



News Release Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest

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National Forest ATV, Equestrian, Motorized Trails Open May 1st Improved Trail Signage to Greet Riders upon Return to ATV Routes

Park Falls and Rhinelander, WI – May 1, 2006 – “We welcome back all trail users, whether they are riding an ATV, mountain bike, or sitting on a horse, and we ask that they honor their sport and the National Forest by riding only on trails and roads designated for their use,” said Forest Supervisor Anne Archie.

The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest was closed to motorized, equestrian, and mountain bike use since March 15 to protect trails and roads during the spring breakup.

When ATV enthusiasts return to Forest trails and roads May 1st they will be greeted by more signs along the way to remind them of correct routes. The new signs are placed in the ditch, generally to the right of the main intersection with another road, such as a Township Road. The sign is an 8-inch square on a fiberglass post, 4 to 5 feet above the ground. The Forest Road numbers appear above the ATV symbol.



All Forest Service roads open to ATV use will be posted with signs. New ATV route maps are available for free at District offices in Medford, Park Falls, Glidden, Hayward, and Washburn.

All National Forest ATV riding opportunities occur on the Chequamegon side of the Forest. Eventually there will be trails and roads open on the Nicolet side but no opportunities exist there yet, although some townships allow ATVs on certain town jurisdiction roads.

All ATV riders are also reminded that the Open 26 play area on the Washburn Ranger District, and all off-road/off-trail use throughout the Forest continues to be prohibited. Cross-country travel was banned two years ago in the Chequamegon. Riders should not go beyond road closure devices such as gates, rocks or earthen berms.

A set of Frequently Asked Questions, maps and other information is also available on the Forest web site at www.fs.fed.us/r9/cnnf/rec/atv/index.html. For additional information, contact Medford-Park Falls District Ranger Bob Hennes at 715-762-5107, or 715-748-4875, ext. 50.

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