



News Release

U.S. Forest Service

Allegheny National Forest
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WINTER ATV TRAILS ON ALLEGHENY NATIONAL FOREST TO OPEN SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

Warren, Pa. – The Marienville, Rocky Gap, and Timberline All-Terrain-Vehicle (ATV) Trails will open on Saturday, December 20, 2008, for the winter season, according to Allegheny National Forest Deputy District Rangers Jodie Vanselow and Robert Stovall. **Trail conditions permitting**, the winter ATV system will remain open until April 1. **Trail users should call in advance or check the Forest's website for updated information on trail conditions.**

Rules and Regulations: Riders on the Allegheny National Forest must comply with state and federal regulations for Off-Highway-Vehicle (OHV) use. ATV operators must have a current registration from Pennsylvania or from a state with reciprocal registration, and must carry proof of liability insurance. ATV travel is only allowed on designated ATV trails. ATV's and motorcycles using the ATV trail system are required to have a valid Allegheny NF trail use permit. Riding any OHV on National Forest System lands other than on a designated trail, and riding on designated trails when they are closed, is not permitted. **Riders are reminded that use of OHV's on the frozen surface of the Allegheny Reservoir is illegal.**

Violations of state and federal regulations are subject to citation and fine. Contact the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA DCNR) Snowmobile/ATV Unit at PO Box 8553, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8553, or call PA DCNR toll free 1-866-545-2476 for current regulations and information on registering your OHV.

2008 ATV annual permits are valid until December 31, 2008.

2009 permits will be available for sale at the District Offices by Monday, December 22, and at local vendors after January 5th. Please contact local Districts Offices (Bradford Ranger District – 814-363-6000; Marienville Ranger District – 814-927-5700; or the Supervisors Office – 814-728-6100) for specific office hours, and to ensure permits are available. Remember, you must provide current registration, and proof of liability insurance in order to obtain a permit.

Deputy District Ranger Jodie Vanselow would like to remind all ATV operators that hazards may exist on the trail that are not marked. Please ride safely and within your limitations.

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