



# Tri-County ATV June 2008 Newsletter

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## President's Message

Dear members and friends, I would like to share the following article featuring TCATV Club from the *All Terrain Vehicle Association* ([www.atvaonline.com](http://www.atvaonline.com)):

When it comes to choosing a location for a "Where to Ride" in Vermont it's a little difficult to decide which area to tell you about first. In Vermont there are no state or federal riding areas, all riding is on private property.

Currently riders can choose from 19 riding areas all on private property that are open to members of the Vermont All Terrain Vehicle Sportsman's Association (VASA) and local club members. I know this may sound a little confusing but we will try and explain.

Local ATV clubs have worked closely with private property landowners to create and maintain ATV trails. Vermont has very good liability laws to help protect landowners, but liability insurance is the best way to go.

Insurance is expensive and individual clubs could not afford the insurance. Clubs organized together to form the Vermont All Terrain Vehicle Sportsman's Association.

By organizing together, like ATVA members, this allowed VASA to negotiate better insurance rates, create a unified voice with state agencies and develop trails on private property for riders to enjoy.

The list of trail systems is growing every year as more clubs are formed and new trail systems are created and current trails expanded.

We chose to highlight the Brighton trails, managed by the Tri County ATV Club (TCATV). The trails are very close to the village of Island Pond, VT, where you have several motels, cabins and full hookup campgrounds, along with groceries and restaurants that make for a great weekend of riding.

Another reason we started with Brighton, the trails here are purpose built ATV trails. There are over 36 miles of trails with more under construction and hopefully a link into town.

Most trails are in heavily wooded areas with areas of rock outcroppings to make riding challenging in places, eventually taking you up to scenic vistas.

There are two different trail heads where you can park and unload your ATVs. To the south is Rosebrook trailhead. Take Rt. 114 W to Rt. 105 intersection, then .5 miles south to Rosebrook Hill Road. The trailhead will be on .2 of a mile on your left.

To the north is RT. 111 trail head in Morgan. Form Island Pond, go 2.8 miles north on Rt. 114, then left on Rt. 111 for 1.8 miles, parking is on the left.

To be able to ride any of the 19 different trail systems legally and for insurance purposes, you must be a member

of VASA \$35 and a local club member \$20. Your ATV must be registered in VT \$25 or properly registered in New York, New Hampshire or Pennsylvania.

The riding season normally begins in June and ends November 1st, depending on weather.

Vermont has very few ATV laws, and do not require helmet use or prohibit riding double, however, VASA recommends riders do both.

For information on VASA call 802-229-2997 or log on to [www.VTVASA.org](http://www.VTVASA.org). (Written by Doug Morris, ATVA)

**Best Wishes,**

*Bill Bailey, President, TCATV Club*

## Vice President's Message

**Fellow ATV Riders,**

May has been a good start to the riding season. I rode all the trails a couple weeks ago and found them to be in good shape. Recently we replaced a 16 foot bridge on Basil Hill. We also moved a boulder about the size of an ATV with a winch. It is amazing how strong an ATV winch is. Thank you to Jim, Jay, Mike, Dave, Ernie, and Bill for their efforts.

The trail to town is also coming along. More work needs to be done. All the same members helped with the addition of Larry and Mark. The trail is not open yet. We will keep you posted.

I have had some questions about the ages of ATV operators. Children age 12 to 15 must ride with someone 18 or older to ride on town roads or even to cross a town road. An ATV rider 16 or older is allowed to cross or ride on town roads. Children under 12 should be supervised and are not allowed to cross or ride on town roads at all. Some portions of our trail system use parts of the Five and Ten Mile Square roads. Please keep younger riders off the roads.

Another question asked has been about registering ATVs. Vermont and New Hampshire registrations are good in either state. It is cheaper to register in Vermont, but harder to do. Vermont requires you to go to DMV the first time you register. Call DMV ahead or check the VASA web site for ATV laws so you will be sure to have all the paper work you need. If you have an old registration to show, the Vermont process will be a lot easier. New Hampshire has agents to register your machines and is more convenient, but it costs more.

Please check our new web site for work dates. Also if you have e-mail, please forward your e-mail address to me so I can notify you of trail work dates.

**Thank You,**

*Ernie Pappas, Vice President, TCATV Club*

**- IMPORTANT INFO -**

**Our next meeting will be held on  
Saturday, June 14 at the Clyde River Hotel  
at 9:30 a.m. We hope to see you there.**

For more information about  
our club please visit us at  
**[www.tricountyatvclub.org](http://www.tricountyatvclub.org)**

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