

Douglas County Wildlife Management Area Trail/Road Use Policies

By Mark Schroeder, Douglas County Forestry Department

The Douglas County Wildlife Management Area (DCWMA) is a popular recreational location for a diverse group of people, with varied interests. To provide recreational opportunities, minimize conflicts between user groups, and to protect natural resources, rules and regulations have been created to regulate motorized vehicle use on the DCWMA. The 4,000 acre property has a multitude of developed trails/roads including: designated year around multiple-use recreational trails, designated winter use only multiple-use trails, designated dog trial trails, and County Forest Roads.

ATV USE – ATV operation is only allowed on the designated recreational trails (Wild Rivers Trail and Trail 5) during those times when the trail is officially open for that specific designated use. ATV operation on the dog trial trails, cross country, on closed trails, or in the sand pit located along CTH M, is prohibited. Some township roads in the DCWMA are open to ATV use as signed (posted) by the township.

SNOWMOBILE USE – Snowmobile operation is only allowed on the designated recreational trails (Wild Rivers Trail and Trail 5) during those times when the trail is officially open for that specific designated use. Snowmobile operation on the dog trial trails, cross country or on closed trails is prohibited.

STREET LICENSED VEHICLES – Street legal, registered and licensed vehicles are allowed on the County Forest Roads, Town Roads, County Roads and trails within the DCWMA boundaries, unless the trail is gated, signed, bermed or posted closed. Please note that street licensed vehicles are not allowed on the Wild Rivers Trail.

NON-MOTORIZED USES (HORSES, DOGSLED, BIKING AND SKIING) – Non-motorized uses are allowed on the designated recreational trails during those times when the trail is officially open for those specific uses. County Forest Roads and trails are also available for non-motorized uses.

TRAIL OPENING/CLOSING PROCEDURE – Recreational trails are officially opened/closed by the Douglas County Forestry Department and are published as a Legal Notice in the Superior Daily Telegram and announced on a taped recording on the Douglas County Trail Information Hotline (715) 378-4528.

For further information, please contact Mark Schroeder at the Douglas County Forestry Department (715) 378-2219 or Fred Strand at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (715) 395-6912.