

FLEA CALLER

REMINDERS

VAST requires Clubs to see and/or receive a copy of a current registration for each snowmobile before we issue a TMA. The name and address on the TMA must match the name and address on the sled registration.

If you are purchasing your TMA via the mail, you must include a signed copy of our 2019-2020 Membership Application acknowledging the VAST liability wording or we will not be able to process the TMA until you sign the TMA in person. **The Membership Application can be downloaded from our website - www.Cavendishsnowfleas.com**

To take advantage of Early Bird pricing a Membership Application, copies of a current registration, and payment must be postmarked by Dec. 15th.

You can also purchase your TMAs directly from the VAST website. It's a user friendly experience and your TMAs are mailed directly from VAST. Please remember to choose 'Cavendish Snow Fleas' as your club.

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Regardless of snow cover, Vermont snowmobile trails do not open until Dec. 16th. Our trail conditions will be posted on the VAST website, our Facebook page, and our website.

DECEMBER MEETING

Our next meeting is Thursday, Dec. 19th beginning at 7:00 pm at the home of Karen and Joe Marini, 865 Heald Rd., Proctorsville. Hope you will join us!

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TRAIL CLEARING & BRIDGE REPAIR

The storm at the beginning of November had quite an impact on our trails - especially after most of them had been cleaned up on Oct. 26th.

A hardy group of volunteers took on the project of cleaning up the downed trees on Nov. 9th. Thanks to Fred Burkhardt, Rich Conte, Glenn Fagan, Joe Marini, Clay and Colby Sides, Dan Tiernan, and Russ Walsh over half of the trails were cleared. As always, thank you to Chef Jared and Crystal Sides for cooking lunch for the group.

On Nov. 30th Cam and Fred Burkhardt, Joe Marini, Dan Tiernan, and Mike Zampini took on the task of re-decking one of the bridges on Corridor 106 which had taken a direct hit from a tree at the beginning of the month.

We want to also acknowledge the trail work done by Russ and Jean Walsh this fall. Russ is our Trail Sign Coordinator and, with Jean working right beside him, each fall they get all of our trail signs, markers and roping in place. This year they not only worked at Club trail clean up events, but because of the wind storm they cleared trails on their own as they were putting up our trail signs and markers - a task that takes 2-3 weeks without clearing trails.

We greatly appreciate their support and the support of all the volunteers who worked so hard this fall!

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STAY ON THE TRAILS OR GET A TICKET

Again this year, Vermont law enforcement will be putting an emphasis on enforcing unlawful off trail riding. They will be patrolling for it and giving out tickets. So spread the word!

Off Trail Riding (technically known as "operating on private land without permission") equals a \$300 fine, not to mention it hurts the landowners that allow us the use of their land and the volunteers that put so much effort in making sure you have great trails to ride.

If you do encounter someone who is riding off trail, do not confront them. VAST asks that you take note of the trail location, the color and manufacturer of the sled and, if possible, the sled's registration number. It would also be very helpful if a photo or video can be taken, but do not jeopardize your safety. Any info you obtain should be forwarded to VAST Director Cindy Locke.

It only takes one person to ruin it for everyone. Don't be that one person!

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CLUB RIDES

Over the last year we have had new members ask about Club rides and events where members can get together with or without a sled. We are looking for suggestions.

Do you want to ride as a Club to local clubs' events like Poker Runs? What is your favorite ride destination? What type of social event would you attend - a pot luck supper, an evening ride on a Saturday night? Send us your ideas and the types of rides you would attend.

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TOWN SNOWMOBILE ORDINANCE

Included with this newsletter is a copy of the Cavendish Snowmobile Ordinance. The Ordinance went into effect on Feb. 9, 2017 and allows residents to ride town roads from their home to the nearest VAST trail. We have heard that not all local sheriffs and Vermont Fish & Game Wardens are aware of the Ordinance. You may want to keep a copy of the Ordinance in your sled in case you are stopped.

We do not know of any other town which allows snowmobiles this much freedom to access the VAST trails. Please follow the Ordinance and respect the privilege we've been given!

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ENJOY THE PRIVILEGE

Remember, the key to the sport of snowmobiling in Vermont is permission from landowners. Please respect and obey the "Stay on the Trails" and "No Snowmobiles" signs. Snowmobiling is a privilege not a right!

SNOWMOBILER'S PLEDGE

I will remember that this land I am traveling on is not mine, but borrowed for a season. It is the home of someone else. I will respect their privacy as I would expect others to respect mine in my home and on my land.

Moreover, I understand that I am not the only guest to share this great outdoors. There are others from all walks of life who seek the same privilege of using this land just like me. I will also respect Mother Nature's wild creatures who were here long before us.

I will take time to slow my journey, if only to experience the beauty of the season and to enjoy this sport I love. I will remember the Golden Rule.

I will leave no blight of litter or abuse on this gift of freedom from life's often sameness.

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