

Recovery Points

The Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 3

July 2011

DNR Closes Three Off-Road Vehicle Trails

Agency Creates ORV Stakeholder Work Group

Maryland DNR Press Release (Reprinted)

<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/dnrnews/pressrelease2011/050611b.asp>

Annapolis, Md. (May 6, 2011) — Effective immediately, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has permanently closed three of the State's off-road vehicle (ORV) trails. The Green Ridge, Chandler and Poplar Lick trails had been temporarily closed pending the results of a forest certification audit. The audit, which was completed last week, is part of the State's effort to receive dual certification for all three western Maryland State Forests — a move that will protect the \$950 million western Maryland forest products industry, which employs 9,200 people.

"The Department has been looking closely at the sustainability of these ORV Trails for the past few years. While it is unfortunate that these three trails must be closed, the decision is based on the results of environmental assessments conducted by the Department and the results of our recent forest certification audit," said DNR State Forester Steven W. Koehn.

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...because access to YOUR public land is too important to lose

President's Message

From the desk of the President of the Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association

Preston Stevens

MAFWDA President & PA Jeeps member

At last, summer is here! Many of you have hit many good trails and trail rides.

While work and family events have really kept our family from doing much, we did have a totally awesome time at the Green Ridge State Forest. The trail riding was relaxing and fun. The Stevens Family did right well fishing White Sulphur Pond. While it rained quite a bit, it did not have any negative impact on our trip. We managed to get in real good campfires each evening. Really neat nights, as the clouds were crossing in front of a nearly full moon. The rain made the trail ride that much more fun.

So, if you now have some spare time, make good use of this time and let your elected representatives and land managers know that you want to recreate on "your" land.

My family and I did get one Saturday Morning in on the boat on the Susquehanna River and caught white perch, rock and shad; awesome time.

Unfortunately, we simply did not come out in the necessary numbers when the road closure became proposed. Mind you, this is really not your fault or any four wheel drive people. Given the abuse the ATV users (most, not all) were constantly doing to this area, closure seemed to be a given. The Western Maryland State Forests seeking certification simply put the final nail in the coffin.

I was copied on some of the letters that some of you all wrote. All were very well written and made all of the right points. Unfortunately, the deck was stacked against us.

The DNR is currently looking for a site for ORV use.

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• DNR Closes Off-Road Vehicle Trails

from page 1

Koehn added, "These trails were built and sited decades ago and long before the current trend of riders and riding machine options. The locations of the trails are not sustainable in their current configuration, and they cannot be reconfigured to protect the environmental features located on these lands. We came to fully understand these facts as we reviewed all of our State Forest management activities in preparation for a statewide forest certification Audit in late April. We were not surprised that the forest audit confirmed these particular ORV Trails were unsustainable."

Effective immediately, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has permanently closed three of the State's off-road vehicle (ORV) trails.

Green Ridge trail is part of the Green Ridge State Forest; Poplar Lick trail is in the Savage River State Forest; and Chandler ORV trail winds through the Pocomoke River State Forest. Walk-in access will still be permitted, including walk-in camping at Green Ridge and Poplar Lick trail camping areas. Green Ridge trail vehicle-access closure includes all sections of the trail, including that portion formerly open to licensed on-road vehicles.

"While it is unfortunate that these three trails must be closed, to do otherwise would be irresponsible," said DNR Secretary John Griffin. "The good news is that this process has brought to light the need for us to more actively engage with the ORV community. Input from several hundred stakeholders has underscored the fact that this important community of outdoor enthusiasts deserves the opportunity to ride and is prepared to do so responsibly in partnership with DNR."

The Department recognizes that ORV trails and riding are an important part of the Maryland outdoor recreation community and pledges to identify new and improved trail locations. Options include several privately owned sites with 'ready to ride' trail systems in place that could be purchased or leased by DNR and/or our partners to provide public ORV trail access. DNR is also considering several existing public land locations for inclusion in this new trail evaluation process.

More than 50 stakeholders representing a dozen ORV, trails and environmental organizations from across the region attended the agency's first-ever meetings with the ORV community in March and April. The stakeholders participated in an open forum to offer input and ideas to agency representatives.

DNR will formally appoint its first ORV Stakeholder Workgroup by June 1, which will include representatives of key ORV organizations and individuals who have offered important and informed input during the initial comment period.

"The closure of these trails, while unfortunate, brings us an extraordinary opportunity to find new, improved, user-designed sustainable trail systems, in partnership with our ORV stakeholders," said Paul Peditto, the new ORV Stakeholder Workgroup Leader. "If you own a 4x4, ATV, dirt bike or snowmobile, today's disappointment will translate into good news for the future."

Contact: Josh Davidsburg

410-260-8002 office | 410-507-7526 cell

jdavidsburg@dnr.state.md.us

MAFWDA Comments on MD DNR Trail Assessment Reports

The official published MAFWDA response

Preston Stevens

On Wednesday March 23rd the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) conducted a meeting concerning ORV use on Maryland State Forests. Preston Stevens from MAFWDA attended representing the interests of the MD ORV community. The report is not favorable to ORV. It may be found at this link: www.dnr.maryland.gov/forests/orvreport.asp.

The report at the above link highlights the following recommendation:

WR ORV PIT Recommendations:

1. *Close the following authorized ORV trails: Poplar Lick (SRSF), Green Ridge (GRSF). These trails are not sustainable at the current level of use due to their location. Further evaluation of the Burkholder Trail (PGSF) is suggested for potential closure or relocation. It is worth noting that closing some of these trails will require closure to other users, including drive-up camping and other vehicle access.*
2. *Further evaluate the Negro Mountain Authorized Snowmobile Trail. Closure or relocation may be suggested if impacts are too great.*
3. *Closely monitor impacts along other authorized trails. As needed, close trails where impacts become too great and trail is unsustainable.*

All public comments may be seen at this link:

www.dnr.maryland.gov/forests/orvreport.asp.

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• **MAFWDA Comments to DNR ORV Report**

from page 2

What follows is the official MAFWDA response to the DNR ORV Report. Members of CORE also submitted comments on the ORV report (search the page at the above link for "K. H." and "M. V.")

The position of Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association regarding the Maryland Department of Natural Resources future ORV recreational management

The Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association, a regional association, represents close to 400 family members, with a large portion of the membership living in Maryland and an even larger portion that will recreate in Maryland on state lands. Middle Atlantic is a member of the United Four Wheel Drive Associations, which is a charter member of Tread Lightly! Thus, Conservation and solid land use ethics are our number one core value.

The members of Middle Atlantic have been enjoying four wheel drive recreation on the State Forests of Maryland, dating all the way back to the late 1960's. While access has been limited, it has been enjoyable and unifying to the point of drawing as many as 20 vehicles a far as 200 miles or more away, especially on our once celebrated "Snow Runs." Here we use to fill the Casselman Inn in Grantsville, thus, carrying that business through difficult periods.

Our membership have performed hundreds of volunteer hours toward trail marking and construction for others and conservation efforts to keep our water quality in check and control the movement of soil.

Within Federal Lands, there are Congressionally declared Wilderness Areas, where nothing mechanized is permitted within those boundaries. Yet, there are routes, known as "Cherry Stems" that cut through these areas with no negative impacts to the "Wilderness value." Thus, at least for licensed four wheel drive vehicles, the southern section of Stafford Road should remain open in its current location. This section sees the least amount of ATV use and the lowest amounts of renegade use anywhere on the loop.

A possibility is a simple serious of educational and/or warning signs making the public aware of the "dangers" of interfering with Rattlesnake habitat should suffice. I cannot comment on the ATV access on this stretch, as I have seen very little use there from that group. That section is very rough. A major plus for four wheel drive recreation, but not so much so for the typical ATV user.

The scenic value of this route is second to none. Once the weather warms up, we typically avoid getting out of our vehicles in this area, as we do not care to have any

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MAFWDA Business Partners

MAFWDA has partnered with preferred local businesses. These partners offer special discounts to MAFWDA members. If you own a business or know of a business that would like to become a Business Partner contact Jennifer Watson MAFWDA Marketing Director (Marketing@mafwd.org).

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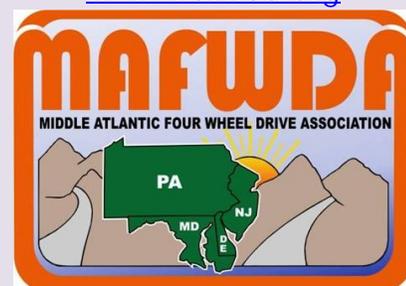
www.mountzionoffroad.com

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Dover, PA 17315
717-308-1844

Yes we are still on the Web!

Check out:

www.mafwda.org



DO YOU KNOW YOUR MAFWDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

Your MAFWDA Board of Directors is composed of volunteer members who contribute their free time to keep the organization going. Currently we have the following folks on the BOD:

President – Preston Stevens (PA Jeeps)
President@mafwd.org

Vice President – Bob Weaver (CORE)
VicePresident@mafwd.org

Treasurer – Clair Kauffman (PA Jeeps)
Treasurer@mafwd.org

Secretary – Mike Vincenty (CORE)
Secretary@mafwd.org

Land Use Director – Preston Stevens (PA Jeeps)
LandUse@mafwd.org

Director of Marketing - Jennifer Watson (PA Jeeps)
Marketing@mafwd.org

Director of Events and Public Relations – Vacant
PublicRelations@mafwd.org

Do you have free time and are willing to help MAFWDA? If so contact one of the Board members at the email addresses above. Any help you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

BIG DOGS PACK IT IN – WEST VIRGINIA
JULY 2-4, 2011

The Big Dog 'Pack it in' trips are designed for those who like to take their street driven vehicle on a trip to and from the trails. Pack it in road trips are planned in Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. Some trips are 80% off road and some are 80% on road (sightseeing). Travel to beautiful destinations that no one sees and camp wherever we want. Some places you can see for 100 miles!

Web site: <http://www.bigdogsoffroad.com>

PA JEEPS 16TH ANNUAL ALL BREEDS JEEP SHOW
YORK EXPO CENTER, YORK, PENNSYLVANIA
JULY 16, 2011 - JULY 17, 2011

A Jeep Exclusive Show-n-Shine / Trail Readiness Event. Commemorative Dash Plaques to the first 400 Registered Jeeps. Obstacle Course - RTI Ramp - Slow Crawl Competition. New Jeeps on Display - Vendor & Swap/Meet Areas - Family Activities Area. HUGE Off-Road Equipment Raffle - and a whole LOT more...!

Spectator Admission - \$5.00 - Children under 12 FREE

Call 717-309-0513 or visit www.pajeeps.org for further information.

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• President's Message

from page 1

Unfortunately, it will likely best serve the ATV community. They are supposed to have selected representatives from each group, including four wheel drive to help to develop a new site. Apparently, we are not represented by anyone in our organization. I wish I could tell you, one of you or myself were taking the reins for four wheel drive, but it appears this is not to be. This entire event has been disappointing. Still, not unexpected. I am actually surprised it took this long before the area was closed.

At least at this point, we are still good to go on the Potomac State Forest and I hope to rekindle an upbeat relationship with us and the Savage River State Forest in the future. I am hoping to set up an appointment when we go to Potomac. Will we be able to do all that we use to on the Savage River State Forest? I would like to think we could, but I highly doubt it, given the current Maryland politics. Still, that area is more than worth working for. Especially for the winter (snow) run. The past fall foliage runs with B4W in the past were certainly a lot of fun. A great group site and camp out. The snow runs featured great and very affordable lodging and meals in Grantsville, Md.

Our members have been actively exploring new potential sites for OHV parks. Members, especially from the CORE club have taken some awesome long distance trips, and winter runs. PA Jeeps once again, are putting together another awesome Jeep Show. That event now get international recognition for being a must do event.

Please keep in mind. While the current economy is really putting a damper on many of us to go wheeling, this will not last forever. Okay, America's Logic Free Zone will have to make some serious changes to pull us out of this major slump. So, if you now have some spare time, make good use of this time and let your elected representatives and land managers know that you want to recreate on "your" land.

I sincerely hope that as you are reading this, you are doing some serious preventive maintenance on your 4x4, so you too can go up to the Potomac State Forest, with your family and friends. Contact me, if you want more information on this really fun outing. Again, it is the weekend of July 22nd-24th. The Stevens family will be there from at least July 20th through July 26th. Feel free to do as we are doing and make it your family's vacation. We will be probably be bringing our boat, as well. There is simply so much to do there. Please contact me as soon as possible if need more information and it

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• Calendar

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MAFWDA POTOMAC STATE TRAIL RIDE AND CAMPOUT
POTOMAC STATE FOREST, GARRET COUNTY MD
JULY 22-24, 2011

Contact: pstevens122656@comcast.net
Web site: www.mafwda.org

BANTAM JEEP HERITAGE FESTIVAL
BUTLER, PA
August 12-14

Web site: <http://www.bantamjeeppfestival.com>

BIG DOGS SUMMER SLAM
GORE, VA
August 13-14

Web site: <http://www.bigdogsoffroad.com>

BIG DOGS MAIN JAMBO
GORE, VA
September 9-11

Web site: <http://www.bigdogsoffroad.com>

JEFF DANIEL'S 8TH ANNUAL ALL JEEP SHOW
Harleysville, PA
September 17

Web site: <http://www.jeffdanielsejeeps.com>

QUADRATEC TENT SALE
1028 Saunders Lane, West Chester, PA 19380
October 8

Web site: <http://www.quadratec.com>

BIG DOGS FALL CRAWL
GORE, VA
September 15-16

Web site: <http://www.bigdogsoffroad.com>

Any additions? Contact Mike Vincenty to get them added to the MAFWDA calendar (Newsletter@mafwda.org). ✓

Do we have your email?

As a member of MAWDA, you should be receiving periodic communications from your fellow MAFWDA members Board Members. If you haven't been receiving these messages, we probably do not have your current email address. Shoot Mike V your email address at mvincenty@core4x4.org and he will ensure you are added to the MAFWDA email list.

Also all current MAFWDA members are encouraged to post items of interest for follow four wheelers on this public email list. Simply send email message to mafwda_news@mafwda.org. ✓

• President's Message

from page 4

would help if I know you are coming.

We will probably be hosting some guests, as this will be a public organized trail ride, through the DNR. They will be our guests and maybe new members.

As my youngest daughter just graduated from High School, it has been a very exciting time in my life. She now even has her own Jeep Cherokee.

It is my most sincere hope that you and your family have an awesome summer season.

Happy Wheelin'!



Preston Stevens is the MAFWDA President and Land Use Director. He is also a member of PA Jeeps. ✓

MAFWDA Represented on MD ORV Trails Work Group

Agency Creates ORV Stakeholder Work Group

Mike Vincenty
MAFWDA Secretary and CORE member

Preston Stevens has been invited and has accepted a position to represent the members and interests of the Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association with the Maryland ORV Trails Work Group. There are at least 2 other folks representing four wheel drive in this group. That gives us a good representation.

ORV Stakeholder Workgroup was created by the MD Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on June 1 and includes representatives of key ORV organizations and individuals who have offered important and informed input during prior agency stakeholder forums.

Watch your MAFWDA newsletter and email list for additional updates. ✓

Quote

Sir Winston Churchill

"I like pigs. Dogs look up to us. Cats look down on us. Pigs treat us as equals."

PA Jeeps Club News

Jennifer Watson

A note from the PA Jeeps Club....

We have a lot going on up here in the Jeep Club....Our Show Chairman Rick is very busy working on the final details for the 16th Annual PA Jeeps All Breeds Jeep Show July 16 & 17 at the York fairgrounds. Its two days of everything Jeep you can imagine, plus a custom build obstacle course, thousands of dollars in raffle prizes and a show and shine field. All that for \$5 per person to get in and 12 and under are free! You can check out our forum for details and a registration packet, www.pajeeps.org.

We are excited to announce we are currently sponsoring a competition rig for the RC Rocks competitions held at Rausch Creek Off Road park. PA Jeeps will be setting up a tent and selling merchandise for the Ballpeen Racing Team at all the events. So come out and see some awesome rock crawling and don't forget to stop by and see us!

Another exciting event for us will be held next year after the Jeep show, it's the annual United Four Wheel Drive Association AGM convention. That's right PA Jeeps will be the host for this event and it's in your back yard! More details will be in the future, but for now keep it in mind for July 2012!

As always PA Jeeps welcomes everyone to come to any of our trail rides scheduled on our calendar or check our forum for trail rides as well. Happy Trails and keep the rubber side down! √

• MAFWDA Comments to DNR ORV Report

from page 3

encounters with snakes, yet we have never seen one at that particular location.

The northern section of East Valley Road, again on Green Ridge, is by far the most abused area. I am pleased to say, thus far, I have never seen any evidence of four wheel drive abuse. While money could be spent to move the road bed, it should be kept in mind that this road was designated a part of the ORV loop long before that section to the west of the road bed was ever declared State Wildlands. Simply based on the principle of prescriptive rights, as well as demand, the road should remain open to motorized vehicles.

At the same time, this section has suffered from a lack of available law enforcement, as much as anything else. Other possible solutions would be to install, true barricades at abused sites, such as large boulders or wooden guard rails, of at least 4" x 4" construction. Water bars could have worked, if they had been installed properly and located properly, in such a manner, as to slow water and soil movement, as well as ATV speed. They need to be at an least 45 degree angle to the road direction to discourage using them as "jumps." Make them wide and tall enough to make jumping even more difficult; the sharper the angle, the more difficult to jump. They should span the entire width of the road bed, or more, as to discourage braiding. Properly

installed, they can make the road just short of maintenance free.

The Southern Section of East Valley has some abuse, but again, the same techniques can work there. Also, there are some sections to the east of the road bed that could be developed into spur routes, with little impacts. Much of that has been recently timbered, thus, some routes exist.

MAFWDA, agree, that rotating trail access may help control the conditions, particularly on the Green Ridge loop. There is little enough four wheel drive usage, that it would be feasible to exempt licensed motor vehicles from the rotation process.

Another possibility would be to open routes on a given weekend based on the numbers on the ORV permit. Either based on the actual number, say numbers 999-1500 or odd/even.

Poplar Lick should not be closed year around to licensed vehicles. It should be open during deer season and during the driest summer months. Snowmobile access should be permitted, as their impacts would be minimal during the snowy season.

While no doubt, the fisheries division would argue that there are measures that would minimize any negative impacts from motor vehicle fords. In simple terms, on either side of a said crossing, lay down a stretch of varying sized of rocks, primarily, larger ones. At the crossings, on either side, birm up the road a bit. This would re-route the run-off. The rocks would work as filters and clear the debris from vehicle tires.

On the GWNF, they installed low level concrete bridges with a series of culvert type pipes running through them. This works in two ways. The water flows, normally, through the pipes. The more water, then more pipes have flow. If there are high levels of water, or if there is a major stoppage, which was very rare, the water simply flows over the concrete. The water remains clear and the bridge remains intact. The ones on the GWNF survived the major flooding from Hurricane Fran, even when an earthen dam gave way. Recreational Trails Fund money can be applied to this measure.

The rest of the road should have a slight grade away from the stream, to reduce siltation.

I like to fish, as do many of our membership, as much as I enjoy recreational four wheel drive.

So, I (we) have a sincere interest in the quality of our waterways. Properly constructed routes can make the two compatible.

It is only fair to the ATV group, that if Poplar Lick is closed, a comparable new route is open for that use nearby.

One avenue to explore at some point, are guided, organized rides on select routes, even if a separate track of land or ORV/OHV park is established. These rides could use normally closed routes during dryer times of the year. Good tourism material.

United Four Wheel Drive Associations (UFWDA) has always tried to discourage the term ORV (Off Road Vehicle) and instead use OHV (Off Highway Vehicle). ORV seems to promote what we are trying to control. We are not permitted to drive off road in Maryland. These routes are roads.

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MAFWDA Announces Potomac State State Forest Trail Ride and Campout

Preston Stevens
MAFWDA President & PA Jeeps member

Hi Folks,

We are still on for the Potomac State Forest trip on July 22nd-24th. As it stands right now, this event will be open to some public, as well. Our trail work will likely be limited to moving downed trees out of our way and putting some WD40 on some locks as we go through.

The Stevens Family is making this our summer vacation. Thus we will be arriving on either on the 19th or 20th and leaving on 26th or 27th of July.

Remember, if you have never been there before, it is dry camping. In other words, not hookups. You need to bring your own water. If you need electricity, bring your own generator. There is an outhouse in walking distance from the campsite, but not in smelling distance. It is a good facility.

You will need to gas up before you arrive at the campsite. You may bring friends and their 4x4's as long as they are responsible. Large full size 4x4's are not really recommended. Still, there are some trails they would be okay on, if they are not worried about scratches or possible dents.

31" or larger tires recommended, but by no means required. Skid plate makes perfect sense. A full size spare should be high on your list. Flat tires are not out of the question and it is not fair to ruin someone else's trip because you have to borrow theirs.

I recommend that you bring chairs for around the campfire. Flash light(s), camera, hat, sunglasses and bug spray, just in case. Generally, the bugs are not an issue. It can get cool at night. Even 40's.

Tow hooks and tire gauge are a must. Everyone will air down prior to hitting the trails. A portable air compressor is nice to have with you.

Keep in mind; it can rain up there, even in July.

There are some real nice places to fish up there. A fresh water license and trout stamp is required in most places to fish up there. Last year, we had some awesome swimming.

There are some awesome tourist traps up there. Several, I can recommend. Great family stuff.

There are at least 3 good locations you can use a gas powered boat. Even PWC's and water skiing.

It would be helpful if you can let me know if you are coming up and if anyone is coming up with you.

Remember, anything from pup tents to motor homes

will work up there. Oh, metal nail type stakes are recommended if you are tenting it.

So, come up and see one of Maryland's best kept secrets.

Have a great day!

If you plan on attending, please contact the trip organizer Preston Stevens (pstevens122656@comcast.net). v

For more Information on Potomac State Forest visit the following on-line resources:

<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/potomacforest.asp>

<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/potomacguide.html>

Have An Interesting Article?

Always looking for a news

Do you have an interesting article that would be of interest to the MAFWDA membership? If so, please submit it to the Middle Atlantic newsletter editor. It will be published in the next edition of Recovery Points. v

MAFWDA Online Store

Get your MAFWDA merchandise here!

Did you know that Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association has an online store? Here you can purchase great MAFWDA branded merchandise on the online store. Tee-shirts, sweatshirts, coffee mugs; we got it all!

<http://www.cafepress.com/mafwd>

This month's featured item.



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8 Things You Can Do To Make A Difference

Protecting Our 4-Wheeling Trails & Riding Areas

Jim Walczak (Reprinted)

4wheeldrive.about.com

Here are 8 guaranteed ways to help in the fight to protect our trails and riding areas:

- 1. Educate yourself.** Force yourself to break from your normal routine to learn more about the issue. Spend some time asking questions and chatting about it with family members, friends, fellow 4-wheelers, or local community leaders. Take an interest in others' experiences and opinions, then make up your own mind about the issue.

Try to stay up-to-date on action alerts, current legislation, and key votes that have recently taken place in Congress. You can even receive [e-mail updates](#) from the Blue Ribbon Coalition whenever issues arise that impact your favorite sports (4x4ing, ATVing, snowmobiling, etc.) in your local area.
- 2. Pick one thing.** Choose one small thing that pertains to the issue, and devote whatever you can to that one thing. Don't try to tackle the whole problem yourself, instead choose one small aspect that you are most comfortable with. There is only so much that one person can do. But, by picking just one small thing, you'll be able to be more productive, while taking up less of your valuable time and energy.
- 3. Pick up the phone.** Call your elected representative and ask questions about the issue. Remember, they sought public service in order to help a community members get what they want. So they actually want to hear from you! Here's everything you want to know about [who to contact and what to say](#), whether by phone, letter, or e-mail.
- 4. Pick up a pen.** Write an editorial letter to [all the local newspapers in your area](#). The column exists for a reason... to allow local citizens to share their point of view. And you do have one, don't you? Best of all, the newspaper reaches literally thousands of people from your area at once! Keep in mind that a letter to the editor doesn't have to be long to be strong. In fact, the shorter the letter the more people will actually read it. Have at least two people proofread it for accuracy, grammar, and spelling, then submit it to all of your local newspapers, maybe even national ones too!
- 5. Get involved.** The best way to get involved on the local level is to [join a 4-wheeling club](#). If one person can make a difference, just think of the

power a few dozen people could make as a group!

If there's not a club in your area, then take the grassroots approach and [start a club yourself](#). It's easy! If you know at least one other four-wheeler and the two of you are willing to share your thoughts, ideas, and time with other four-wheelers, then you'll be surprised how quickly your small group will turn into a meaningful club with a purpose. [Each state](#) also has a "four wheel drive association" that can help you. They provide clubs with materials, information and expertise on how to fight and win battles with groups opposed to all forms of responsible off-road use.

- 6. Be a role model and a leader.** You don't have to be a die-hard activist to make your point and to be an example to fellow four-wheelers. Simply by talking the talk and walking the walk, you will be influencing many more people who could ultimately make a difference... in their own way too!

As Gandhi said, "We must become the change we wish to see." If you want the problem to get better, rather than worse, then become a leader in the fight to protect our lands. Step up to the plate and make your point of view known, whenever you're in the right place at the right time.
- 7. Recruit one person.** Find one friend or family member to jump on board and help you support the cause. They don't have to be a four-wheeler – if they like hiking, camping, hunting, fishing, birding, mountain biking, backpacking, nature photography, horseback riding, climbing, or any other recreational use of the public lands, then these closures affect them too! Encourage them to write or call their elected officials, and help them write their letters. Remind them how valuable their help would be and how one person can make a difference!
- 8. Increase public awareness.** For example, by adding a catchy phrase or quote that's meaningful to you into the tagline of your e-mails, or by slapping a bumper sticker on your vehicle, you'd be reminding others of the importance of this issue on a daily basis. Here are [more simple ways to increase public awareness](#) of the problem in your local area.

In sum, if you are aware that there's a problem, yet you're not doing anything (anything at all!) about it, then you're only adding to the problem. Silence is deadly, and it's killing our riding areas. Let's not fall victim to our own apathy and a desire to only have fun. It's time to break from the stereotypes and make a difference once and for all!

Next Edition: 9 Simple Ways to Increase Public Awareness of the Issue. √

Defeating Frame Rust

Reprint from:

<http://www.4wdtraveller.com/2007/05/controlling-rust-spray-it-on.html>

If you drive a body-on-frame 4x4 (and hopefully you do) the problem of frame rust has probably cropped up at some point, especially if you actually use your vehicle off-road. I'm one of those who do, and many times I've glanced under my truck after an outing to see my frame covered in a horrible combination of mud, sand, branches, clay and small animal parts.

So after reading about several commercial trucking companies that spray their truck frames with oil every year, I decided to give it a try.

All that moisture and organic mulch sticks to the frame like glue, and is held in place by the globs of mud and muck that penetrate every hole, seam, and crevice. Even the spray-wash rarely removes it all, and I'm left wondering how long my poor frame will last.

But now I've discovered what I believe is a simple, effective, and cost-effective alternative to expensive frame treatments, one that (so far) keeps my frame in great condition and stops rust in its tracks. And it costs almost nothing.



Since frames are made of steel they will rust, and usually from the inside out. But what you may have noticed on older 4WDs is that the frame rarely rusts near the engine compartment. Many people think this is due to heat generated by the engine which keeps things drier and therefore less prone to rust.

Although this may be partly true, the rust-free condition of the frame near the engine compartment is primarily due to oil. Over their lifetime, most engines leak, sweat, or dribble varying amounts of oil, and most owners and mechanics spill regular amounts of oil on a regular basis.

Over the years, much of that oil usually ends up on the frame before ending up on the road, eventually spreading and coating much of the front of the frame. This constant coating of oil does the obvious: it protects the metal from rust by eliminating moisture and sealing out oxygen.

So after reading about several commercial trucking

companies that spray their truck frames with oil every year, I decided to give it a try. I mixed three parts freshly drained diesel oil with one part kerosene and poured it into a used spray bottle.

I slid under my truck and sprayed every square centimeter of frame with the messy black mixture. I sprayed it into the pre-existing holes in the frame, I sprayed it onto the top of the frame, I sprayed it on anything rusty.

Over the next few weeks, I crossed creeks, drove along beaches and dusty roads, climbed up muddy hills and explored remote trails. I got momentarily stuck in a sandbar. I got temporarily stuck in a meter of snow. I got partially stuck in a waist-deep mud sink-hole. I got briefly stuck in a river.



I continued using the car as a daily driver and didn't wash the frame once. After three weeks, I grabbed a torch (flashlight), donned some goggles, and slid back under the vehicle to inspect the condition of the frame. It looked almost as clean as it did when I first coated it.

The long-term rust test is still in progress, but I'm confident this will be extremely effective at preventing new rust and retard the growth of existing rust. It makes perfect sense: oil prevents oxidation and eliminates moisture. It is rust's worst enemy.

And unlike frame treatments that require surface rust to be ground, scraped, or sandblasted off, this simple oil treatment coats everything, rust and all. It penetrates, preventing 'new' metal being exposed to oxygen and further reducing the risk of oxidation (apparently, most paints and rust treatments lock moisture in, accelerating the oxidation process).

Coating your vehicle's frame with a mixture of used engine oil and kerosene (or spray-on lithium grease, which works even better but costs a little more) can extend the life of your frame and save you time and money. It might not be the coolest solution to the problem of frame rust, but for the average bloke in the average rig, it just might be the best.

Give it a try: you have nothing to lose but the rust.

DGH √

Anthracite Outdoor Adventure Area News

AOAA Master Plan Meeting July 6, 2011

Northumberland County will hold its third public input session on the Anthracite Outdoor Adventure Area (AOAA) Master Plan. The County commissioned this study to evaluate and provide recommendations for over 6,500 acres of County property proposed to become a formalized venue for motorized and non-motorized recreation activities.

The public meeting will be held on **Wednesday, July 6, 2011 - 6:30 pm**, at the Shamokin Area Junior Senior High School Auditorium, 2000 W. State Street, Coal Township, PA 17866.

A draft of the Anthracite Outdoor Adventure Area Master Plan is available for review below.

At this meeting the Consultants will present a draft of the recommendations developed for the proposed facility including:

- Facility and activity areas proposed within the AOAA
- Proposed plan for Phase I funding and development
- Proposed rules of use for the AOAA
- Providing for the safety and security of visitors to the AOAA
- Business plan components including the proposed fee structure to cover operating and maintenance expenses, and future capital development
- Projected economic impact to Northumberland County

At this meeting attendees will have the opportunity to comment on the draft recommendations presented in the master plan. This is the third of three public input sessions being held during the master planning process for the AOAA.

The master plan is being funded with grants from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. The plan is being prepared by Pashek Associates, a Landscape Architecture and Community Planning Firm located in Pittsburgh, in conjunction with Pennoni Associates of Mechanicsburg. v

For more Information on the Anthracite Outdoor Adventure Area

see the following on-line resources

Northumberland County's Anthracite Outdoor Adventure Area (AOAA)

<http://www.anthraciteadventure.com>

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Web Site

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us>

• MAFWDA Comments to DNR ORV Report

from page 6

Snowmobile trails are just that. Snowmobile trails.

We have always promoted user education. It was quite apparent that the public knows very little about our state lands. They do not understand the difference from a Forest and a Park. They know very little about timber management and its benefits. They have not, until now, caught on to what happens when Tread Lightly! ethics are not followed. They know nothing about the Recreation Trails Program.

Raising fees could help to pay for an educational program that could require viewing a video or reading a set of guidelines and regulation and signing off on an acknowledgement of an understanding of this information. Aside from the obvious, it would also give enforcement a legal standing. The additional fees could also go toward more law enforcement. Michigan has an annual permit that all must buy to use the Silver Lake Sand Dunes, plus there are 3 day permits that must be purchased for each visit. This is a great way to monitor demand on a given day.

The members of Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association want to continue to foster solid relationships with the DNR. We would also want to see expanded access, even if it is on a rotational basis. Historically, we have been able to access unique routes on the state forests with little to no impacts and no lasting impacts, negative in nature. Typically, these are closely monitored, guided rides. Organized groups or clubs can be key players in this process.

Each of the State Forests have potentially, outstanding areas or routes to drive one's four wheel drive vehicle on, with little to no impacts and no long term impacts, if done so under controlled conditions, in some areas.

A primary goal for the state should be the establishment of an ORV/OHV park, if you will. While this is not likely to be a total fix, it should substantially reduce to levels of abuse and demand on the State Forest road system and resources. Monies are available to get this established or at least started. Once established, these parks can be self sustaining or better.

We sincerely hope this information is of some use to the department and can be used to foster a sustainable Off Highway, motorized and multiple-use trail system.

Respectfully Submitted,

Preston Stevens

President-Conservation/Land Use Director

Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association. v

Puzzle Page

Instructions: Here you find a “word search” puzzle need to be solved. Clues are provided below. If you get stuck, you can cheat and get answers to the puzzles here: http://mafwda.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=21&Itemid=29

Tools of the Trade

Tools we love to use.

T	C	O	M	P	R	E	S	S	O	R	S	U	T	F
H	S	U	R	B	E	R	I	W	R	E	E	B	U	L
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D	E	F	O	I	E	M	V	B	E	T	S	E	I	S
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T	R	E	P	P	I	R	T	S	E	R	I	W	M	L
P	L	A	S	M	A	C	U	T	T	E	R	C	J	L

Words to Find

BEER	BLEEDER	CIRCUITTESTER
COMPRESSOR	CREEPER	DRILL
ENGINEHOIST	FILE	FLASHLIGHT
GUAGE	JACK	JACKSTAND
JUMPERCABLES	MALLET	MULTIMETER
PICKLEFORK	PLASMACUTTER	PLIERS
RATCHET	SAFETYGLASSES	SCREWDRIVER
SCRIBER	TIMINGLIGHT	TUBINGBENDER
WISE	WIREBRUSH	WIRESTRIPPER
WRENCHES		

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