

Extended MVUM Frequently Asked Questions

What to do if I find a downed tree or a washout area?

Report it to one of the Forest Service offices.

If we find a downed tree can we cut it and get it out of the way?

You may cut a downed tree that is blocking a road or trail.

Can we stop and have a picnic, can we use a grill? **Yes.**

What is the speed limit?

25 mph unless posted otherwise.

Can we ride after dark?

Yes, with proper lighting following state of Michigan ORV regulations.

Can we camp over night?

Yes. However, you may not stay longer than 14 days in one location.

When do the trails open and close?

Trails are open from May 15 to March 15 annually. We ask that you also consider road conditions outside of these dates before you ride.

How do we know what trails we can ride?

By referencing our Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUM), which are published yearly. These maps are free of charge and can be picked up at any Forest Service Office.

What do the MVUM road signs look like?

A flat brown post or “rail” with the road number identified and possibly universal decal symbols on what type of motorized use is allowed.

Why are there trails on the map that say ORV can go on them but they are blocked with a big mound of dirt or a gate?

The big mound of dirt is called a “berm”. If the road allows for ORV use, these berms or gates are designed to prevent trucks and cars from traveling down the road, but allowing ORV’s to pass.

Can we ride on snowmobile trails?

Only when the trail is designated as multi-use by the State of Michigan

Are county roads open to OHV use?

Refer to individual counties for their regulations on OHV use on county jurisdiction roads.

Do you use paved roads for OHV travel, and why?

We do not currently use paved roads for OHV travel due to safety concerns. Any paved roads that would be designated to use would require a dual use analysis before they would be opened for OHV travel.

Do you have to ride on the pavement or can you ride on the shoulder?

There are no paved roads open to OHV under Forest Service jurisdiction. Refer to individual counties for their regulations on OHV use on county jurisdiction roads.

How do you get into the areas that have gas, legally?

Stay on the designated trails/roads or trailer to these areas. Refer to Forest Service MVUM map available for free from any Forest Service office on possible access routes.

What is the MVUM and how do I read the thing?

Motor Vehicle Use Map, which is the map that shows how and when motor vehicle use is permitted on the forest. One can read the map by referencing the legend and key.

How do I report an accident?

Dial 911