



GRAND FORKS ATV SOCIETY

AUGUST 2021 NEWSLETTER

What's happening with the Grand Forks ATV Society? Find out below!

Top stories in this newsletter:



GF Rotary Funding Helps with site Maintenance!



Upcoming AGM for 2021!



Trail Deactivations continue to blind-side GFATV!



New maintenance saw gets a workout!

Mower Mania!



GFATV would like to give out a huge thank you to the Grand Forks Rotary for funds to purchase a riding lawnmower to aid in the maintenance of our recreation sites. This helps us keep them clean and visually appealing as well as minimizing the fire risk that an otherwise unkempt site would bring to the area.

We also would like to express our gratitude for Ryan over at B&F Sales for selling us the perfect good-used machine for the job. We always appreciate your support! If you need anything ORV related, he's the guy to see.

Outside Meetings & AGM plans for 2021!



GFATV held their first Society meeting June 30, 2021, at City Park. The main focus of their first meeting was all about communications. We talked for quite a while on how members have been coping with Covid and how our society and many others has suffered as a result. Many valid points were raised as with suggestions on how to better adapt moving forward.

The date for our upcoming AGM will be Sept or Oct. We highly encourage members to take the time to be present during this meeting. The current heat wave is most unfortunate as it has led to the closure of the surrounding riding areas due to the severe fire risk. GFATV hopes to use this time to complete several current projects and do some upgrades to the Recreation Sites. It was great to connect as a Society again and City Park was a good location. The shade was a welcome reprieve from all this heat!

Stewards in title, but not in treatment!



Trail deactivations and non-regulated restrictions to public properties have been a very hot discussion topic amongst Government bodies and outdoor clubs such as ours for years. It's no secret that we are often the last to be consulted (if we are even given that privilege) and the first to be dismissed regarding information and responses. Just recently GFATV was made aware of two sites where signage was established to further minimize the access given to motorized users, and vandalism of GFATV maintained sites. This modification of site access is not authorized by any government officials, nor was any consultation offered to GFATV in regards to the changes that occurred.

This issue runs very close to home for a lot of our members as this action is seen as an "Ableist" attack on those disabled and physically incapable of enjoying these trails without the assistance of motorized access. And on a more emotional note, one of our members was killed due to a property owner taking actions to close access to a trail where they had no claim to do so.

Trail Blazer saw makes it look easy!



Since trail maintenance is such a large part of what GFATV is passionate about, a decision was made during last year's AGM about purchasing a Trail Blazer saw to assist with those pesky trails getting all overgrown and unkempt. There was a little bit of "learning as we went", but the trail maintenance committee feels they have it figured out and are more than eager to load it up and get to work soon! The biggest obstacle that has been identified with this equipment is the safety for those in close proximity that are unaware of their surroundings. With quick action and safety measures in place, we just use this as an opportunity to remember to always be mindful when on trails.

ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES

CAN CAUSE WILDFIRES

RESPECT THE FOREST

Being careful about how and where you drive your all-terrain vehicle (ATV) will help protect the forests and grasslands of B.C.

EXHAUST SYSTEMS CAN GET VERY HOT

Hot mufflers and exhaust residue can ignite grass and other flammable material.



BE AWARE OF WILDFIRE RISKS

Carry enough water and a hand tool to put out any fire that you start, including campfires.

STAY ON ESTABLISHED TRAILS AND ROADS

Do NOT operate an ATV in tall grass or other vegetation when weather conditions are hot and dry.

Report wildfires, unattended campfires or violations of regulations by calling *5555 on a cell or 1 800 663-5555 toll-free.

BC Wildfire Service | BCwildfire.ca | @BCGovFireInfo



Big thanks go out to Interfor and Vaagen for funding the dust control application at 28 Mile Rec Site.

The application was recently completed by YRB and has made a tremendous difference in the area.



Want to find out how to join GFATV, learn more about any of the topics listed in this edition of our newsletter or just want to find the best place to ride? Get in touch with us by the information below or connect with us on facebook by looking up "Grand Forks ATV Club"! Stay safe and ride!

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