

Town of Richfield, Wood County, Wisconsin

Ordinance #4

ATV/UTV ROUTES

Section I – Title and Purpose

The title of this ordinance is the Town of Richfield All-Terrain Vehicle and Utility Terrain Vehicle Route Ordinance. The purpose of this ordinance is to establish all-terrain vehicle (ATVs) and utility terrain vehicle (UTVs) routes in the Town and to regulate the operation of all-terrain vehicles in the Town.

This ordinance applies to only ATVs and UTVs.

These routes are created with due consideration of the recreational value of connecting trails and are weighted against possible dangers, public health, liability aspects, terrain, traffic density, and the history of automobile traffic.

Section II – Statutory Authority

The Town Board of the Town of Richfield, Wood County, Wisconsin, has the specific authority to adopt this ATV/UTV Ordinance under 2011 Wisconsin Act 208, s. 23.33 (8) (b), and (11), Wis. Stats.

The applicable provisions of 23.33 regulating all ATV/UTVs pursuant to routes are adopted.

Section III – Designated Roadways and/or Highways

All township roads are designated as routes and are included in this ordinance with the exception of:

US, State and Wood County Highways. The only exception is for a short section of County Rd N east of Polish Road across the Yellow River Bridge to access the trail on private land north of County Rd N.

Note: 23.33 (4) (d) (1) The crossing of a roadway and (3) The crossing of a bridge, culvert or railroad right-of-way is authorized only if the crossing is done in the most direct manner practicable, if the crossing is made at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing, and if the operator stops the all-terrain vehicle prior to the crossing and yields the right-of-way to other vehicles, pedestrians and electric personal assistive mobility devices using the roadway.

Section IV – Conditions Applicable to ATV/UTV Vehicle Routes

As a condition for the use of these routes, the following conditions shall apply to all operators and passengers where applicable:

- A. All ATV/UTV operators must operate at the extreme right side of the roadway surface *except that left turns may be made from any part of the roadway which is*

Section IV – Conditions Applicable to ATV/UTV Vehicle Routes (cont.)

safe given prevailing conditions.

- B. All ATV/UTV operators shall ride in a single file.
- C. This ordinance only applies to the public township roadways and does not give access or imply access to any private or public lands.
- D. All ATV/UTVs shall yield to pedestrians *and electric personal assistive mobility devices using the roadway.*
- E. Routes will only be considered open when signed in accordance with NR64.12 (7), Wisconsin Administrative Code. No person may intentionally remove, damage, deface, move, or obstruct any uniform ATV/UTV vehicle route/trail sign or standard, or intentionally interfere with the effective operation of any uniform all-terrain vehicle route/trail sign or standard if the sign or standard is legally placed by the Town of Richfield or individuals authorized by the Town Board.
- F. No ATV/UTV travel permitted between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. except for non-recreational purposes.

Section V – Enforcement

Any law enforcement officer authorized to enforce the laws of the State of Wisconsin shall enforce this ordinance and the listed conditions of use.

Section VI – Penalties

Wisconsin State ATV/UTV Vehicle penalties found in s.23.33 (13) (a) of Wisconsin Statutes are adopted by this reference.

Section VII - Severability

If any provision of this ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are severable.

Section VIII – Effective Date

The Town of Richfield Ordinance #4 ATV routes was originally adopted, August 9, 2010 and is now being amended to include UTVs. This amended ordinance will become effective upon passage and publication.

Adopted this 13th day of August, 2012 by the Town Board of Supervisors of the Town of Richfield, Wood County.

For the full version of this ordinance please contact the Town of Richfield Clerk.