



Douglas Area Trails Association Snowmobile News

May 2024

Definition of a Snowmobile

There has been a bit of discussion lately about what is the definition of a snowmobile and can the Grant-In-Aid Trails be used by modified "vehicles." Here is what the state says is the definition of a snowmobile.

As per 2023 Minnesota Statutes, 84.81 Definitions, Subdivision 3. Snowmobile. "Snowmobile" means a self-propelled vehicle originally manufactured and designed for travel on snow or ice steered by skis or runners. Snowmobile does not include the following vehicles equipped with aftermarket ski and track configurations:

(1) an all-terrain vehicle defined in section 84.92; "All-terrain vehicle" or "vehicle" means a motorized vehicle with: (1) not less than three, but not more than six low pressure or non-pneumatic tires; (2) a total dry weight of 2,000 pounds or less; and (3) a total width from outside of tire rim to outside of tire rim that is 65 inches or less. All-terrain vehicle includes a class 1 all-terrain vehicle and class 2 all-terrain vehicle.

(2) an off-highway motorcycle defined in section 84.787; (a) "Off-highway motorcycle" means a motorized, off-highway vehicle traveling on two wheels and having a seat or saddle designed to be straddled by the operator and handlebars for steering control, including a vehicle that is registered under chapter 168 for highway use if it is also used for off-highway operation on trails or unimproved terrain.

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A Word From The President

Randy Dertinger

WOW, that was an amazing winter season! From no snow, the trails never opening, the warm weather and first ever Little Big Ole contest, it was a one of a kind year!

We don't really need very many of that type of year ever. Our Little Big Ole contest went surprisingly well considering we were not able to put him in the planned places on the trails. Some good feedback was received from the participants. DATA is hoping to continue the contest next year with a few small changes maybe. Watch for the detail this fall.

We are finishing up closing all the trails for the summer, getting all our equipment put away and working on a few bridge projects. Jeff Linn is working with our land owners on permits for next year already and will be working on the ads for next fall's trail map.

Keep supporting DATA all year long! Have a great summer and watch for more new things happening!

Definition of a Snowmobile (continued)

(3) an off-road vehicle defined in section 84.797; (a) "Off-road vehicle" or "vehicle" means a motor-driven recreational vehicle capable of cross-country travel on natural terrain without benefit of a road or trail.

(4) a mini truck defined in section 169.011; (a) "Mini truck" means a motor vehicle that has four wheels; is propelled by an electric motor with a rated power of 7,500 watts or less or an internal combustion engine with a piston displacement capacity of 660 cubic centimeters or less; has a total dry weight of 900 to 2,200 pounds; contains an enclosed cabin and a seat for the vehicle operator; commonly resembles a pickup truck or van, including a cargo area or bed located at the rear of the vehicle; and was not originally manufactured to meet federal motor vehicle safety standards required of motor vehicles in the Code of Federal Regulations, title 49, sections 571.101 to 571.404, and successor requirements.

(5) a utility task vehicle described in section 169.045; a utility task vehicle means a side-by-side, four-wheel drive, off-road vehicle that has four wheels, is propelled by an internal combustion engine with a piston displacement capacity of 1,200 cubic centimeters or less, and has a total dry weight of 1,800 but less than 2,600 pounds. Or

(6) any other vehicle being operated off road.

MnUSA Summer Event – Register Now

MnUSA has scheduled a summer picnic hosted by Region 9. The event will be held on Saturday, July 13, 2024, at Battle Lake Lions Park Shelter in Battle Lake. Check out the link below for more information and to register for the event. Cost is \$20 per person if registered by July 1, 2024.

[MnUSA :: MnUSA Summer Picnic \(mnsnowmobiler.org\)](https://mnsnowmobiler.org)

DATA & MnUSA Memberships

Even though we haven't been able to enjoy a snowmobile riding season, DATA still needs your help and support. We encourage you to be a member of DATA and MnUSA. DATA builds and maintains 368 miles of trails in Douglas County and maintains relationships with 700 landowners. MnUSA was created 40 years ago so snowmobilers would have a voice at the state level. Do you know someone who would like to become a member of DATA? Visit our website at douglasareatrails.com and click on the Membership link.

A Message from The Depot Smokehouse & Tavern

Support the Douglas Area Trails Association by purchasing charitable gambling pull tabs when you stop at The Depot Smokehouse & Tavern. There is plenty of parking and The Depot is located right on the Central Lakes Trail in beautiful downtown Alexandria.

