



192 Niagara Street
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The Ontario Federation of All Terrain Vehicle Clubs is made up of a group of ATV Clubs and Riding areas across Ontario operated by volunteers with one goal in mind. To provide a safe & enjoyable trail system linking other riding areas together. Currently we have 15 Clubs that make up the OFATV.

We endeavor to help the general public understand that our members are a group of outdoor enthusiasts, who respect other outdoor users and are environmentally conscious. We believe that with education, awareness and proper stewardship we will further protect the natural environment.

Joining the OFATV, gives you the opportunity to help shape the future of our sport and to enhance the province wide trail system. Our growing member clubs and affiliated riding organizations build and maintain thousands of kilometers of safe and responsible multi-use trails. As an Organization, the OFATV provides guidelines that assist in this progress.

Such as:

- Club development, structure, marketing and growth (Governance)
- Provide ATV/ROV safety training programs
- Trail sustainability and maintenance (Trail Verification process)
- Online provincially focused trail map
- 3rd party liability Insurance (\$15 million dollar insurance package)

The OFATV's staff and volunteers collaborate with numerous regional and or community based ATV groups to promote ATVing and the best interests of riders. The OFATV is the provincial advocate in discussions with senior levels of government and



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various provincial ministries. Our goal is to ensure that Atvers have a seat at the table when it comes making legislative, regulatory and policy decisions to protect the future of ATVing in Ontario. We have continuous and ongoing meetings with the following ministries. The Ministry of Natural Resources, Ministry of Health Promotion, Ministry of Tourism, Sport and Culture and Ministry Transportation to name a few.

Legislative, regulatory and policy such as:

- Bill 316-03 (ROV's and Two Up ATV's)
- Mandated Youth ATV Safety
- Sustainable Financial future for trails (OPSWG)

5 years ago the OFATV signed a Strategic letter of Operations with the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC) to work together on provincial related articles that the two organizations have in common. Such as trail use, Government lobbying and to help our clubs begin the process of sharing resources where applicable, like trail signage, bridge building, etc.

The OFATV has adopted the following winter policy. "No OFATV club will utilize any trails that are groomed in the winter months unless they are expressly designated for the purposes of shared use and or the use of the ATV club only. This includes, but is not limited to, those trails maintained by snowmobile or ski clubs." Any municipal, township or forest access roads that are signed and maintained by the OFSC for winter trail grooming purposes are not to be used unless they have been designated as shared use by the municipality.



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But we encourage our Clubs and Riding areas to develop winter groomed trails of their own. As we are finding that Atvers like to ride in the winter. Thus making trails in some areas open all year.

The OFATV is member in good standing with many other trail user groups across Ontario. For instance the Ontario Trails Council, Niagara Trails Committee, Limerick Forest, Northumberland County Forest, Ganaraska Forest to name a few.

The OFATV is very supportive of creating and building multi use or shared use trail systems were applicable. We understand not every trail can be fully motorized, but in most cases a work around is always possible. Emphasis on working together, instead of just shutting the door on them. The one thing with motorized is they are not afraid to spend money when they travel. From gas to food to accommodations, they travel with their credit cards and are not afraid to spend. Which is good for the local economy where trails are located.

In the northern sector of Ontario we understand it is a challenge to get people into your community from the southern portion. But the old saying goes build it and they will come. Motorized users are always willing to travel to a different area to ride, you just have to make it worthwhile.

An idea for your area might be to concentrate on building loop trails; 1/2 day, full day and overnight loop trails. By marketing and promoting a product such as this it gives the Power sport user a destination to go to and stay. Which is what people are looking for especially in the North. Another unique thing about where you are located is, you have the potential to bring in Power sport users from the US. They are not very far away and would love nothing



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better than to come over and ride. But you need the trail system to give them somewhere to go.

So to do all this you will require a group of dedicated people. If it's a Multi use or shared use, you could have a combination of volunteers from all groups. Instead of creating an ATV only club, you could create a community trails committee and have everybody involved. Main thing is to build and grow the group, so you do not burn out the few volunteers that show up all the time.

As for sustainability you may have to have some sort of trail pass to help bring money back to maintain the trail. If its reasonably priced and people see the value, they will help support it.

The OFATV is working in full partnership with the Canadian off Highway Vehicle Distributors Council and all the Manufacturers. (COHV) We also represent ATVing in Ontario on the National ATV Council (All Terrain Quad Council Canada (AQCC)). Of which is made up of 8 provinces. So for us it's a great way to share ideas across the country about what works and what does not in each province.

We are 1 of 3 organizations that make up the National Trails Coalition. In 2009/10 the Federal Government provided \$25 million dollars and in 2014/15 provided another \$10 million to the trail sectors in Canada which has been split up between the provinces, Ontario was provided with 5 million dollars in 2009/10 and more in 2014/15. The OFATV represents the ATV/ORM sector on this trails committee, which decides which projects will have the greatest impact on the overall plan laid out by NTC. That plan is to create local jobs and create a multi use trail that we all can use.



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The ATV/ORM sector worked very closely with the Non Motorized again this year ensuring we both got the biggest bang for the dollar in sharing our grants to help each other achieve our objectives. The ATV/ORM clubs and riding areas matched over \$2.3 million dollars to enhance our trails across Ontario since 2009/10. OFATV again this time around worked very closely with the Non Motorized sector to further enhance our trails by sharing some of our resources through the grants to other clubs and organizations. When you share resources we all win. More trails get built and maintained and costs are lowered.

The OFATV is the leader in ATV/ROV Safety Training. We provide the most current hands on practical training course in Canada. We currently have 1 Chief Instructor and 12 Instructors across southern Ontario. Our 4 Day instructor training costs \$1500.00 per student. In turn they will teach a 4 to 6 hour course and charge \$125.00 per student of which they keep \$100.00, the other \$25.00 goes to cover the handbook and further help promote ATV Safety across the province. By having instructors in your community you are going that extra distance to help promote safe and responsible riding. Which gives them the ability to train further students in their community. Our youth rider safety training program is aimed at youths between the ages of 12 and 16. We have one goal in mind, train the youth and educate the parents on safe and responsible ATVing practices. In 2007 a youth educational safety training program was collaborated by COHV, Can Am, Ministry Health Promotion, Dr Creery and his trauma team at CHEO all had a helping hand in creating this program. We currently have 40 Dealerships across the province, that have bought into the



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program. We have taught this program in many Schools, to Boy Scouts Canada, 4 H, Health Units and others all across the province.

The Occupational Health and Safety Act of Ontario -

Section 25 (2) (a) - requires employers to provide instruction to workers.

Industrial Reg. 851 Sect 54(1)(d)- requires operators of mobile equipment to be competent

Construction Reg. 213 Sect 96 (1) - requires vehicles to operated by a competent person

The CASI Safety Training course provides the employer and employee the necessary training to meet the requirements above.

As we all know ATV/ROV use in Ontario is on the rise and so is a long and growing list of issues associated with this explosive sector growth. OFATV is keeping pace with this growth and wishes to mount a concerted effort to manage and eliminate the negative implications of increasing ATV use while capitalizing on the many positive benefits that can flow from this growth.

It is well established in jurisdictions across North America that when a motorized trail activities occur on sanctioned, well maintained and standardized trail systems they are done in the safest manner, resulting in the lowest rate of injury and death. The health and safety benefits are even greater when strong; sector driven organizations exist to provide safety training, education and awareness to participants, other trail users and the general public. OFATV and its member clubs are well positioned to deliver these desirable outcomes in the Ontario settings.

Volunteers

Many people ask; What type of things do volunteers do within a local club or riding organization.



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- Trail Building & Maintenance
- Selling permits/passes
- distribute club information, newsletters and distribution
- Talking to potential Members
- Helping at Trade Shows & Fairs
- Lending a Hand at Club Events
- Web Design or Maintenance
- Research & Development
- Tour guides on rides
- Safety Initiatives

One of the big advantages of clubs that have volunteers is the savings when it comes to building and maintaining the trails. Cost comparisons are much higher when a club has to contract out all the work. Preferably moving forward clubs and riding areas should have a combination of both, volunteers and contracting when it comes to ongoing trail building and maintenance. This saves money in some areas and also still contributes to the local economy at the same time. A few years ago the OFATV launched our Family and Club Volunteer of the year awards to show how important volunteers are to the future of our sport. It has created a lot of buzz within the clubs and members.

Let's talk Tourism

How do ATV Clubs, ATV Riders and Riding organizations contribute to tourism.

ATVers contribute to the economy by means of purchasing their machines, trailers, trucks to pull them, clothing because we have to look good, getting gas, buying food and Accommodations at local



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businesses. Building and maintaining those trails creates jobs and provides dollars back to the local economy. Trails that have full day or half day loops, marketed and promoted properly will bring ATVers from across the province to ride them. Like they say in the movies... build it and they will come... There is another saying amongst power sport users "That Power Sport Operators traveling with their Credit Card". It is true, ask any one of them.

Travel Motivations and Preferences

In 2004-2005, approximately 2 million or 8.4% of Canadians participated in snowmobiling or ATVing. This activity ranked as the 13th most common (out of 21) outdoor activities.

ATVers and Sledders tend to be very active in other nature/outdoor activities including: hunting, fishing, camping, snowshoeing, motorcycling, horseback riding, wildlife viewing, boating, cross country and downhill skiing.

In a 2005 COHV Impact Study estimates

ATVers in Canada spent 3.3 billion, directly on activities involving 975,000 operating ATV's



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25% spent on purchasing

25% Meals/Accommodations

12% Fuel for ATV's, Trucks pulling trailers

Out of the 975,000 ATV's in Canada

66% are recreational ATVers

10% Commercial (Police, Hydro, MNR, Military)

24% Farmers or people riding private property only

Economic Value to Ontario

620 Million dollars from ATVing

11,000 people employed directly or indirectly in atv related jobs

ATV Sales for Ontario

24,609 ATV sold each year

Total Fleet size in Ontario (2005)

292,479 ATV's