



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Motorized Trails Re-Opening August 29 following Windstorm

Lakewood, WI—August 28, 2019—The Forest has cleared ATV trails on the Lakewood-Laona Ranger District following the July 19 windstorm. The trails will be open on July 29.

“It took a lot of effort to make this happen from both our employees and the clubs. We appreciate everyone’s patience,” said Mike Brown, District Ranger, Lakewood-Laona Ranger District. “We recognize this is an important recreational activity that brings business to the local communities.”

A map showing ATV trails on the Forest as well as roads and their use designations can be found in the Chequamegon-Nicolet’s Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/cnnf/maps-pubs>.

“Riders are responsible for knowing where they can and can’t ride,” said Brown. “Everyone is encouraged to make sure they have the latest copy of the Motor Vehicle Use Map before they head out to ride on the national forest.”

There are still many roads and recreation areas that are closed from the storm event. For the latest list of what is open and closed please visit the website at <http://go.usa.gov/xyA8D>. A closure order is in place for roads, trails and recreation sites that were damaged during the storm.

There is one small section of roads normally open to ATVs that will remain closed due the extensive damage near Jesse Lake as shown on the closure order.

“The environment in the woods is very dynamic right now, visitors recreating should maintain situational awareness,” said Brown. “Trees and limbs are continuing to come down that were weakened during the storm event. Riders are encouraged to take it slow especially around corners where hazards could be lurking on the other side.”

As we look towards winter, the Forest is coordinating with the counties and snowmobile clubs for the clearing of snowmobile trails. Additional information will be shared regarding the status of trails as winter approaches.

For more information about the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest please visit our website at www.fs.usda.gov/CNNF or follow us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/CNNF002> or like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CNNF002>.

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United States Department of Agriculture

Public lands the Forest Service manages contribute more than \$13 billion to the economy each year through visitor spending alone. Those same lands provide 30 percent of the nation's surface drinking water to cities and rural communities and approximately 66 million Americans rely on drinking water that originated from the National Forest System. The agency also has either a direct or indirect role in stewardship of about 900 million forested acres within the U.S., of which over 130 million acres are urban forests where most Americans live.)

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