

Special Committee on State Trails Policy – **Community Residential Access to Trails**

ATV riders should be allowed the same privilege of reaching trails or routes from their homes as is afforded snowmobile riders. Some communities have attempted to open their roads for local resident use, but the DNR has insisted they cannot do this without making them signed routes. (Besides being extremely expensive, signing encourages the use of these roads by riders who may not live anywhere near them or have any need to be riding there.) The DNR threatened to issue citations to riders attempting to reach routes and trails directly from their homes on unsigned roads. This is another instance where the DNR has shown their lack of cooperation or support for the ATV community.

Communities need the option to have some of their roads be routes leading to trails or services, which would be signed as such, and still be able to open local roads for access so residents could get to the closest route or trail. These access roads, not open for public “riding”, would not need to be signed, and both routes and access roads should be determined by the local governing bodies of the communities involved.

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