Motorized Trail permits for the South Dakota Portion of the Black Hills National Forest

Black Hills National Forest Offices: Open 8am to 4:30pm Monday thru Friday

Maps and Guidance at any of the Forest Service Offices

Northern Hills Ranger District – 2014 N. Main Street - Spearfish, SD (605) 642-4622
Mystic Ranger District – 8221 S. Highway 16 - Rapid City, SD (605) 343-1567
Supervisors Office – 1019 N. 5th Street - Custer, SD (605) 673-9200
Hell Canyon Ranger District – (Newcastle, WY Office) 1225 Washington Blvd (307) 746-2782
Bearlodge Ranger District – 101 S. 21st Street – Sundance, WY (307) 283-1361

7 Day = $20.00                                                                                                             Annual Permits - $25.00

ANNUAL PERMITS ARE SOLD AT ALL FOREST SERVICE OFFICES, Black Hills Badlands Visitor Center (Rapid City) I-90 Exit 61 (605) 355-3700. Online sales can be purchased from Black Hills Badlands at: https://www.blackhillsbadlands.com/store/permits-passes

NORTHERN HILLS
Spearfish Canyon Lodge — 10619 Roughlock Falls Road, Lead, SD (605) 584-3435
Steel Wheel Trading Post — 21399 US Highway 385, Deadwood, SD (605) 578-9767
D&K ATV Rentals — 12737 Guest Ranch Loop, Nemo, SD (605) 578-1354
Custer Crossing Campground — 22036 US Highway 385, Deadwood, SD (605) 584-1009
CBH/Cenex — 2030 Lazelle St., Sturgis, SD 57785 (605) 720-2946
Big D Oil — 2800 Junction Avenue, Sturgis, SD (605) 720-4051
Big D Oil — 15003 Sturgis Road, Piedmont, SD (605) 342-6777
Mystic Trails Rentals — 2716 Custer Peak Rd, Deadwood, SD (605) 584-4794
Whitetail Creek — 11295 US Highway 14A, Lead, SD (605) 584-9085
Minuteman Food & Fuel — 820 East Colorado Blvd, Spearfish, SD (605) 642-4793
Minuteman Too — 611 East Jackson Blvd, Spearfish, SD (605) 642-4945
Wickiup Cabins — 21381 US Highway 85, Lead, SD (605) 584-3382
Recreational Springs Resort — 11201 US Highway 14A, Lead, SD (605) 584-1228

CENTRAL HILLS
Black Hills & Badlands Visitor Information Center — 1851 Discovery Cr., Rapid City, SD (605) 355-3700
Black Hills Power Sports — 3005 Beal Street, Rapid City, SD (605) 342-5500
Rice’s Rushmore Motorsports — 3337 East Mall Drive, Rapid City, SD (605) 342-2242
Four Seasons Motorsports & Marine — 1600 E St Patrick Street, Rapid City, SD (605) 342-1110
Polaris of the Black Hills — 11778 Constitution Street, Summerset, SD (605) 718-2290
Adventure Rentals — 12670 Robins Roos Road, Hill City, SD 57745 (605) 673-4540
Keystone Country Store — 408 1st Street, Keystone, SD (605) 666-4912
Mt Meadow Resort at Deerfield Lake — 11321 Gillette Prairie Road, Hill City, SD (605) 574-2636
Heart of the Hills Exxon — 101 Main Street, Hill City, SD (605) 574-2077
Sturgis ATV & Small Engine — 2043 Lazelle St., Sturgis, SD (605) 561-2887

SOUTHERN HILLS
Lynn’s Dakota Mart — 800 Mt. Rushmore Road, Custer, SD (605) 673-4463
Adventure Rentals — 444 Mt. Rushmore Road, Custer, SD (605) 673-4540
South Dakota State Laws

OHVs which are licensed, and operated by a person with a valid driver’s license over the age of 14, are permitted to drive on public highways (e.g., state, county, or city streets and roads, and Forest Service roads) throughout the state with the exception of Interstate Highways.

Underage drivers that are not licensed, by the state are allowed to operate appropriately sized motorized OHVs on Forest Service motorized trails, but not on forest roads.

The State of South Dakota requires any all-terrain vehicle with four or more wheels with a combustion engine having a piston or rotor displacement of two hundred cubic centimeters or more (OHV for the purposes of this Vendor Guide) to be licensed as a motorcycle to be used on a public highway. This applies to all Forest Service roads.

Three-wheeled ATVs and ATVs under 200cc cannot be licensed and therefore cannot operate on roads. However, these vehicles may operate on Forest Service trails.

- Licensed OHVs may not be operated on the interstate highway and must be equipped with a horn, headlight, brake light, and rear view mirror.
- Operators of licensed vehicles operating on roads must be at least 14 years of age with a valid driver’s license.
- Helmets are required by all users (operators and passengers) under 18 years of age. Eye protection is required for all operators.

- Drivers must obey all traffic laws.

5-15 day temporary licenses can be purchased for $1 per day (in-state or out-of-state applicant) on an OHV by contacting the Department of Revenue and Regulation. 605-773-3541 or contacting a County motor vehicle office:

    Custer       605-673-8172
    Fall River   605-745-5145
    Pennington   605-394-2163
    Lawrence     605-578-1862

A bill of sale or assigned title must be presented. If the applicant is from a state that does not title or register an ATV, an affidavit attesting to this fact and attesting to ownership of the ATV is acceptable.

Reference: http://dor.sd.gov/Motor_Vehicles/Titling_and_Registration/Off-Road_Vehicles.aspx

The state of South Dakota honors other states plates that are issued to the OHVs.
View the Black Hills National Forest Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) on your Mobile Device

If you own a mobile device such as an iPad, iPhone, iPod Touch or Android (4.0.3 or newer), you can take the Black Hills National Forest MVUMs with you.

1. Download the free Avenza Maps app at your App Store or Google Play to your mobile device.
2. Once you have Avenza Maps on your mobile device, use your device to download the maps while running the App.
3. The first time you open Avenza Maps, you can either log in or click the x on the screen to bypass logging in.
4. Go to the Shopping Cart (store).
5. For Apple devices only, click Find Maps. For Androids skip this step.
6. IMPORTANT! Select List.
   - Apple: Store, Map, List
   - Android: 
7. Filter maps. Apple: Store, Map, List
   - Android: 
8. Select Free maps only and Parks, Forests, & Grasslands. Uncheck everything else.
9. For Apple: Select Close. For Android: Select back arrow in the top left corner.
10. Click on Name, region or keyword and type Blackhills MVUM (type Blackhills as one word) to download free MVUMs for Bearlodge, Northern Hills, Mystic and Hell Canyon Ranger Districts.
11. Click the Free rectangle and then click Install Now for each map you want.
12. You can also download the free color version of the maps by clicking on Name, region or keyword typing Black Hills National Forest Recreation Map.
13. Again, click Free rectangle and then click Install Now for each map you want.
14. Once the map has installed, you will see a popup screen Success. Your map is now downloading. Click OK.
15. Click My Maps.
16. Click on the map you want to open.
17. Once the maps are downloaded to your device, cell coverage is not required to navigate.

With the app and maps installed on your mobile device, you will be able to:
View your location on the MVUM using the built-in GPS device, measure distances and areas, plot waypoints, view maps offline and more.

Limitations: The travel aid has several shortcomings, as described below.
- WiFi-only tablets can provide some limited non-GPS positioning service, but only where WiFi coverage exists. Devices with 3G/4G capability, on the other hand, are able to provide true GPS positioning, even in the absence of 3G/4G coverage.
- Depending on the mobile device, the map’s orientation may be set to “north up”, and cannot be set to “track up” when GPS positioning is active. In other words, a motorist’s view of the map could show north-up even when driving in a southerly direction.
- GPS positioning consumes more power than normal operation, so use of an approved power adapter is recommended.
- Feature labels are static and, in some situations, could be off-screen.
- Travel aid functionality could be compromised if steeply rising terrain, dense vegetation, or other overhead obstructions significantly degrade GPS reception.

Through a no-cost contract with Avenza Systems, Inc., the USDA Forest Service has made electronic versions of its Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUMs) available as free downloads for smartphones and tablets.
Placement of Trail Permits on Motorized Vehicles

All vehicles on motorized trails are required to have a permit adhered to the vehicle. Receipts of permits or permits that are not adhered to the vehicle are not valid.

For vehicles with windshields, the permit should be affixed to the driver’s side on the front windshield. Vehicles other than motorcycles, without windshields (such as ATVs or UTVs), should affix the permit on the front left external wheel panel. Motorcycles, should affix the permit on the front center fork, or top of fender. All permits must be visible to oncoming vehicles.

Permits will have the year in large numbers and are color coded by year. To be valid, permits will need to be affixed in the proper locations on the vehicle and kept visible (not covered with attached items, gear, or accumulated dirt or mud).
Wyoming State Laws

Black Hills National Forest partners with the Wyoming State Trails Program which helps provide funding, labor, and equipment for trails. Since the trails on the National Forest are covered by this partnership, trail users are required to have a Wyoming State ORV Permit displayed on their vehicles. A Black Hills National Forest Trail Permit is not required by OHVs using trails in Wyoming.

In Wyoming vehicle width is limited to 50” or less. Most UTVs will not be allowed on the trails.

Roads that are enrolled in the Wyoming Trails Program require a state registration and can only be travelled by licensed drivers age 15 and over. The WY ORV Trails permit is required to operate ORVs on roads in the program, along with a current Wyoming license plate. There is no reciprocity for OHV out-of-state registrations. All people who will be operating OHVs must purchase a Wyoming OHV permit and license if travelling on roads. If vehicles will be only on trails, no license plate is necessary.

Wyoming Trails Program
State Parks, Historic Sites, and Trails Headquarters
Barrett Building, 4th Floor
2301 Central Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82002
(307) 777-6323
Roads VS Trails

Roads are governed by **State** laws while trails are primarily governed by National Forest Rules.

On the Black Hills National Forest, **roads** are generally numbered with three digits followed by a point and another number or letter.

**Trails** are numbered with four digits with “TR” on top. The first digit generally indicates the district the trail is administered by (1-Bearlodge, 3-Hell Canyon, 6-Mystic, and 8-Northern Hills) but there are occasions where a trail will start on one District and end in another.

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On the ground brown fiberglass signs like this one will be posted. The numbers will correspond with the road or trail numbers on the motor vehicle use map.
- A Motorized Trail Permit is required for use of vehicles on any motorized trail in the Black Hills National Forest in South Dakota. These trails, subject to change, can be found on the Motorized Vehicle Use Map (MVUM), which is updated every year.
- License plate and driver’s license are required on any roads. See State of SD requirements for registration of OHVs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Road Type</th>
<th>Driver’s License</th>
<th>License Plate on Vehicle</th>
<th>Motor Vehicle Use Permit (Sticker)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Highway Legal Road</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Open to All</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Either license plate or sticker</td>
<td>Either License plate or sticker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trail</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Legend**
- Roads Open to Highway Legal Vehicles Only
- Roads Open to All Vehicles
- Trails Open to All Vehicles
- Special Designation: Trails Open to Vehicles 62” or Less in Width
- Trails Open to Vehicles 50” or Less in Width
- Trails Open to Motorcycles Only
- Seasonal Designation
- Area Open to Cross Country Travel
- Dispersed Camping / Elk Retrieval
- Elk Retrieval (ER) Zone
- Interstate
- Highways, US, State
- Other Public Roads
- Motorized Trailhead
- FS Campground
- Picnic Area
- Information Site
- Peaks

- A LICENSE PLATE AND DRIVERS LICENSE ARE REQUIRED ON ALL ROADS (FOREST SERVICE ROADS, COUNTY ROADS, HIGHWAYS)
- EITHER LICENSE PLATE OR TRAIL PERMIT REQUIRED
  - A MOTORIZED TRAIL PERMIT IS REQUIRED ON ALL TRAILS. TRAILS ARE MARKED WITH A CAROSITE SIGN FOLLOWED BY FOUR DIGITS; LICENSE PLATE NOT REQUIRED
- SEASONAL DESIGNATION IS MARKED ON MANY ROADS AND TRAILS INDICATING THAT THEY ARE CLOSED DECEMBER 15 – MAY 15.
- A LICENSE PLATE AND DRIVERS LICENSE ARE REQUIRED ON ALL ROADS (FOREST SERVICE ROADS, COUNTY ROADS, HIGHWAYS)
Most trails on the South Dakota side of the Black Hills National Forest are designed for vehicles less than 62” in width.

In Wyoming, the width cannot exceed 50”.

There are some trails open to all, some trails open only to single track (motorcycle) and roads open to all.

This is measured from the widest outside point to the widest point outside of the vehicle.
Do not play in mud or water. This causes resource damaged to Forest Roads and Trails.

Routes not shown on the MVUM are **not** open to public motor vehicle travel. Routes designated for motorized use may not always be signed on the ground but will be identified on the MVUM. **It is the user’s responsibility to reference the MVUM and stay on designated routes.** The MVUM is updated annually. If a route is posted closed, even if it is on the MVUM, it is not legal to ride on

Black Hills National Forest is working on establishing a State-wide Tread Lightly (RIDE ON) program in South Dakota. This state wide program will be similar to programs in neighboring states including Wyoming and Montana. South Dakota will join 12 other states with the RIDE ON program which involves partners across the state working together to promote responsible use by offering education and stewardship focusing on anything with an engine that gets you outdoors. Watch for future educational efforts.
TRAVEL RESPONSIBLY

Travel responsibly on designated roads, trails or areas.

- Travel only in areas open to all-terrain vehicle (ATV) use.
- Minimize wheel spin. On switchbacks, avoid roosting around the apex of the turn when climbing or brake-sliding during descent, both of which gouge the trail. Drive over, not around obstacles to avoid widening the trail.
- Slow down when sight lines are poor. Cross streams only at designated fording points, where the trail crosses the stream.
- Comply with all signs and respect barriers.
- Buddy up with two or three riders, reducing vulnerability if you have an accident or breakdown. Designate meeting areas in case of separation.
- When winching, always inspect your equipment, use the right winch for the situation, find a good secure anchor and never winch with less than five wraps of wire rope around the drum.
- When using a tree as an anchor, use a wide tree strap to avoid damaging the trunk of the tree.
- Listening to headphones or ear buds can make it difficult to hear and communicate with other recreationists.
- Don’t mix riding with alcohol or drugs.

TRAIL NAVIGATION MADE EASY:

- You are responsible to know where you can ride in the Forest. Download Motorized Vehicle Use (Trail) Maps to your Smartphone using the “Avenza” APP. Maps show Open Roads, Restrictions and Seasonal Wildlife Closures.

ACT RESPONSIBLY:

- Close all gates that you open, and do not chase or harass livestock, or wildlife.
- Help ensure that fences, water tanks, restrooms, historic buildings and lookout towers are not damaged.

FOR YOUR SAFETY:

- Be aware of, and stay clear of, logging activities, log truck traffic, mines and mining activities.

HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF WEEDS:

- Stay on designated routes. Wash your vehicle after use to remove non-native weeds and their seeds, so they are not spread by your vehicle.

PROTECT OUR ROADS AND TRAILS:

- To prevent erosion and damage to roads & trails, avoid wet surfaces. Do not drive through wetlands or stock ponds. If you encounter a wet area, or stream crossing, drive slowly thru it. Do not make a new route around it.