Go Snowmobiling!



Buy Your Permit To Ride OFSC Trails This Winter!

Regular Full Season: $230.00 ($180.00 if purchased prior to Dec. 1) buys unlimited riding all winter on any open OFSC Prescribed Trail.

Full Season Permits are available at most snowmobile dealers. Contact your local club for sales locations. Use OFSC Trails at your own risk. Before riding, read the Assumptions for OFSC Trail Use at www.ofsc.on.ca.

Seven and One Day Permits also available.

ZERO TOLERANCE – A Took the Pledge – Never Underestimate Your Power to Stop Impaired Driving

OFSC

USE TRAIL AT YOUR OWN RISK

Safe Riders! Snowmobile Ontario

ONTARIO FEDERATION OF SNOWMOBILE CLUBS
www.ofsc.on.ca

NATION VALLEY SNOWMOBILE ASSOCIATION TRAIL PERMIT OUTLETS

MOUNTAIN
Rick's Gas Bar 989-2351
Loughlin's Country Store 989-1323

WINCHESTER
D& T Repair 774-6614
Brian Stobo 774-2035
Winchester Licence Bureau 774-3881

CHESTERVILLE
Lannin's Garage 448-2361

MOREWOOD
Morewood Tire Service 448-3026

FINCH
Gary's Auto Body 984-2290

NEWINGTON
McPhail's Mechanical 346-2229

CRYSLER
Shane Signs 987-2955
Herfkens Service Centre 987-2824

BERWICK
Brenda's Corner Store & Gas Bar 984-2641

WILLIAMSBURG
Williamsburg Garage 535-2018
Cedar Glen Golf Course 535-2323
Fetterly's Power Sports 535-1369

BRINSTON
Tibben Equipment 652-4881

IROQUOIS
Jim's Performance 652-2245
Mustard Variety 652-2240

MORRISBURG
Morrisburg Licence Bureau 543-3809

CARDINAL
Burchell's RONA Hardware 657-4580

For permit information contact our Permit Co-ordinator at 989-6145

INDIVIDUALS SELLING PERMITS: Debbie Strader 543-2757 • Verlin Gallinger 543-2641 Heather Erwin 989-6145 • Ray Godard 989-3157

www.nvsa.on.ca

Nation Valley Snowmobile Association thanks all Landowners & Volunteers

COMING EVENTS

Mountain Trailblazers Snowmobile Club Inc.

Sweetheart Rally & Dance
Saturday, February 11
Dance *featuring Posse* with a new lineup of songs

Clubhouse Breakfast
Breakfast being served every Saturday & Sunday, 9 am-1 pm, *weather permitting.*
Treat the family to a great meal on the trails!

Driver Training
December 3, January 7, February 4
Must be 12 years of age at date of course. Call Dave to register, 989-2053

Wing Nights are back!
Watch paper for details.

Regular Club Meetings
Second & fourth Thursday of the month at Mountain Clubhouse

Girls On Snow/Snowarama
Saturday, February 4
Call Debbie, 543-2757, or Heather, 989-6145, for information

South Dundas Snowmobile Club

Bring On The Snow Dance
November 26, 2005, 9 pm-1 am
At Matilda Hall, Dixons Corners *featuring the Cory Mervin Coons Band,* lunch available, age of majority, cost $10 - Tickets available at Rick's Gas Bar, Brinston General Store and Loughlin's General Store

Finch - North Star Snowmobile Club

Clubhouse Breakfasts
January 15, 2006
February 26, 2006

Spaghetti/Lasagna Suppers
Finch Legion
Every second Friday of each month, beginning in December

Winchester Twp.

Ice Drags
January 30, 2006

NVSA Meetings

3rd Tuesday of each month
Call 989-6145 for location

november 23, 2005



SNOWMOBILE PARADISE ONTARIO

SNOW DAYS!











your complete guide to area snowmobiling

published by the *Winchester Press*



OFSC

THE ONTARIO FEDERATION OF SNOWMOBILE CLUBS

local snowmobile clubs • permits • dealers • trail updates

Special Supplement to the Winchester Press, Chesterville Record, Morrisburg Leader, and Prescott Journal

District 1 Update

Permits, trails and lifestyles

By John Boals
District 1 Manager

MORRISBURG — The snowmobile season has started and with that, great news! The trail permit fee is not increasing for this winter. Even better news is that next year, in 2007, there will again be no price increase. That means when you buy a full season snowmobile trail permit in Ontario, on or before Dec. 1, you will pay only $180 for unlimited riding all season on OFSC snowmobile club trails.

A trail permit is an incomparable deal. You can invest in one full season snowmobile trail permit and buy yourself an entire winter of fun in the snow. No interest, no down payments, no monthly payments. Just one minimal investment to get unlimited winter access to OFSC snowmobile club trails at any time of the day, on any day of the week, anywhere in Ontario.

Measured by days of riding, if you only snowmobile six days a winter, your cost is $30 per day, based on a full season permit bought early. If you ride 10 days, the cost is $18 a day, and if you get out 15 days, it's only $12. You can barely buy lunch for that amount! Anything more than 15 days and you're into serious bonus time at a very low cost! As one enthusiastic snowmobiler put it: "After I buy my permit, that first spectacular day of riding justifies the cost and the rest of the season is more added value." Where else can you buy so many great memories for so little?

What an organized trail system means to you

Without permit revenues, there would be no organized trails. "So what," you ask? Organized trails provide you with a defined, legal place to ride. They provide you with destination riding and access to the services and amenities that you need. Organized trails provide a framework for planning your journey and a measure of confidence that your plan to arrive at a certain place at a specific time is achievable. They provide you with the ability to escape from your everyday life and the freedom to go whenever you choose. Best of all, they provide you with the best place to ride your snowmobile. In fact, there are more kilometres of snowmobile trails in Ontario today than there are kilometres of provincial highways!

What your first investment should be each winter

As noted above, trails and permits go hand in hand. Only snowmobilers appreciate the true value of trails and what they cost to build and maintain. And only snowmobilers can ensure that there will continue to be trails to ride, by purchasing a snowmobile trail permit this winter and helping out at your local club.

About District 1

The district office is located in Morrisburg and looks after administrative and fieldwork inquires for 28 snowmobile clubs and associations. The district consists of the area west to Napanee, north to Calabogie, and east to the Ontario/Quebec border. The district has over 5,000 kilometres of marked, groomed trails.
The clubs in District 1 sell over 10,000 trail permits annually to families in Eastern Ontario. The OFSC mission is to provide strong leadership and support to its member clubs who are made up of volunteers who establish and maintain the quality of the trails which are used in a safe and environmentally responsible manner for the enjoyment of permit purchasing snowmobilers.

Why you should make snowmobiling part of your lifestyle

There are many reasons why you should add snowmobiling to your life. A recent tourism survey reveals the top 10 reasons why people love snowmobiling:

1. Beautiful scenery. Nothing compares to the beautiful sights of winter. Our snowmobiles enable us to access back-country areas that 90 per cent of Canadians will never see.
2. Socializing. The social aspects of snowmobiling begin with the camaraderie between friends.
3. Escaping into the wilderness and getting away from the demands of everyday life.
4. Sharing a family experience. Snowmobiling is a multi-generational recreation that allows people of all ages, sizes, and abilities to join in the fun.
5. Experiencing nature. Respondents referred to being "one" with Mother Nature, of marvelling at all her delights, and at the sheer vastness and grandeur of the great outdoors.
6. Learning the land. Snowmobiling gives everybody the ability to go out and discover and appreciate your surrounding wilderness.
7. Releasing tension and stress. Getting away from the everyday grind is one thing, but actually receiving therapeutic benefits is better yet.
8. Providing some much needed solitude. Though everyone knows that you should never snowmobile alone, in fact we spend much of our time isolated from others on our own sled.
9. Making your own decisions and doing things your own way help promote individualism in a pluralistic society. Snowmobiling allows you to go where and when you want on a groomed snowmobile club trail and to express yourself through your choice of sled, clothing, and accessories.
10. Giving you time to think. Snowmobiling enables you to have fun, explore, and find peace. We don't often have time alone in our own heads to ponder life. This gives us the opportunity.

Now to those riders wanting to enrich their sledding experience and memories, here's a great idea: lend a hand to a snowmobile club for a few hours this fall. It is the help of volunteers, as well as the landowners, that enables snowmobiling to continue to thrive.

Most snowmobilers eagerly look forward to the opening of groomed trails each winter and can hardly wait to get out on their sleds. I hope to see you at many club events scheduled for this winter, and on the trails.

Think snow!

The 2006 Yamaha sleds are here!



2006 Yamaha Apex GT
• Large selection of Yamaha parts, accessories & apparel
• Full service department with factory trained technicians

www.yamaha-motor.ca

Serving You Since 1937

IRWIN SUPPLY (CORNWALL) LTD.
423 Tollgate Rd. West, Cornwall • 613-933-4600

ON THE TRAIL TO WINTER FUN!

The McINTOSH Country Inn & Conference Centre

Great 'Overnight' Rates for Sledders

Call for details:
• Thursday and Saturday Wing Nights
• Our Dining Room and Pub offer great lunch and dinner specials
• Entertainment most weekends
• 2 large screen TVs for sporting events
• Whirlpool, sauna and outdoor hot tub
• Registered Massage Therapist
• We are on the trail
• Videotaped surveillance of parking area



12495 Hwy. 2, Morrisburg
613-543-3788 • 1-888-229-2850 • Fax: 613-543-3160
Web site: www.mcintoshcountryinn.com
E-mail: info@mcintoshcountryinn.on.ca

Mountain Trail Blazers still going strong

By Dave Plummer
President Mountain Trail Blazers

MOUNTAIN — Despite the last few years of short seasons and skimpy snow fall, the Mountain Snowmobile Club continues to operate as a vibrant and active member of the Nation Valley Snowmobile Association and as the centre of the sport in western Dundas County.

The clubhouse is still open to snowmobilers 24 hours a day during the groomed trail season and canteens will be offered again this year on Saturdays and Sundays, weather and trail conditions permitting.

The Sweetheart Rally and dance will go again in February and, due to new insurance arrangements, the famous wing nights should be back for January and February after the trails are open.

All in all, it looks like another good year in the making if only mother nature co-operates and drops white instead of wet grey. As the fall progresses and the nights grow colder, I look forward with a little more optimism to the certain coming of winter and the firing up of the old sled. I have already started to dig out the maps and plan those day or weekend snow safaris we all love so much and didn't get enough of last season.

Fortunately, trail passes are the same price this year as last and will be the same for next year as well, which is a relief after a number of consecutive yearly increases. Although we all complain about the $180 annual fee, it still works out to less than $30 per weekend even if we only get the 6 weeks we got out of our local trails last season.

Those clubs that have trails to the northwest and northeast of us got a whole lot more value for their money due to more snow and less rain, so their cost was about $20 per weekend — an even better bargain. It not only made me personally jealous but forced me to trailer to their club's trails and opened up a whole new experience as I explored both the Eastern and Pembroke systems. After 2,800 kilometres on the trails last winter, I don't regret one cent of what I paid for my pass or the cost of my insurance (mine actually went down last year after changing companies).

I was particularly impressed with the large number of family groups that used the Pembroke trails last winter and it is my hope that this trend will come our way this year. It was great to see mom and dad on their sleds and the two kids on a basic two up safely running along with them. It is these family groups which foster the future of snowmobiling by actively engaging the children in the sport and providing the memories that keep us strong and makes people stay with snowmobiling generation after generation.

That is one of the reasons why Mountain Trail Blazers offer the snowmobile licence course more than once a winter. This year, we will have courses on Sat., Dec. 3, Jan. 7 and Feb. 5. The cost is the same as last year at $30 and the child must be 12 years of age on or before the day of the course and provide documented proof of age in the form of a birth certificate or passport. The child must be a full time resident of Ontario and have been so for the previous six months. Anyone under 16 must have signed parental consent, usually the course pre-registration form. Non-licensed adults may take the course for a motorized snow vehicle operators permit only if they are not currently licensed in any other jurisdiction and not under suspension. A criminal check has to be completed for applicants over 15 prior to issuing the licence to ensure compliance with provincial law.

If you or your child wishes to take the course to obtain a licence, please feel free to call Dave Plummer at 613-989-2053 or e-mail us at mtbdvrtrng@aol.com for more information. All OFSC courses province-wide are listed under driver training on their website along with the town and contact numbers for the instructors.

Finally, as with all clubs, MTB can still use volunteers and active members, even if it is only helping out once a year at a dance or signing a trail. There has also been an interest expressed lately in forming an antique branch of the club and I would like to hear from other interested people. MTB holds meetings twice a month from September to April on the second and fourth Thursdays from 8 pm to about 10 pm. The clubhouse is located just south of the village of Mountain west of Regional Road 1 at the end of Van Camp Road about a quarter kilometre into the bush. It is easily accessible by car during the "off" season and usually during the open trail season as well. It should be pointed out, however, that only wimps use their car or truck to get to a club meeting when the option of using a sled is available.

Regardless of the means of travel, drop in on us some meeting night and at least meet the people who set your trails up and maintain them for you. In the meantime, think snow; lots and lots of snow. And, oh yeah, while you're fantasizing, how about dreaming up 60 cents a litre for gas?

CHOKO™ DESIGN

POLARIS® The Way Out.

Ask about our 3-6 Month No Interest, No Payments

Call for our Snowmobile and ATV Service Specials

Book Your Service Now and Save!

SHOPPING IS EASY AT TIBBEN EQUIPMENT

We have something for every snowmobile enthusiast!

NO GST/PST on all in-stock POLARIS and CHOKO™ Kids' and Adults' 2-piece Snow Suits, Jackets, Pants, Hats, Mitts, Gloves, Helmets, Boots, T-Shirts, Sweaters, Collectables, Storage/Luggage Bags and more!!
Shop early for best selection!

Hours of Operation: *Mon.-Fri. 8 am-5 pm; Sat. 8 am-1 pm; Sun. closed*

EQUIPMENT LTD. Tibben

4124 County Rd. #16 / Brinston Road
Brinston, Ont., K0E 1C0
613-652-4881
www.tibbenequipment.com

10 signs that you may be a sledhead

1. If you owe more money on your snowmobile than you do on your car, you may be a sledhead.
2. If you have ever arrived at a wedding or a funeral on a snowmobile, you may be a sledhead.
3. If you say things in late summer like, "The days are finally getting shorter," you may be a sledhead.
4. If you read your kids bedtime stories from *Ontario Snowmobiler Magazine,* you may be a sledhead.
5. If you count the number of sleeps before snowmobiling starts, you may be a sledhead.
6. If you start your snowmobile in the summer and ride across your lawn, you may be a sledhead.
7. If you are on a summer vacation and you get really excited when you see evidence of a snowmobile trail that crosses the highway, you may be a sledhead.
8. If you think "Get Ready For Snowmobiling Week" is a national holiday, you may be a sledhead.
9. If over two-thirds of your wardrobe has a snowmobile brand name on it, you may be a sledhead.
10. If you have ever had to clear off snowmobile parts from the kitchen table to set it for supper, you may be a sledhead.

DuPont land

• continued from previous page

It was in May 2004 that District 1 of the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC) partnered with Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) to head up a Job Creation Partnership.

"We felt that snowmobile tourism could use some support in Eastern Ontario," said project co-ordinator Russ Gagne, in January of 2005.

The budget for the project was almost $269,000. The federal government provided $190,433, while private organizations put up the balance through $78,248 of in-kind support. The project employed five employment insurance recipients to give them real work experience.

"A snowmobiler only carries his wallet with him," said Gagne, who said a general aim of the project is to provide trailside information. A snowmobiler could potentially spend $400 in one day on the trails if they were to spend the night somewhere.

Through marketing and mapping, the team of five employees successfully made strides in improving snowmobiling in and around Morrisburg, including the DuPont trail. Their work included redesigning the map, developing a bilingual brochure, creating tour loops, researching trailside amenities, and developing website content. A more accurate map of the over 300 kilometres of trails in the area was created, along with a master database of intersections and signs.

The partnership ended on March 31, 2005.

District 1 was given two national awards in 2005, one for promoting snowmobiling, the other for promoting tourism. The trail through the DuPont land will remain open for this snowmobiling season.

Bring in this ad and receive 20% off * in-stock PURE POLARIS clothing





**Offer expires Dec. 31, 2005*

Claude's SMALL ENGINES LTD.
FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

POLARIS The Way Out.
Monday-Friday 8 am-6 pm; Saturday 8 am-2 pm
Financing available OAC

203 Eleventh St. W., **CORNWALL** • Tel.: **613-933-0275** • Fax: **613-933-8464**



During an open house event at Loiselle Sport in Embrun, Monique Lafontaine, Nathalie St. Onge and Francine Beaudin demonstrated how three can sit comfortably on the Ski-Doo GTX Limited. *Photo — Barbour*

Three isn't a crowd

by Matthew Barbour

EMBRUN — Snowmobilers can expect to be seeing more of Ski-Doo's GTX Limited on the trails this winter. Loiselle Sport in Embrun has noticed an increased interest in the model.

The GTX Limited can function as a two-seater, but the rear seat slides back to make room for a third seat insert and another passenger. Ski-Doo is the first to provide this third-rider capability.

This three-seat model was new on the scene for the 2005 model year and is finding continued popularity for 2006. The GTX Limited is equipped with the exclusive Auto-Air Shock.

"It's a self-levelling rear shock that sets the pre-load and ride height automatically for one, two or three riders," said Francine Beaudin of Loiselle Sport.

People buying this sled can choose between 600 cc and 800 cc engines. Both come with semi-direct fuel injection, which provides more power and is easier on gas, according to Beaudin. Lockable saddle bags are a standard feature on the GTX Limited.

Cedar Glen Golf Course

Sports Bar open year round

• Wings • Burgers • Hot Meals
• Satellite TV

Good access to trails
(#14 on NVSA Trail Map)

SUNDAY BRUNCH
starts December 11, 10:30-2:00 pm

WING NIGHT
every Friday

SPECIAL 'TRAILS OPEN' WING NIGHTS
Thursdays also



CHECK TRAIL SIGNS FOR SPECIAL EVENTS

CEDAR GLEN GOLF COURSE
4201 Saddlemire Road, Williamsburg
613-535-2323
E-mail: cedarglen@on.aibn.com

Ride safe, ride sober, ride often

Governor's message

by Bruce Robinson
OFSC District 1 Governor

MORRISBURG — I have given up on trying to predict the coming winter weather, but in hindsight, I should have figured out that better men than I have tried and failed. Think of how much money a person could make if they could accurately tell you how cold it would be, how much snow we would get, and how long the winter would last. My predictions to date have been no better than the Farmer's Almanac, which I am convinced is some farmer's scheme to supplement his income with farfetched guesses about the coming winter. Sorry to say folks, but the best I can find is from Environment Canada, which states that Ontario and Quebec will have an "average winter," whatever average means anymore.

On the bright side, I can make one prediction. I predict that when winter does come to Eastern Ontario and brings with it a good covering of snow, the snowmobile clubs and associations will be out there with their groomers making this a fantastic place to enjoy the scenery and excitement of sledding thousands of kilometres of table-top smooth snowmobile highways. Nowhere in the world has better trails than right here at home when the weather conditions co-operate.

We have an army of hard working volunteers who make those trails happen. We have thousands of generous landowners who allow us to cross their property in order for us to get outside and enjoy a truly Canadian sport. It gives us the incentive to get off the couch and away from the TV or Internet to get some fresh air and exercise. What other sport allows a whole family to participate together for the small fee of $180 (early bird price), which gives them access to 45,000 kilometres of trail, 24 hours per day, seven days per week for the whole winter? This is an exceptional deal and available until Dec. 1.

What about those gas prices? Snowmobilers will have to dig a bit deeper to fill up the tank, and clubs will be facing higher diesel prices for grooming. For those people who are lucky enough to have purchased a four-stroke or a new direct injection Bombardier, don't rub it in by bragging about the mileage you are getting.

There always seems to be something to complain about. That's the Canadian way. First it was insurance prices on our sleds. Then, as a result of high trail liability insurance, permit prices rose. Now it's the fuel. But you know as well as I do that once we get a good snowfall and those trails are groomed and open, all the complaints are forgotten. There's nothing in the world that can compare to the feeling of humming down a smooth, wide trail on a crisp, sunny winter morning without a care in the world.

We have waited all year for this, so once the trails are open, get out there and enjoy. That's what makes snowmobiling so special. Remember: ride safe; ride sober; and ride often!

HAPPY SLEDDING TO ALL
from
South Dundas Snowmobile Club
***Bring On The Snow Dance* - November 26, 2005, 9 pm-1 am**
At Matilda Hall, Dixons Corners featuring the *Cory Mervin Coons Band*
Lunch available, age of majority, cost $10 - Tickets available at Rick's Gas Bar, Brinston General Store and Loughlin's General Store
***Girls on Snow/Snowarama* - February 4, 2006**
For details on these events, call Debbie at 543-2757 or Heather at 989-6145

BEN'S PIONEER
Hwy. 31, Winchester
774-5100
Happy to serve you
Open 24 hours
We're on the trail!
PIONEER

YOU ONLY STOP TO LET FRIENDS CATCH UP.



Mind-boggling acceleration, razor-sharp handling and the power to move swiftly over the trails, that's the reality of owning a Firecat.™ So when you're ready to turn trail rides into victory laps, race over to your local dealer or visit us at www.arcticcat.com.

ARCTIC CAT
SHARE OUR PASSION.™

COME IN NOW
for the best deal on an Arctic Cat® snowmobile.

WE ARE YOUR SNOWMOBILE PARTS, SERVICE, CLOTHING AND ACCESSORY EXPERTS.

Visit our World-Class Arctic Cat Retail Centre
for jackets, helmets, hats, gloves, boots and ATV & snowmobile accessories



BOOK YOUR TUNEUP BEFORE THE SNOW FLIES

CHECK OUT OUR USED SNOWMOBILES AND ATV INVENTORY ON OUR WEB SITE

1384762 Ontario Inc.
o/a ALLAN JOHNSTON
REPAIR & SALES

25 YEARS EXPERIENCE
2665-8th Line Rd., Metcalfe
821-4263 Fax 821-4480
MON. -FRI. 8 AM-6 PM; SAT.; 8 AM-1 PM

www.allanjohnston.com

tread lightly!® LEAVING A GOOD IMPRESSION™

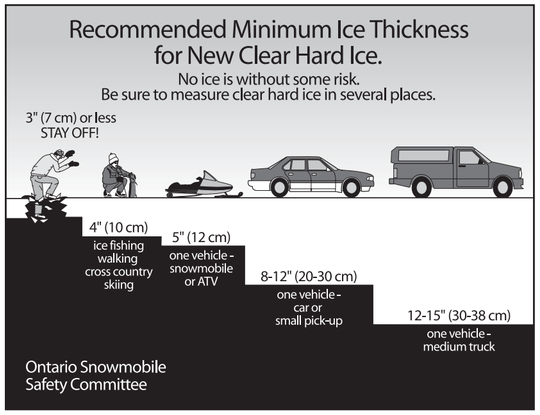
Always wear a helmet and don't drink and ride. © 2005 Arctic Cat Sales Inc., ® ™ Trademarks of Arctic Cat Inc., Thief River Falls, MN 56701.

Snowmobile Speed & Common Courtesy

Be aware of the conditions around you when riding on the South Nation River. Pay close attention to the thickness of the ice and watch for telltale signs of poor conditions. Please **SLOW DOWN** when approaching ice huts or other groups and watch out for pedestrians and children playing on the ice.

SOUTH NATION CONSERVATION DE LA NATION SUD

OFSC — Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs



NO ICE IS WITHOUT SOME RISK…
MINIMIZE YOUR RISK

- It is critical that the ice quality or type of ice is evaluated before you travel.
- Clear hard, new ice is the only kind of ice recommended for travel.
- Avoid!
  - slushy ice
  - ice on or near moving water i.e., rivers, currents
  - ice that has thawed and refrozen
  - layered or rotten ice caused by sudden temperature changes
- Other risk factors that weaken or "rot" ice:
- snow on ice that acts as a blanket to prevent hardening of ice
- pressure ridges due to wind or current pressure

Art/Graphics copyright, 1997 State of Minnesota, Department of Natural Resources. Used with permission.

OFSC seeks volunteers

People are crucial to the future of snowmobiling clubs and trails. Four years ago, the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC) launched its Volunteer Development Program, dedicated to recruiting, recognizing, training and retaining volunteers. Thanks to an extended funding commitment and ongoing co-operation from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the program is a resounding success.

What does this achievement mean to you? It means stronger clubs, better trails, and the increased ability for clubs to welcome and support volunteers, while making their contributions more effective.

OFSC — The Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs

Belong to the winning team

There's nothing like being on a winning team. Organized snowmobiling in Ontario is very successful because of its people. If you love snowmobiling, here are a few accomplishments we welcome you to become part of:

- Club volunteers have made OFSC snowmobile trails the world's largest recreational trail network.
- Club volunteers have built the OFSC into the largest snowmobile association in international snowmobiling.
- Club volunteers have contributed $16 million to the Easter Seal Society of Ontario during the past 30 years.
- The Ontario Trails Council recognized club volunteers as Ontario's premier trail builders.
- Club volunteers operate OFSC trails, which generate almost $1 billion of economic benefits for Ontario each winter.
- Club volunteers create the opportunity for snowmobilers to ride over 150 million hours on OFSC trails each winter.
- The OFSC club volunteer tradition is 39 years old this season.

Want to lend a hand for a few hours?

We welcome your participation! Click on the Volunteer logo on the OFSC home page, www.ofsc.on.ca, or simply e-mail volunteers@ofsc.on.ca.

FRED HILL INSURANCE LTD.

Representing Grenville Mutual Insurance Company

Grenville Mutual Insurance Company

Corner Hwys. 2 & 31, Morrisburg

Your Insurance Broker Understands

543-3069 • 1-800-698-7481

SNOW WHERE TO GO

Make tracks to Tom's for amazing deals!

Blue Marble

HJC

Solids from $99.00

Solids Electric from $179.00

Colored from $129.00

NOTE: Helmets shown with motorcycle shield; actual helmets will have a double lens shield

Woody's SSP Stud

Woody's

1.175, 1.325 with Aluminum Backer $2.00 ea.

Camoplast

Come and see us for your Camoplast tracks

WE SERVICE ALL BRANDS OF SLEDS! GET YOUR SLED TUNED UP BEFORE IT SNOWS

ALL IN-STOCK CARBIDE RUNNERS ON SALE

AMSOIL *AVAILABLE HERE*

Tom's AIR COOLED ENGINES LTD.

SALES, SERVICE & PARTS

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 am-6 pm; Sat. 8 am-noon

8634 Bank St., Vernon

613-821-1060

Fax 613-821-1119

MasterCard VISA

BRINSTON GENERAL STORE

• Gasoline • Movies/Games Rentals • Post Office
• Subs • Soup • French Fries • Pizza
• All Year Round
GIFT ROOM

Winter Hours:

Monday-Friday 7 am-8 pm; Saturday 8 am-8 pm; Sunday 9 am-8 pm

BRINSTON 652-2482

DuPont land

Snowmobile stewardship to keep trail open

by Meghan Duncan
Press staff

MORRISBURG — Ontario Parks is in the final stages of creating a management plan for the DuPont land near Morrisburg, which not only houses rare species of fish and plants as well as a heron rookery, but for 30 years has been home to a snowmobile trail that now plays a large part in the Eastern Ontario trail system.

"It was back in 2002 that we approached Parks Ontario," explained John Boals, District 1 snowmobile club manager. "We had a written report detailing what we were willing to do, including securing the fencing to the park, planting trees, picking up garbage, and being a general watchdog for the area. We would also offer our expertise. Anything to keep the trail going."

Boals said that there was very little communication with the parks organization in the beginning, however.

"Back in 2002, stewardship wasn't even on the radar," said Boals, noting an open house meeting with Ontario Parks that occurred in September of this year, where officials were more receptive to the stewardship idea. "Maybe they realized they can't just build a park and shut people out."

Boals said that the tone of Ontario Parks officials has completely reversed since the snowmobile club was first in contact with the agency.

"Now, they're really interested in stewardship," he said. "It's a complete 360."

The land is part of the Ontario Parks Legacy 2000 program, which requires the completion of a management plan intended to guide the development, management and operation of the parkland over the next 20 years.

The plan includes the proposal of a small parking lot access zone, and breaks the land up into three areas that have different features.

Boals said that having the snowmobile club, the trail, and stewardship plans mentioned within the plan will make it easier for the club to continue as it has been. Though Ontario Parks has stated that snowmobiles, and all motorized vehicles, are not permitted in the park, Boals said that he's hoping the trail will still be in full use in years to come.

"Policy can change," he said.

Concerns about the land have arisen, including illegal garbage dumping, invasive species, the water quality in Hoasic Creek, and the use of ATVs in the parkland that has damaged many parts of the trail and adjacent vegetation.

Boals, however, said that snowmobiles have been using the trail for thirty years and have yet to disturb the vegetation or habitat.

Ontario Parks representatives have said that funding to release the plan is not available until the next fiscal year, and there is time to make sure all concerns are heard. Ontario Parks is receptive to all opinions and concerns about the parkland and the plan being developed, and wants to make sure all concerns are put in the plan now, to make things easier later.

Right now, Ontario Parks has put forth two proposals regarding the snowmobile trail: to keep the trail where it is; or to re-route most of the trail out of the park.

The District 1 snowmobile club has been lobbying against the second proposal, on the basis that the land will be more disturbed if the trail was rerouted.

"We have to build another bridge over the Hoasic Creek," explained Boals. "That would cost about $60,000. Why not use that money for other things?"

Boals said he is in constant contact with Ontario Parks, and the snowmobile club executive has scheduled a meeting with officials to hash out concerns and plans.

"If that trail [through the DuPont land] is closed, it will have serious affects on the tourism in this area in the wintertime," said Boals, noting he hopes that the trail closure will not occur, as it would wipe out all the work that has been done to promote snowmobiling in the area.

• **continued on next page**

Go Snowmobiling!



Buy Your Permit To Ride OFSC Trails This Winter!

Regular Full Season: $230.00 ($180.00 if purchased prior to Dec. 1) buys unlimited riding all winter on any open OFSC Prescribed Trail.

Full Season Permits are available at most snowmobile dealers. Contact your local club for sales locations. Use OFSC Trails at your own risk. Before riding, read the Assumptions for OFSC Trail Use at www.ofsc.on.ca.

Seven and One Day Permits also available.

ZERO TOLERANCE I Took the Pledge

OFSC

USE TRAIL AT YOUR OWN RISK

Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs
www.ofsc.on.ca

Riverside Snowmobile Club Newsletter

By Rebecca Comfort

MORRISBURG — Looking back at last year, the Riverside Snowmobile Club is proud of its trails. The groomer spent an amazing amount of time out on the trails. The club made the best use of the snow it had, and looks forward to doing the same this year.

Overall, every part of the Riverside Snowmobile Club experience was enjoyable. The club members are hoping to have another great year this year. Club activities and events will remain the same, with the very popular wing nights and Sunday morning breakfasts. Volunteers are needed for both of these events, which attract significant crowds. Anyone wishing to help out can call Barb at 543-3114. Even if you can make toast or wash dishes on one Sunday morning, it would help out immensely.

Anyone that would like to have a little input on the Riverside Snowmobile Club and its activities can attend any of the monthly meetings. New ideas are also appreciated. The meetings are held at the Riverside Snowmobile Clubhouse the first Thursday of every month from October through March, at 7:30 pm. The meeting dates for this season are Nov. 3, Dec. 1, Jan. 5, Feb. 2, and March 2.

Have your say! Attend a meeting

Attending meetings is a perfect way to have your say. If you come out, there is no pressure to take on a position, the club would just like to have some different points of view and fresh input. The meetings are the best opportunity to become an active member of the Riverside Snowmobile Club. It gives you a say in the decisions on future improvements and developments here. You might just have a great idea that will benefit every snowmobiler in the club.

Another way to help out your local snowmobile club is to take a friend for a ride. Let them see first hand what snowmobiling is about. Once they experience it, they may want to become a snowmobile club member and volunteer.

A little good news for the perennial club members is that the trail permit prices are staying the same for the next two seasons. New this year, snowmobilers will be able to get updated trail condition reports on the Internet. Trial condition reports are updated every Tuesday and Thursday and are available at www.district1ofsc.ca.

The Riverside Snowmobile Club house remains one of the few active clubhouses in Eastern Ontario, and what keeps it thriving are the special activities and events. Everyone is always welcome to participate in club activities, and anyone interested in volunteering to help out is more than welcome. The club's Wing Nights will be held Jan. 7 and Feb. 4.

The Riverside Snowmobile Club usually hosts a snowmobile drag race event; however, due to the high cost of insurance and a lack of volunteers the club was unable to make it happen last year. The club would like to revive the event, and has found more reasonably priced insurance, so the only thing needed now to make it happen is volunteers. Anyone interested in helping out should add their name to the list.

Join the Breakfast Club

The Riverside Snowmobile Club serves Sunday breakfast weekly while the trails are open and groomed. The breakfasts are expected to start Jan. 15, weather permitting. It has become a very popular Sunday morning destination for snowmobilers, and the club would like to keep it that way. Help is needed in preparing and serving up the Sunday morning meals, so the club asks anyone who can give even one Sunday morning of volunteering this winter to join the Breakfast Club. Anyone interested in helping out can call Barb at 543-3114.

The District 1 Ride will be held Feb. 25 and will depart from the McIntosh Inn in Morrisburg. The ride is open to all members.

Trail Permits

OFSC Snowmobile Trail Permits are now available. The cost of a permit is $180 before Dec. 1, and $230 after Dec. 1 — so buy early. Permits are available at various retail locations. The price of trail permits has not changed. The price of a permit is the same as last year and will remain the same for the 2006-2007 season.

To purchase a trail permit visit any of the following locations: Upper Canada Motors - Morrisburg, Jim's Performance - Flagg Road, South Dundas, Ingleside Lumber - Ingleside, Water's Edge - Long Sault, McPhail's Mechanical - Newington, Irwin Supply - Cornwall, Claude's Small Engines - Cornwall, or call Mark Shaver at 652-4893 or Barb Rabideau at 543-3114.

Trail Report

The Riverside Snowmobile Trails are looking good for the upcoming season, and there are no major changes to the trail system. The club members are always grateful to the landowners who allow them to have a great local trail system. The best way to keep them happy, and thank them for their support is to keep the trails clean and to ride respectfully within the boundaries of the marked trails. Last winter Riverside Snowmobile Club spent an amazing 450 hours grooming its 161 kilometres of trails.

Sharpening the edge of excitement

For 2006, we've made our industry-leading line-up of adrenaline-surging snowmobiles even better. We're not giving up our number one position any time soon.

- Next evolution of REV platform: SC-4 rear skid, lower ride height, fixed windshields
- New dual-runner Pilot skis track true and eliminate darting
- Summit sled weight reduction makes them the lightest in their classes
- The most fuel-efficient and cleaner engine options in the industry
- New Freestyle for the next generation of snow-mobilers.




Summit Adrenaline 800


Mach Z Adrenaline


MX Z Adrenaline 600

JIM'S Performance Pro Ltd.

Jim Primrose, *Proprietor*

FLAGG RD., RR 1, IROQUOIS
613-652-2245

ski-doo THERE'S NOTHING LIKE IT. BRP

www.brp.com

© 2005 Bombardier Recreational Products Inc. (BRP). All rights reserved. ®,™ Trademarks of BRP or its affiliates. Because of our ongoing commitment to product quality and innovation, we reserve the right at any time to discontinue or change specifications, prices, designs, features, models or equipment without incurring obligation. Always consult your snowmobile dealer when selecting a snowmobile for your particular needs and carefully read and pay special attention to your operator's guide, safety video, safety handbook and to the safety labelling on your snowmobile. Always ride responsibly and safely. Always wear appropriate clothing, including a helmet. Always observe applicable local laws and regulations. Don't drink and drive.

THANKS TO OUR LANDOWNERS

Throughout our trail system, generous landowners allow the winter use of their property for the enjoyment of snowmobiling. This land use privilege is crucial to the existence of the snowmobile trails which provide many social, recreational and economic benefits to our entire community. Without the continuing co-operation of these unselfish friends of snowmobiling, the quality of winter life throughout our area would be significantly diminished.

We ask everyone in our community, but especially snowmobilers and those who benefit most directly from snowmobile trails, to say a special thanks to our landowners for the use of their property again this season.



OFSC
The Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs

Thank you from
Riverside Snowmobile Club

News from Nation Valley Snowmobile Club

by Greg Erwin,
President Nation Valley
Snowmobile Association (NSVA)

WINCHESTER — Finally! The temperature is starting to drop. A trucker I overheard today was speaking of driving through a snow storm in Cochrane, the Renegades are done for the season, and the Sens have smoked the Leafs three times already.

This is the time of year when all our friends start to think we're nuts! That's right, we can't wait for snow. If you're a couch potato, you wouldn't understand. You've saved all year to spend three to four thousand dollars a person to lounge on a beach in Mexico for seven days.

I'll happily stroke a check for $180, and ride 40,000 kilometres of trails from December to March (April last year). I know there's more money involved than that, but the best value out there is your trail permit.

Insurance, something you hope you'll never need, is three to 10 times that price. This, by the way, is something the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs has been working to bring under control.

Through risk management and better policing, we've brought down the cost of the general insurance of the clubs, so we can now start re-investing in our trails instead of paying out to protect our liabilities. It's still not cheap, but the light at the end of the tunnel is finally visible.

In the last few years NVSA and Riverside lost some trails in the Cardinal, Pittston, and Johnstown area. We opened up a few last year by recruiting some new volunteers.

Riverside has now been able to re-open the trail through to the tunnel on the 416 hooking up with Grenville Club. Winchester has moved the Springs trail and Mountain will have to move the E-104 trail. Pay attention on your first trip, because like my wife's hair color the trails are constantly changing.

As has been stated before, trails are usually closed due to landowner issues or not enough volunteers. Trails are typically re-opened when new volunteers come along with new energy and ideas. It's hard to describe how you feel when you find out a trail that took hundreds of hours to build a few years ago has to be moved due to an avoidable issue. Please stay on the trail and respect the landowners. Then think about giving us a few hours on a Saturday afternoon, it will make all the difference.

• continued on next page



Help Protect Our Volunteers.

In recent years, soaring liability insurance costs have hit Ontario's not for profit sector. One way to make insurance affordable is for Ontario to pass a law protecting our volunteers from unreasonable lawsuits.

Without it, insurance costs more, volunteerism is affected and communities suffer.

Please help protect all the volunteers that serve our communities.

1. Go to www.protectourvolunteers.ca

2. Sign the petition to tell the Premier to pass the new law this fall!

3. Tell a friend.

Protect Our Volunteers
Ontario Community Service Groups Calling for Affordable Liability Insurance to Protect Volunteers

OFSC
Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs

OFSC DISTRICT 1
Snowmobile Association Inc.
613-543-0374
www.district1ofsc.ca

www.protectourvolunteers.ca

This holiday season

GM Canada

RING&WIN
YEAR-END EVENT

OnStar

Push the OnStar button and you could win your new GM vehicle or get up to $10,000 off your purchase or lease

See dealer for details





UPPER CANADA MOTOR SALES LTD.
CORNER HWY. 2 & 31, MORRISBURG
613-543-2925

CHEVROLET
Parts GM Service

Nation Valley

• continued from previous page

Our meetings are in full swing again. NVSA meetings are usually held the third Tuesday of every month. The site moves around to take advantage of our various clubhouses and supporting businesses.

We're setting ourselves up to send out more frequent news to our members by e-mail. A few over-worked volunteers are setting this up and hope to use it to get more people out. If you'd like to get more involved at the club or association level, give me a call and I'll get you the info you need. Imagine going to a meeting with a bunch of other off-centre people who like winter!

Our annual dance at Dixon's Corners, where we draw for a new sled, will be held on Nov. 26. Now I'm getting pretty old, and my wife Heather's getting harder to get out on the town these days, but I've gotta tell ya I always look forward to this one. Everyone wearing their brand's colors. Some, like the fall leaves, have to change colors. (Know anyone looking for some blue gear? There's supposedly quite a bit at the flea market in Glen Becker.) As the night goes on, the excitement builds toward midnight when we draw the winner of the sled. If you've never been or it's been a while come on out for a great evening. These are our two biggest fundraisers of the year. We need these funds to keep all our programs in place.

The groomer committee has been working all summer getting our equipment ready and we've started planning to upgrade our oldest unit which is entering its tenth season.

The sign boards we received last year arrived late so not all were set up completely with arrows and kilometres. This should be rectified this year. We're constantly updating and replacing signs and as always our stop signs seem to be a hot item on the open market, disappearing as fast as we can put them up. If you know of any sign theft please give us or the police a call. This is dangerous! Someone could die! If you want a sign for your rec-room give me a call and for approximately $9, I'll get you one.

Finally, we lost a special member recently. She put in countless hours as a volunteer with Kemptville, Mountain, Winchester, and NVSA. Lise Godard worked on virtually all committees, served as our treasurer and was always seen at local events selling raffle tickets and snowmobiling. Our deepest condolences to her family.

In closing, if you can help with time or ideas please call your local club, If you don't know who to call try me (989-6145) and I'll hook you up. The trail work goes a lot easier when there are extra hands. And the meetings are both informative and a good social outing to see old friends and meet new ones. See you on the snow.



Fired up and ready to go

Allan Johnston Repair and Sales in Metcalfe carries a full range of Arctic Cat sleds and accessories. This F6 Firecat is a high performance machine.

Photo – Barbour

D&T Repair

Snowmobiles, Dirt Bikes, Chain Saws, etc.

Kimpex Snowmobile Parts • Chain Saw Sharpening

SALES & SERVICE

Dwayne Cinnamon

RR1, Winchester

613-774-6614

Just off the trail

Hwy. 31, Winchester

Come in and enjoy our Sunday Brunch served 9:30 am-2:30 pm

Daily Lunch & Supper Specials

Licensed under LLBO

Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 6 am-10 pm; Fri., Sat. 6 am-11 pm; Sun. & Holidays 7 am-10 pm

Country Kitchen

Restaurant, Dining Lounge and Tavern

Winchester 774-2417

CRANKSHAFT REBUILDING
CYLINDER RE-SLEEVING
& RE-BORING

COMPLETE MACHINE
SHOP FACILITIES

Ron's SERVICE SHOP

SALES AND SERVICE / REPAIRS TO ALL MAKES

2006 RS Vector ER | YFZ450 | Kodiak | Road Star Midnight

2006

YAMAHA | POWER CHARGED | YAMAHA

HWY. 138, MOOSE CREEK • 613-538-2887

Mountain Trail Blazers Snowmobile Club

P.O. Box 260, Mountain, Ontario, K0E 1S0

COMING EVENTS

Sweetheart Rally & Dance

Saturday, February 11

Dance featuring *Posse* with a new lineup of songs.

Clubhouse Breakfast

Breakfast being served every Saturday & Sunday, 9 am-1 pm, weather permitting.

Treat the family to a great meal on the trails!

Driver Training

December 3, January 7, February 4

Must be 12 years of age at date of course. Call Dave to register, 989-2053.

Wing Nights are back!

Watch paper for details.

Regular Club Meetings

Second & fourth Thursday of the month at Mountain Clubhouse

Bring on the Snow Dance

Saturday, November 26, 9 pm-1 am

At Matilda Hall, Dixons Corners featuring the *Cory Mervin Coons Band*

Lunch available, age of majority, cost $10 - Tickets available at Rick's Gas Bar, Brinston General Store and Loughlin's General Store.

Girls On Snow/Snowarama

Saturday, February 4

Call Debbie, 543-2757, or Heather, 989-6145, for information.

Snowarama: a full day of fun

MORRISBURG — Pledge forms will be available in the next few weeks for Girls' on Snow's annual Snowarama Easter Seal fundraiser. The annual Snowarama ride will take place on Feb. 4 this year.

The day begins with a pancake breakfast, which is open to everyone. The Snowarama Easter Seal ambassador, a local child whose family has been assisted by the Easter Seal Society, is usually on hand. Last year's ambassador was Jason Eden of Williamsburg.

Once the ladies have had their breakfast they will depart on a long snowmobile ride — usually about 100 kilometres.

"It's a lot of fun," said Jean McDougall, one of the organizers. "We have a great time. The Girls on Snow continue the fun after the ride as well.

"We would like the ladies to start thinking about Snowarama and make sure to pick up their pledge forms from their local clubs over the next several weeks," said McDougall.

Last year's ride had 15 participants and raised about $5,000 for the Easter Seal Society. The ride went from Morrisburg to Apple Hill, approximately 110 kilometres.

The Girls on Snow are all members of clubs within the Nation Valley Snowmobile Association. The ladies have been organizing the local Snowarama for the past five years.

"Whipper" Billy Watson organized the first Snowarama ride in 1975. At the time it was known as the Whipper Billy Watson Ride for Easter Seal Kids and it took place in Bradford. That first ride took place in 12 communities and included 2,500 snowmobile rides who raised $156,000. Now known as Snowarama for Easter Seal Kids, the event takes place in 40 Ontario communities and has raised over $15.2 million.

Easter Seals assists thousands of children and young adults, and their families, living with physical disabilities by helping them purchase equipment, offering camp and recreation programs, and providing access to information and research that will improve their quality of life.

STOP helps keep trails safe

SD&G — Keep your eyes open on the trail this year for STOP officers, who will once again be working with the OPP to patrol Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Club (OFSC) trails.

"They work hand in hand with the OPP," said OFSC District 1 manager John Boals.

In this trend-setting program, OFSC volunteers are trained by partnering police services, and sworn in as special constables and provincial offenses officers. They then become members of the Snowmobile Trail Officers Patrol (STOP), empowered to enforce provisions of the Motorized Snow Vehicle Act (MSVA) by issuing tickets or making arrests. They also assist police in sobriety enforcement. For MSVA enforcement purposes, STOP Officers have the same authority as police officers.

SD&G has seven STOP officers. Last season was very successful for the program, with the officers being well received by snowmobilers.

"They were welcomed out there," said Boals.

STOP officers are snowmobile enthusiasts themselves and Boals explained that they are perhaps less intimidating to riders than regular OPP officers.

STOP is patrolling trails in the following regions: Chapleau, Durham, East Algoma, Haliburton, Huronia South, Kawartha, Lanark County, Manitowadge/White River, Muskoka, Noelville/Warren, North Bay, Parry Sound, Sault Ste. Marie, Wasaga Beach, Simcoe, Stomont/Dundas/ Glengarry, Sudbury, Temiskaming, Timmins, Thunder Bay/Nipigon, Upper Ottawa Valley.

Fetterly's Powersports

ATV and Snowmombile Repair & Performance

WILLIAMSBURG, ONTARIO

Bob Fetterly **613-535-1369**

Rick's Gas Bar

South Mountain 989-2351

Open 6 am-9 pm, 7 days a week

PIONEER **GAS DEALER**

LCBO **OUTLET**

Platinum 91

We supply Magnum 91 High Performance gas for your sleds

Check out what you can buy with **PIONEER BONUS BUCKS**

We are on the trail! Watch for our signs

Pronto Food Mart

Pronto Food Mart

• GROCERIES
• FRESH MEAT
• SUBS • PIZZA