

OHV TRAILS AND ROADS INFORMATION

The following information was put together for the individual off highway user for general information. No one agency or organization is responsible for any mishap, damage or injury on public or private lands.

The following is information that is valuable and useful when on public or private lands in Arizona. The ASA4WDC is not responsible for changes in agency policy or information. the following is general information on responsible OHV usage.

Please refer to the links for more information about where you might be traveling. The land managers websites will have the most up to date information, addresses and phone numbers.

Click on any of the following titles to take you to the information.

If something is missing or you want more information about an item please email your suggestion to: [suggestions](#).

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OHV Abbreviations

ARS—Arizona Revised Statute	NF — National Forest
ASL—Arizona State Land	NM—National Monument
ASLD—Arizona State Land Department	OHV—Off Highway Vehicle
ATV—All Terrain Vehicle	QR—Trademark for matrix bar code
BLM—Bureau of Land Management	RD—Ranger District
DO – District Office	ROV—Recreational Off Highway Vehicle
FO—Field Office	RS—Ranger Station
FS—Forest Service	RS—Regulatory Statute
G&F—Game and Fish Department	RTP—Recreational Trails Program
GPS—Global Positioning Satellite	RV—Recreational Vehicle
HURF—Highway User Revenue Fund	SRP – Special Recreation Permit
MVUM—Motor Vehicle Use Map	ST—Single Track
NEPA—National Environmental Policy Act – regulations that all agencies must follow for any disturbance on public lands, for culture and resource protection.	SUV—Sport Utility Vehicle
	UTV—Utility Terrain Vehicle
	WR—Wildlife Refuge

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How were roads created

Original roads were created to access mines, logging, farms, towns, cemeteries and homesteads. As time went on more people moved in and more roads were created.

Maps have been created for years indicating where roads are and what they go to. These early maps may or may not reflect what is on the ground today due to route inventories, rural and city/town developments, land sales and other changes that affect our access.

Some roads are needed for fire suppression, logging, farming, wildlife access and then there is the public roads. This does not mean that we can go out and make new roads and trails. In Arizona we are required to stay on designated roads, routes or trails unless otherwise posted.

These roads, routes and trails need to be managed today for multiple use. That means there are motorized roads/routes/trails, mechanized and also non-motorized trails. The motorized trails are open to all, the non-motorized are open to hiking and equestrians. Some trails are not open to mechanized recreation such as bicycles. Always check with your local land manager.

The size of trails today are different than they were many years ago. Motorized trails consist of full size vehicles over 50” wide, ATV and UTV trails 50” and less and single track trails of 24”.

Maps and road and trail information are available at the land managers office or website for the area you plan to visit. Also there are many websites and books available to help you decide where you would like to go.

How are trails rated

How to know what road, route or trail your vehicle is capable of traveling?

The Arizona State Association of 4 Wheel Drive Clubs has had a trail rating structure for many years. The structure has changed over the years with the advancements of off highway vehicles and what they are capable of.

These recommendations are mainly for full size vehicles, but can be loosely applied to side by sides also.

This is just a recommendation and suggestion of what vehicles are capable of traveling on what trails. Other things need to be considered such as experience of driver and modifications of your vehicle.

ASA4WDC RECOMMENDED TRAIL RATING				
Trail	Type of trail	Vehicle Equipment	Required	Recommend
1.0 - Easy	Semi maintained roads, Improved dirt/gravel road, Forest service main roads, Slight grades, Sandy areas	Passable by most 2 wheel drive vehicles	First aid kit	Tow hooks, Fire extinguisher, Tow Strap, Basic tool kit
2.0 - Easy	All of 1.0 plus Unimproved dirt roads, Potholes, Minor Washouts, Medium sized rocks	Stock 4x4	All of 1.0 plus Higher clearance helpful, Street tires acceptable	All of 1.0 plus Off highway tires, Tire repair kit
3.0 - Medium	All of 2.0 plus Loose gravel, Large potholes, Steep inclines, Lose gravel, Steep inclines	4x4 vehicle Front sway bar disconnects, Air down device	All of 2.0 plus Locker in in rear, Tow hooks, Off highway tires	All of 2.0 plus Cleaning products, Tow strap, Full cage, Hi lift jack, Rock sliders, Experienced driver
3.5 - Difficult	All of 3.0 plus Off camber, Rock climbs, Rock ledges, Small steps, 'V' notches, Possible body damage	All of 3.0 plus Off highway , 31" tires or larger required, 32-33" tires recommended	All of 3.0 plus Hard locker in rear, Hi lift jack, Full cage, Vehicle lift	All of 3.0 plus Locker in front, Upgraded steering, gearing, Skid plate, Spare fluids, Spare parts
4.0 - Extreme	All of 3.5 plus Large rocks and boulders, Some alternate routes, Crevices, Body/tire damage likely, Shelf roads	All of 3.5 plus 31" tires or larger required, 33-35" tires recommended	All of 3.5 plus Locker in front, Low gearing, Spotter may be necessary, Experienced driver	All of 3.5 plus Winch, Clevis, Upgraded drivetrain, axles

ASA4WDC RECOMMENDED TRAIL RATING				
Trail	Type of trail	Vehicle Equipment	Required	Recommend
4.5 - Extreme	All of 4.0 plus Tight squeezes, Steep inclines/off camber, Waterfalls, Narrow shelf roads	All of 4.0 plus Modified 4 wheel drive, 33" tires or larger recommended	All of 4.0 plus Winch, Spotter may be required, Body armor	All of 4.0 plus, Full body armor, Upgraded axles, suspension, tie rods and steering
5.0 - Technical	All of 4.5 plus Large rock ledges, Crevices, Steep rock climbs, Very few alternate routes, Steep waterfalls, Roll over possible	All of 4.5 plus Fully modified vehicle, Rock crawler, Buggy, 35" tires or larger, 37" tires or larger recommended	All of 4.5 plus Hard locker in front and rear differential, Spotter required, Upgraded axles	All of 4.5 plus Spare parts, Winching capabilities and experience

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Who manages Arizona lands

Not all lands in Arizona are considered public lands.

The agencies that are responsible for public lands in Arizona:

- Forest Service with 6 National Forests across the state and 24 Ranger Districts
- Bureau of Land Management with 7 Field Offices
- Game and Fish Department with 6 Field Offices
- National Parks
- National Monuments
- Arizona State Parks

Non Public lands in Arizona:

- Arizona State Land
- Private Property
- Tribal Lands

Apps

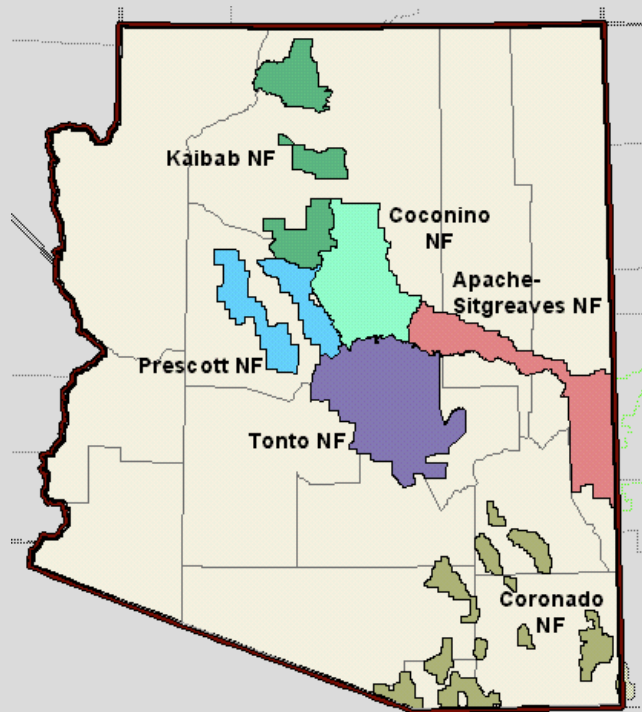
- Avenza is an app that you can download to your phone or tablet and be used while out on the trail. It does not use any minutes once you are navigating with your devices GPS.
- Avenza will allow you to download and follow any of the NF Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUM). These maps show the roads that are open for travel, dispersed camping, designated campgrounds and other information for each individual forest.
- The MVUM's maps should be updated every year, which allows changes to be made to these maps by the FS district.
- The link to [Avenza](#) can be downloaded from your devices play store app for either Android or Apple devices.



- Check on the Avenza website for the MVUM that you will need for the forest you are going to be traveling in. [Arizona NF MUVMS](#)
- Each forest across Arizona is a little different in how they manage their lands. Always check with the local ranger district office for maps and information.

Forest Service

There are six national forests in Arizona, which totals approximately 15% of the land in the state.



[Apache-Sitgreaves NF](#)

[Coconino NF](#)

[Coronado NF](#)

[Kaibab NF](#)

[Prescott NF](#)

[Tonto NF](#)



[Apache-Sitgreaves NF](#)

The Apache-Sitgreaves NF has 5 ranger districts within its boundaries:

- Alpine Ranger District
- Black Mesa Ranger District
- Clifton Ranger District
- Lakeside Ranger District
- Springerville Ranger District

Passes/permits required on the Apache-Sitgreaves are:

- Recreation Fees The vast majority of areas and activities in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest are free to enjoy by members of the public. However, there are some fees for recreational sites and activities such as campgrounds, cabin rentals and recreational vehicle amenities.
 - Individuals or groups receive direct benefits from sites that require these expanded fees.

- For detailed information on fees associated with any Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest recreational site or activity, please visit the Recreation area and locate the specific site or activity of interest.
- Group Use Permits, Group Camping - Large groups wishing to camp in a dispersed area, not within developed campgrounds, need to obtain information regarding appropriate areas for group camping. These large groups must obtain a free special use permit. While these permits do not reserve a specific area for exclusive use, they do help forest staff separate groups at heavy use times. For more information, contact the local Ranger District.
- Weddings in the Forest - There are many areas suitable for weddings within the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. A free special use permit must be obtained for weddings that will have an attendance of more than a few people. A special use permit does not exclusively reserve the site, therefore the public will continue to be free to come and go as usual. Contact the local Ranger District for help in choosing appropriate sites that can accommodate your group.

Coconino NF

The Coconino NF has 5 ranger districts within its boundaries:

- Flagstaff Ranger District
- Mogollon Rim Ranger District
- Red Rock Ranger District
- Payson Ranger District
- Tonto Basin Ranger District

Passes/permits required on the Coconino are:

- Event/Commercial Permits: Outfitter guides, and any function where the public is invited or there is a fee charged or are considered "commercial events." Non-commercial events would include large gatherings such as weddings and family reunions.

Coronado NF

The Coronado NF has 5 ranger districts within its boundaries:

- Douglas Ranger District
- Nogales Ranger District
- Safford Ranger District
- Santa Catalina Ranger District
- Sierra Vista Ranger District

Passes/permits required on the Coronado are:

- Special events or commercial use of public lands a permit. This includes commercial activities such as filming or guiding, and non-commercial uses such as organized events or gatherings, and recreation events. Other permits are required for the following:
 - Commercial Filming and Photography
 - Noncommercial Group Use Events
 - Recreational Events

- Outfitting Guide Application Hunting & Non-Hunting
 - Outfitter Guide Operating Plan Non-Hunting
 - Outfitting & Guiding - Hunting Operating Plan
 - Research
 - Recreation Residence
 - Wedding
 - Land Uses& All Other Uses
- A permit is required when you are asking for special privileges on National Forest land. Examples include gatherings of 75 people or more, operating a business such as an outfitting or guiding service, using the Forest for financial gain, occupying a recreation residence, and commercial filming. The use may be for a one-day event such as a wedding or bicycle race, or for up to 40 years such as a ski resort permit
 - would include large gatherings (such as weddings and family reunions).

Kaibab NF

The Kaibab NF has 4 ranger districts within its boundaries:

- Williams Ranger District
- North Kaibab Ranger District
- Tusayan Ranger District

Two Visitor Centers:

- Williams Visitor Center, Williams AZ
- Kaibab Plateau Visitor Center, Jacob Lake AZ

Passes/permits required on the Coronado are:

- Special use authorization is required for water transmission, agriculture, outfitting and guiding, recreation, telecommunication, research, photography and photo productions, and granting road and utility rights-of-way.
- If an activity on NFS land involves individuals or organizations with 75 or more participants or spectators.

Prescott NF

The Coronado NF has 3 ranger districts within its boundaries:

- Bradshaw Ranger District
- Chino Valley Ranger District
- Verde Ranger District

Passes/permits required on the Coronado are:

- Special events or commercial use of public lands require a permit. This includes commercial activities such as filming or guiding, and non-commercial uses such as organized events or gatherings, and recreation residences.

Tonto NF

The Tonto NF has 5 ranger districts within its boundaries:

- Cave Creek Ranger District
- Globe Ranger District
- Mesa Ranger District
- Payson Ranger District
- Tonto Basin Ranger District

Passes and permits required on the Tonto NF:

- Tonto Pass is necessary if you are going to use any facilities in that forest. Things like campgrounds (maintained by the FS), day use area, restrooms, boating and picnicking. Most of the campgrounds in the Tonto are run through a concessionaire so the Tonto pass will not be accepted.
- Salt River Permits for multi day rafting trips through the Salt River Canyon Wilderness.
- Bulldog Canyon OHV Permit – a permit is required to operate motorized vehicles in Bulldog Canyon OHV Area. Access gates to the area are locked and lock combinations are listed on the permit. This permit is no longer free as it can be obtained online and there is a \$6.00 administration fee. This will be effective March 19, each vehicle operator will be required to have a permit. Permits are available at recreation.gov, search for *Tonto National Forest Off Highway Vehicle Permit*.
- Recreation Events – A recreational activity conducted on National Forest System Lands for which an entry or participation fee is charged, such as animal, vehicle, or boat races, dog trials, fishing contests, rodeos, adventure games, and fairs.
- Non-Commercial Group Use – Any use or activity that does not involve commercial use and has 75 or more people participating and/or spectating.

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[Bureau of Land Management](#)

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administers approximately 12.2 million acres of public lands and 17.5 million subsurface acres (water/mineral rights) in Arizona.



- When referring to OHV use BLM refers to motorized recreation with regard to roads and trails.
- Some areas of BLM managed land have maps available. Check with your local office.
- Shooting is generally allowed on BLM lands, but should be done in a safe manner without damage to natural resources.
- Please pick up all spent shells.

BLM has 5 district offices and 7 field offices in Arizona:

- Arizona State Office, Phoenix AZ
- Arizona Strip District Office, St. George UT
 - Arizona Strip Field Office, St. George UT
 - Grand Canyon – Parashant NM

- Colorado River District Office, Lake Havasu AZ
 - Kingman FO, Kingman AZ
 - Lake Havasu Field Office, Lake Havasu AZ
 - Yuma Field Office, Yuma AZ
- Gila District Office, Tucson, AZ
 - Safford Field Office, Safford AZ
 - Tucson Field Office, Tucson AZ
- Phoenix District Office, Phoenix AZ
 - Hassayampa Field Office, Phoenix AZ
 - Lower Sonoran Field Office, Phoenix AZ



Passes and permits required to operate on BLM:

- Off-highway vehicles are permitted, with restrictions, in many areas under BLM administration in Arizona and along the Colorado River in California. Other areas, such as designated wilderness and other sensitive areas, are closed to OHV use.
- Resident and non-resident off-highway vehicles (OHVs) **MUST** display a valid OHV decal to operate on public and state trust lands in Arizona. Learn more and purchase an OHV decal.
- Special Recreation Permits - The BLM is committed to offering outstanding recreation opportunities to the public while ensuring good stewardship of public lands and resources. Special Recreation Permits (**SRP**) are issued to ensure public health and safety, protect natural and recreational resources, reduce user conflicts, achieve recreation and other resource management objectives, and enhance the public's opportunity for quality recreation experiences.

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[Arizona State Trust Lands](#)

Arizona State Trust Land (ASLD) is not public land. ASLD was created by a congressional bill enacted in the late 1800's to provide for this money for the public school system. When a parcel is sold the money is used to benefit the schools.

Arizona State Trust Land history and usage: [AZSLD](#).

The following map shows where Arizona State Trust Land is in Arizona. It is difficult to know when you are on ASL as it is not always signed. So you



sometimes do not even know you are on ASL.



You are required to have an Arizona State Land Recreational permit to cross, camp or stop on Arizona state land. It is difficult to know when you are on state land as Arizona landownership is checkerboarded across the state and not always marked.

You are allowed to cross state land, but not stop if you have an OHV decal (smaller vehicles—2500 lbs. or less only). But, you are not allowed to stop, if you do you can be fined. Do you know you are on ASLD, what happens if you breakdown and stop on ASLD, you could be fined. So for your own protection you should have an Arizona State Land Recreational Permit.

All vehicles that do not have an OHV decal are required to have a permit if you plan on using state land to camp, drive across or stop. A hunting license is not enough, as it is only for use in pursuit of game or scouting.

The permit is \$15 for an individual and \$20 for a family. It is recommended that all vehicles have a state land permit. You can get your Arizona State Land permit at the main office in Phoenix at 1616 Adams St., 602-542-4631 or online at land.az.gov/natural-resources/recreational-permits.

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Large OHV Event Requirements on Public Lands

FS Event Permit Requirements

- Costs are 5% of the adjusted gross receipts for onetime events; or
- 3% of adjusted gross receipts for multiple events under a single permit
- Events require liability insurance

BLM Event Permit Requirements

- Special Recreation Permits (SRP) are required for commercial use, competitive events, group activities, recreation events and events providing vending services or supplies associated with the recreation event. The information for permits can be found in the H-2930 Recreation Permit and Fee Administration Handbook.
- The BLM requires permits for all events that are larger than 25 participants. Each district might be different so check prior to your event.
- Requirements for permits:
 - All permits require 180 calendar days before the event to process.
 - Events require liability insurance
 - Cost for organized groups, competitive, commercial/competitive are \$5/participant/day plus any use fees
 - Cost for Commercial (including vending) 3 percent of the adjusted gross receipts plus any site fees

ASLD Event Permit Requirements

- ASLD permits are required for competitive, commercial and group events.
- Small group events of less than 20 people that are not competitive or commercial are \$15
- Costs for large group permit application is \$300 non refundable
- Requires 90 days
- Events require liability insurance

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Arizona Game and Fish Department

Arizona Game and Fish not only handles boating and hunting permits but also takes care of the nonresident OHV Decals. The nonresident decals can only be purchased through Game and Fish, the resident decals are available at service Arizona or at the DMV.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department helps with law enforcement around the state. They enforce OHV rules and regulations, hunting and fishing regulations and boating activities.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department has 6 Regions and a main office location:

- Main Office Phoenix



- Region 1 - Pinetop
- Region 2 - Flagstaff
- Region 3 - Kingman
- Region 4 - Yuma
- Region 5 - Tucson
- Region 6 – Mesa

Tribal Lands

Tribal lands in Arizona are not public lands and require a permit for use. Some areas are sacred and are restricted and not open to the public.

There are 22 Native American reservations in Arizona and all operate under their own unique government structure. Contact the individual tribes in the area prior to any visit.

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Private property

Private property is owned individually. Some roads on private property are open to use and some are not. Respect private property and obey signs as posted. Contact the individual land owner for access across their property prior to use.

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National Parks and Monuments

National Parks and Monuments have restricted motorized travel to existing roads as marked. When driving in a national park or monument, have the latest map so you know what is open to motorized use and what is not.

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OHV Decal Requirements

OHV Decals are required for ROV's (Recreational Offroad Vehicle), UTV's (Utility Terrain Vehicle), ATV's (All Terrain Vehicle) Single Track and Dual Sport if they are under 2500 pounds. The OHV decal is required for vehicles designed by the manufacturer primarily for travel over unpaved, unimproved roads and having a laden weight of 2500 pounds or less and/or an engine greater than 49cc. Vehicles 2500 pounds or less are required to have an Arizona certificate of title; Arizona license plate (MC or RV); OHV decal or purchase street legal registration.



- The decal allows these vehicles to travel over unpaved, unimproved roads on state, public or federal lands. The OHV Decal must be displayed on the upper left hand corner of your license plate.
- The decal is not a registration, you are required to register your vehicle if you plan to travel on paved or improved roads and streets.
- You will need the following for Arizona Residents:

- Decals for 2500 pounds and less, can be purchased through www.servicearizona.com or at any Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) Office, cost of \$25 and good for one year from date of purchase. This does not include other fees required by the state of Arizona.
- Title only license plate—is identified with the letters “RV” (Recreational Vehicle) and does not allow travel on roads that require “street legal” registration.
- Registration license plate—is identified with the letters “MC” (Motorcycle). This “street legal” plate allows travel on roads and trails where registration is required.
- Pickup trucks, SUV’s, cars, jeeps and other full size recreational vehicles (over 2500 pounds) are not required to have an OHV decal.

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Arizona Resident OHV Decal

- Arizona residents can purchase an OHV decal for \$25 (plus a processing fee) through the Arizona Department of Transportation’s Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) offices statewide, an authorized third-party MVD service provider or online at [Service Arizona](#).
- Decals for 2500 pounds and less, can be purchased through www.servicearizona.com or at any Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) Office, cost of \$25 and good for one year from date of purchase. This does not include other fees required by the state of Arizona.
- Title only license plate—is identified with the letters “RV” (Recreational Vehicle) and does not allow travel on roads that require “street legal” registration.
- Registration license plate—is identified with the letters “MC” (Motorcycle). This “street legal” plate allows travel on roads and trails where registration is required.
- Pickup trucks, SUV’s, cars, jeeps and other full size recreational vehicles (over 2500 pounds) are not required to have an OHV decal.
- The OHV decal is valid for one year from the date of purchase. For example, if you purchased your OHV decal in January 2018, you have until January 2019 to purchase the renewal OHV decal.
- Residents must display the OHV decal in the upper left hand corner of the license plate.
- Multiple machines must purchase additional decals — each OHV must have its own decal.
- Decals are not transferable between OHVs and each machine must have its own sticker.

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Non Resident OHV Decal

- As of Sept. 1, 2019, the state of Arizona requires nonresidents wanting to operate their OHV within the state to purchase a nonresident OHV decal. The decal must be purchased prior to riding an OHV within the state.
- Arizona does not have reciprocity in other states OHV programs.
- The nonresident OHV decal costs \$25 (plus a processing fee) and is valid for one year from the date of purchase. This decal can only be purchased online through an Arizona Game and Fish Department portal account. The decal will not be sold at AZGFD offices.

- Nonresidents with multiple machines must purchase additional decals — each OHV must have its own decal. Nonresidents must display the decal on the left rear quarter panel of OHVs with/ three or more wheels, or on the left fork leg on two-wheeled vehicles.
- Decals are not transferable between OHVs and each machine must have its own sticker.
- The nonresident OHV decal will be mailed within two to three weeks from the date of purchase. Purchasers can show their receipt (or a screenshot of it) for up to 30 days as proof of decal purchase. Owners/riders must have the receipt readily available if requested by law enforcement or until they receive their decal(s). Decals are required prior to riding in Arizona.
- Exemptions can be found in ARS 28-1178 and include those participating in OHV special events, operating on private land, loading or unloading from a vehicle, during a period of emergency if directed by a peace officer or if it displays a valid dealer license plate.
- Decals shall be displayed on the driver's side of the vehicle as shown on the decal paperwork that they will receive with their decals.

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What is required to ride on public lands

The following are required for any off highway vehicle for the use of public lands:

- An Arizona State Land Recreational Permit
- An OHV Decal if your vehicle is under 2500 pounds
- Large events require insurance and permits

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Equipment for ROV and street legal

Required for ROV's

The following equipment is required for your OHV to be legal off highway or “off road” equipped.

- Anyone under the age of 18 to wear a helmet (ARS§28-964.A & AR§28.1179.B)
- Rearview mirror, seat and footrests
- Eye protection if not equipped with a windshield (RS§28-964A)
- Review mirror (ARS§28-964.A)
- Seat and footrests (ARS§28-964.B)
- Muffler limit 96 decibels (ARS§28-1179.A3)
- Spark arrestor (ARS§28-1179.A4)
- Safety flag (ARS§28-1179.A5)
- License plate (ARS§28-251D1&2)

Required to be “Street Legal”

- License plate light (ARS§28-925C)
- Horn (ARS§28-954A)
- Proper insurance (ARS§28-4142A)
- Emissions (ARS§28-542C&D)
- License plate shall be securely attached to rear of your vehicle and clearly visible
- ADOT approved street legal tires

Children and ATV’s

- Always follow manufacturer minimum age recommendations, and make sure your kids ride with the appropriate safety equipment.
- Parents are responsible for their children's safety.

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What does the OHV Decal money do?

Funding raised by the decal program supports OHV opportunities and rider education in the state. Thirty percent of the funds collected go into the state’s Highway User Revenue Fund, which is distributed to counties and cities for road and highway maintenance. The remaining 70 percent of the funds are split as follows:

- 60 percent to Arizona State Parks for grants and agreements, trail construction, development and maintenance, signage and maps. 12 percent of the monies goes to administration of the grants and agreements by Arizona State Parks.
- 35 percent to the Arizona Game and Fish Department for law enforcement, education and outreach.
- 5 percent to the Arizona State Land Department for mitigation, signage and enforcement.



This money is used to help maintain, provide signage, facilities and other projects that helps keep our OHV access available through grants and partnerships.

The 60% for grants and agreements can be applied for through a state or federal land agency or a non-profit organization that has a project that will benefit motorized recreation. These funds are used for motorized recreation projects, but must be applied for within the requirements of the grant system.

More information can be found on the Arizona State Parks [Website](#).

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Trail Usage

The most important thing to remember when on the trail is that you are not the only one using it. all trails are multi use.

Non Mechanized Trails:

- Hiking
- Equestrian

Non-Motorized trails or Mechanized trails:

- Bicycles
- Hiking
- Equestrians

Motorized Trails:

- Hiking
- Equestrian
- Bicycles
- EBikes
- Motorized Use

Trail Etiquette

- When passing others on the trail if you have a large group let the smaller group know how many vehicles you have
- When traveling in large groups, make sure you can see the vehicle behind you at any turns
- Pack it in, pack it out, trash, parts and oil spills.
- Carry a spill kit to prevent damage to natural resources. [Spill Kit](#)

Who has the right of way

- Non-motorized recreation has the right of way if possible
 - Hikers and bicycles yield to horses.
- When traveling downhill you have the right of way



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How do the roads stay open for use

Today the number of motorized users has increased drastically and the roads need to be managed by the agencies as directed by their main offices. Which means as a user you are supposed to stay on all trails as indicated by maps or signage. No off road travel is allowed unless specifically noted. There are very few places in Arizona where you are allowed to drive off of designated roads.

In some areas you are allowed to drive off of the trail for game retrieval, but check with your local forest as this has changed in some districts.

Agencies inventory the trails on their individual districts. Then they put together a plan for the public to review. This plan will typically include 4 possibilities. The first will be do nothing, the

second is moderate changes, the third will be drastic changes and the 4th one is the preferred plan that the agency suggests.

The preferred plan is not usually the one that we want, but we have to compromise whether we like it or not. So we, as the users, have to attend the meetings, make our comments, talk to agencies representatives about what we want as far as our roads and trails go.

The agencies will evaluate the comments and try to implement them into the plan. This is not an short or easy process. It takes months and months to do and there are public meetings, comment period, appeal process and then the record of decision.

Why do we lose roads and trails

The time spent on the inventory and mapping process takes time and the general public usually never contributes and if they do it is very little. So the people who do read the plans and make the comments are all volunteers, unless you work for the Sierra Club, Center for Biological Diversity or some other large anti access environmental group as they get paid from their members. This is not so with the off road community we have no paid staff.

The anti-access groups are very well funded, they have on staff lawyers and attorneys and plenty of money to pay them or sue if they want to. The motorized community not so much.

The motorized community does not have many individuals who will take the time to participate in these plans and follow through to the end. These plans take a long time because we are working with government and we know nothing gets done fast. We are not funded like the anti-access groups who can take weeks and weeks to go through these plans with their paid staff. The motorized community does it as volunteers.

We would love to have a few on staff lawyers or attorneys to help us out, we would probably have many more roads and trails if we did. But we just continue to fight the best we can to keep what little we can keep open.

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Why is private funding important

The motorized community has many groups but no funding. Groups such as Facebook are great for social interaction but do not help us keep roads and trails open. They do not contribute to the fight or help the long standing groups with the fight monetarily. Money is the most important item that would help the fight.

Many organized groups fight for out trails through planning processes, projects, and other volunteer work. The only funding they receive is from members and donations. It is very frustrating to see beautiful jeeps, trucks, SUV's, Side by Sides and other OHV vehicles that are trail ready, have the latest equipment and will not spend any money to help keep their roads and trails.

Large associations benefit greatly from being able to say that we have a large amount of people behind us when commenting on any project, this makes a huge difference. We should all become

stakeholders in this fight and need to work together to keep and build access for motorized recreation.

It is a constant fight to keep your access alive. It takes funding to keep up websites, send out information and biggest of all is to fight back through advocacy. The motorized community is not lucky enough to have on staff lawyers and attorneys or paid staff to read all of the proposals, rules, regulations and bills that come out. There are only a few of us who do that for the motorized community.

We have very little representation at the legislative level to watch out for motorized recreation. Most of our legislators do not understand what we do and it has never been politically correct.

One little line item in a bill that is worded wrong could impact your access or close your roads or trails down.

The Arizona State Association of 4 Wheel Drive Clubs (ASA4WDC), Arizona Four Wheel Drive Foundation (AFWDF), Arizona Off Highway Vehicle Coalition (AZOHVC) and other local organized associations continue to donate what we can to motorized advocacy.

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How can you help

If each one of you donated \$10 a year to the [ASA4WDC](#) or joined the [AFWDF](#) for \$15 a year, it would make a fantastic difference in what we could do on the state level.

The clubs that belong to the ASA4WDC provide funding for necessary advocacy work that is important in keeping our motorized access alive. None of us are paid to do what we do, but we do it because we believe in it.

We believe there should be access for all.

If you can't afford to pay \$15, then buy a raffle ticket for \$5 from the ASA4WDC/AFWDF Land Use Raffle for 2020, who knows you might win one of the items. But the \$5 you paid makes you a winner in keeping our roads and trails open. We need someone to help watch out for us. But that is unachievable if there isn't any funding.

These are all our trails lets work together to keep them open.

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