



# OSWEGO VALLEY ATV CLUB

## FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

[www.oswegovalleyatvclub.com](http://www.oswegovalleyatvclub.com) [oswegovalleyatv@hotmail.com](mailto:oswegovalleyatv@hotmail.com) <https://m.facebook.com/oswegovalley.atv.1/>

**Q: Do I have to be a club member to ride your trails?**

A: Yes, or as a guest (see further below). We have agreements with over 45 Landowners, and any ATV without a Club Sticker is therefore trespassing and subject to citations, fines, and ATV confiscation. And please remember, you could lose permission to ride our trails by littering, causing damage, or riding carelessly.

**Q: Aren't you the same club as the Oswego County ATV Club?**

A: NO, THESE ARE TWO DIFFERENT CLUBS! We are the Oswego Valley ATV Club based in Hannibal, NY (<http://www.oswegovalleyatvclub.com/>) and they are the Oswego County ATV Club based in Altmar, NY (<http://www.oswegocountyatv.org/>)

**Q: How much does membership cost?**

A: A Single membership is \$35, and a Family membership is \$40. Please visit our website at: <http://www.oswegovalleyatvclub.com/join.htm> and click the link to our membership form.

**Q: Does your club offer a reduced membership cost for people serving in the military?**

A: Yes, active personnel receive a \$10 discount with proof of a military ID.

**Q: Where do I sign up?**

A: Our website <http://www.oswegovalleyatvclub.com/> has a membership form you can mail in. Or, to join quickly, go to the Hannibal Quick Mart, 971 Cayuga St., Hannibal, NY 13074. Be sure to bring your ATV's state registration and insurance information. **ALL ATVS & UTVS ARE REQUIRED BY OUR LANDOWNERS TO BE BOTH REGISTERED AND INSURED.**

**Q: Where do I put the sticker I was given when I joined?**

A: Please place your ATV Sticker on left side rear fender next to seat. On a SxS, place on driver side, front or rear fender.

**Q: Does my passenger have to be a club member too?**

A: No, your passenger is just that, a person seated in a designated passenger seat. Be sure that they have a helmet too.

**Q: Where is your clubhouse?**

A: 151 Muck Drive, Hannibal, NY 13074; off Rte. 3, about halfway between Hannibal and Fulton.

**Q: Can my children operate an ATV on your trails?**

A: Yes, if you join with a Family Membership and follow all of New York State's restrictions for operators under the age of 16: [New York DMV | ATVs: Information for Owners and Operators \(ny.gov\)](http://www.dmv.ny.gov/ATVs)

**Q: What are the rules for child passengers?**

A: NYS has no specific regulation regarding a child passenger. An online search found statements about passengers in general: "You may not ride an ATV with a passenger, unless the ATV is designed to carry a passenger". "Children under ten years should never be on an ATV – either as a driver or passenger". "Most ATVs are designed to be used by 1 person only and carrying your child on board with you is prohibited [in Canada]". Please be aware that NYS is planning to tighten the restrictions for children, because of a spate of crashes and fatalities involving children either as operators or passengers.

**Q: Where do I find a DMV approved Safety Course for children?**

A: Go to the **ATV Safety Institute**: [www.atvsafety.org](http://www.atvsafety.org) Register online or call 1-800-887-2887 to enroll in the ATV training course nearest you. Certified instructors and courses are located throughout the state. Check also with your local ATV Dealer.

**Q: I'm not a club member but can I explore your ATV trails as a guest? Do you have guest passes? How much?**

A: Yes, but you must be riding with a club member, who will approve your 1-day Guest Pass. Guest Passes are available at the Hannibal Quick Mart or contact us at [OswegoValleyATV@hotmail.com](mailto:OswegoValleyATV@hotmail.com). The cost is \$10, which may be applied towards a regular club membership if you decide later to join us.

**Q: Where do I park to start riding?**

A: When you join and get a map, you'll see parking spots in Fair Haven, Cato, Hannibal, and near our club house on Muck Drive between Hannibal and Fulton.

**Q: I want to try your trails. Where do I get a map? Are maps available online?**

A: Our trails are for club members only and you must join first to get a map. Maps are not available online.

**Q: Are those your trails along Rt. 3 between Hannibal and Fulton? Do your trails go south of Cato?**

A: No and No.

**Q: Can I use my ATV on the roads to get to your trails?**

A: No unless you are riding within the village of Hannibal. Use of an ATV or UTV is not permitted on any New York highway unless it has been designated and posted by state or local authorities. Designated highways are limited to just the part of the highway between two off-highway trails. Hannibal allows ATV travel within the village to encourage visits to businesses.

**Q: Does my ATV or UTV need to be state registered with a license plate?**

A: Absolutely Yes! Our Landowner Agreements require a registration, although any state will do. New York State honors out-of-state registrations. If your home state does not require registration, then you must obtain a New York State registration.

**Q: Do I need to have insurance?**

A: Again Yes! Our Landowner Agreements require insurance. Besides that, in New York State, if it is not covered by liability insurance then you may not operate any ATV anywhere in NYS except on your own property.

**Q: Do I have to wear a helmet?**

A: Yes. USDOT-approved helmets are required by New York State even on private property, whether you are the operator or a passenger. We also recommend that you wear a face shield or goggles and protective clothing & footwear.

**Q: Are Side x Side (SxS) ATVs & UTVs allowed on your club trails?**

A: Yes, but only if it is state registered (by any state) and insured. The problem is that New York State, unlike most other states, is restrictive and will not register any ATV or UTV having a dry weight of more than 1000 pounds or having a width of more than 70 inches. Therefore, your machine would have to become registered in another state to ride our trails.

**Q: My ATV/UTV is registered out of state. Can I bring it here to ride on your trails?**

A: Yes. New York State honors all valid out-of-state ATV registrations, even for overweight machines, so we allow it too.

**Q: Can't I just put an orange triangle on the back of my unregistered UTV and claim I'm a farm vehicle?**

A: No, not legally. To use the slow-moving-vehicle sign in New York State, you must file your purpose and routes with the state.

**Q: How wide is your trail? Will my UTV fit?**

A: The narrowest part is the Martville bridge on the Fair Haven-Cato trail. It measures 65 ½ inches wide.

**Q: Where can I find out more about New York State rules and regulations for ATVs & UTVs?**

A: [New York DMV | ATVs: Information for Owners and Operators \(ny.gov\)](#)  
[Guide to the ATV and UTV Laws of New York – ATV MAN](#)  
[Utility task vehicles have restricted use | News, Sports, Jobs - Adirondack Daily Enterprise](#)

**Q: Can I use my motorcycle / dirt bike on your trails? Can I use my old 3-wheel ATV?**

A: Sorry, no, we cannot allow them on the trails. We have lease contracts with Cayuga and Oswego counties, two of our major landowners, who allow club member sticker-identified ATVs on their public trails. But, specifically, not any motorcycles or 3-wheel ATVs. Violators may receive citations and fines.

**Q: Why are there hikers, dog walkers, runners, bicycles, and horses on the trail?**

A: The flat rail-bed portions of our trails belong to Cayuga and Oswego counties and are part of their Public Trail Systems. Normally, motorized vehicles are prohibited on public trails, but our club has contracts with the counties to allow use by our ATV-stickered club members. Be courteous and careful while approaching others on the trails. Keep trails clean and safe. Pedestrians, bicycles, horses, and others always have the right of way. If necessary, turn off your machine when near horses and other animals.

**Q: Is there a trail speed limit?**

A: Yes, some municipalities have an ATV speed limit of 25 mph. When near residential areas, please show respect to our landowners and neighbors, and limit yourself to 10 mph maximum.

**Q: Do your trails have riding hours?**

A: Yes and no, depending on which trail you're riding on. The flat rail-bed trails are part of the County Trail System and are subject to their official hours of dawn to dusk. You may ride after dark on the private land-owner trails, preferably no later than 10 pm, but please travel quietly and responsibly; don't wake the baby. And remember, it is unlawful to operate an ATV or UTV within 100 feet of a dwelling between midnight and 6 A.M. at any speed that is greater than necessary to maintain forward progress.

**Q: Does my ATV need any special equipment to ride your trails?**

A: Well, New York State requires: brakes in good condition, a muffler that is in good condition and meets federal standards, a spark arrestor approved by the U.S. Forest Service, tires with at least 2/32nds of an inch tread without visible breaks, cuts, exposed cords, bumps, or bulges, and a lighted white headlight and red taillight if the ATV is driven at night. Of course, you may add optional equipment of your choosing such as winches, bumpers, rock sliders, windshield, roof, what-have-you.

**Q: Can I go to Tops in Hannibal to get gas from the Parking area at Routes 104 & 3?**

A: No, not from off the trail; the property owner does not give permission.