to access the low standard roads?

Generally, no. These roads are constructed and maintained for high volume vehicular traffic. You will need to trailer your off-highway vehicle between designated low standard roads and trails.

Q: Are there maps available showing where I can ride?

Not at this time. Specific decisions on whether individual roads will remain open will not be made this fall. We anticipate providing maps and/or web based information next year. We will be working with the DNR and County governments to designate OHV riding opportunities.

Q: How does this policy relate to other public lands?

This policy only involves National Forest System land, trails, and roads on the Chippewa National Forest. Contact other public land agencies for their specific OHV policies.

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