

The Official Publication of the Pennsylvania State Snowmobile Association

Keystone Snowmobiler[©]



September 2025

www.pasnow.org



ARE YOU READY?



HAVE SOME CLUB NEWS?

Many thanks to all the snowmobile clubs that have submitted news and information. We encourage all clubs to send us information each month. Here's how to submit your news for publication:

Email address: member@pasnow.org

SUBJECT LINE: KEYSTONE SNOWMOBILER

Include: Full name of your club in the email

Pictures: jpeg/png format

DEADLINE: 20TH OF THE MONTH PRIOR TO PUBLICATION

For postings to our Facebook page, please fill out this form. Guidelines for posts are on the form.

Facebook Form

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL



SNOWMOBILE SAFETY CLASSES

For list of all the Safety Classes please visit:

<https://www.pasnow.org/snowmobile-safety-classes/>

If your club is holding a safety class and you'd like to be on the list please submit your info to: member@pasnow.org.



MOVING FORWARD

September 2025

Hello, everyone!

As summer winds down and cooler weather arrives, we're gearing up for trail maintenance, groomer inspections, and repairs. These projects are essential, and we'd love your support—please consider volunteering with your club to help get things ready for the season.

Great news on the grant front: our PSSA grant writer, Lori Elliott, has once again worked her magic! She secured a \$100,000 grant for mini-grants as well as funding for another year of Mapgears. Updates and application dates for the spring round will be shared soon. Thank you, Lori, for your continued dedication!

We also have some exciting changes: the PSSA Trail Conditions and Mapgears platform has officially been renamed RidePA. A new logo and icon are on the way, so keep an eye on the PSSA website for updates.

Finally, a reminder that PSSA dues will be due soon. Your contributions directly support these grant programs and RidePA. Please spread the word and encourage friends to join and support the future of snowmobiling in Pennsylvania.

Thanks, and enjoy this beautiful weather,
Rich Hayes

Snow Angel Giving

Did you know that for over 20 years, the generosity of PSSA's members through donations has enabled the Association to contribute nearly \$200,000 in financial aid in the care of children. Through PSSA's Snow Angels Children's Charity, financial aid grants (up to \$500 per child under the age of 18) are available throughout the State to aid families with children having severe medical or physical problems.

PSSA was blessed recently to help Colin Carpenter and his parents. Colin has faced significant health issues recently. We'd like to share the note we received from Colin's parents.

*Dear Mr. Housley and the Snowmobile Association,
We were truly overwhelmed and deeply grateful to receive your generous financial support for our son, Colin. Your kindness took us completely by surprise and has touched our hearts more than words can express.*

Colin is a wonderful boy who has faced more challenges than most children his age. His care at Nemours Children's Health Hospital in Wilmington, DE, requires frequent travel from our home in Hollidaysburg, PA—a four-hour drive each way. Along with the travel, we also manage the cost of specialized clothing alterations for his dwarfism, and various adaptive items to support his daily functioning, such as stools and back supports. Your donation will go a long way in helping us meet these needs, and we can't thank you enough!

While the financial help is incredibly appreciated, what means even more is knowing that there are people out there thinking of Colin, and praying for his health and well-being. That kind of support is priceless to us.

Please continue to keep Colin in your thoughts and prayers as he navigates life with achondroplasia and other related medical challenges. We are humbled and honored that you chose to support him.

*Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.
God bless you all.
With gratitude,
Paul, Alyssa, and Colin Carpenter*



Scene on Social

Are you following PSSA on Facebook and Instagram? We've got snowmobile news, events and more - so check us out.



Here are some of the things you're missing!

Whales Sno-drifters are having a raffle party on 9-27-25

Triangle S Snowmobile Club held a vintage car show

Galitzen Forest Vintage Riders have a Vintage Snowmobile & Swap coming up on September 21, 2025

The St. Marys Area Snowmobile Association has a plan to connect the West Creek Rail Trail to the snowmobile trails in Elk State Forest in northern Elk County and southern McKean County.

Learn more about what's happening - follow today!

Do you see what we see?



Snow Lovers Rejoice in the Northeast and Midwest

If you're craving a classic winter wonderland, this is your year. New England and the Great Lakes are forecast to see frequent snowstorms, with the Pacific Northwest's mountains also in for a powdery treat. The Mid-Atlantic, especially mountainous areas should keep those shovels handy—periodic heavy snow is in the cards.

Read the full Farmers' Almanac press release [HERE](#).

Snowmobile News

Pa. makes \$2.1 million in trail investments as snowmobiler enters Hall of Fame

A Pennsylvania man who just entered the Hall of Fame for snowmobiling is appreciating the investments the Keystone State is making for trail riding.

Bob Kirchner, 71, of St. Mary's, was inducted in the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame this summer as part of the Class of 2025 in Eagle River, Wisconsin.

"I was humbled. I firmly believe the world is run by the those who show up, especially in a volunteer situation. I think that if you're feeling things could be done better or willing to criticize, then you need to be willing to take on some of the work yourself," he said.

Taking his own advice, Kirchner has served in many leadership roles over the years with snowmobile and trail organizations.

The Elk County man has lived in different parts of Pennsylvania but always had a snowmobile. "I started in 1979. I was actually living in Beaver County at the time," he said.

He joined the Pennsylvania State Snowmobile Association (PSSA) in 1980 and his involvement in organized snowmobiling grew through the years. By 1990, he was elected president of the Pigeon Hills Snowmobile Club. A few years later, Kirchner and his wife, Kathy, moved to St. Mary's where they joined the St. Marys Snowmobile Association (SMASA). It's a club with which they remain active.

Over the years, he's also competed in snowmobile racing including being part of a race team that competed in the "24 hours of Eagle River" race where they finished in 13th place.

He's also a member of the Conservation and Natural Resources Advisory Council where the 18 members offer advice to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Snowmobile News

Continued...

“With the love of snowmobiling, I took a year and was a half partner in a Polaris dealership here in St. Mary’s just so I could understand how the business side of the business world worked,” he said. “But I kept my day job.”

He soon realized the stress and challenges of the operation. “A lot of people look at the outside of a dealership and see the investment and think that the owners are taking money home by the wheelbarrow full and nothing could be further from the truth. These owners work hard at it. There’s a lot of financial risk, a lot of risks that most people, including myself, aren’t comfortable with, and their willingness to do this, profit in the end, but they also provide the opportunity for those of who need the equipment to participate in the activity,” he said.

It's a seasonal activity with limited impact on the environment. “Once the snow melts in the spring, there’s generally no indication that the land was used when the snow cover was on it,” he said.

When he first started riding, snowmobiles were more popular. Now that there are ATVs and side-by-side vehicles with multiple rows of seating, snowmobile numbers have dropped. “Now there are about 10 times as many UTVs and ATVs registered as are snowmobiles. Snowmobiles are in the low 30,000s and the ATV and side-by-side numbers are approaching 300,000,” he said about Pennsylvania.



Bob Kirchner

To read the full article on the GOERIE website click [HERE](#).

MORE Snowmobile News

Shapiro Administration Invests \$2.1 Million to Expand and Improve ATV and Snowmobile Trails Across Pennsylvania

The Shapiro Administration announced \$2.1 million in new investments to expand and improve all-terrain vehicle (ATV) and snowmobile trails and facilities across Pennsylvania — strengthening the Commonwealth’s \$19 billion outdoor recreation industry and boosting rural economies.

The funding — provided through the ATV Management Restricted Account, Snowmobile Management Restricted Account, and the Pennsylvania Recreational Trails Program and awarded by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) — will support nine projects statewide, ranging from trail construction and equipment purchases to economic impact studies and rider safety programs.

“Outdoor recreation is a major economic driver for our rural communities, and these grants will help expand safe, high-quality ATV and snowmobile opportunities for Pennsylvanians and visitors alike,” said DCNR Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn. “The Shapiro Administration is committed to investing in motorized recreation to support local businesses and strengthen communities, and we encourage organizations and municipalities to apply for this funding before the September 30 deadline.”

Projects funded this round include:

- Lannding, LLC (Indiana County) — \$1,389,100 for construction of an ATV training course, parking area, utilities, and stormwater management measures at the Lannding ATV Park in Pine Township
- Pennsylvania Trails Foundation — \$261,900 to coordinate the statewide Sensible, Courteous, Off-Road Enthusiasts (S.C.O.R.E.) “Rules of the Trail” ATV Simulator Training Program
- Indian Creek Valley ATV Club (Fayette County) — \$20,500 for equipment to construct and maintain approximately 43 miles of ATV trails in Saltlick Township

MORE Snowmobile News

Continued...

- Mines and Meadows, LLC (Lawrence County) – \$149,200 for equipment to construct and maintain approximately 84 miles of ATV trails at the Mines and Meadows ATV Park in New Beaver Borough
- Altoona Blair County Development Corporation (Blair, Cambria, Centre, and Clearfield counties) – \$48,600 for an economic impact study of the Central Allegheny Highlands ATV Trail System
- Somerset County – \$80,600 to prepare a countywide ATV Trail Plan
- Pennsylvania State Snowmobile Association – \$100,000 to fund the 2026 Snowmobile Mini-Grant Program and the Mapgears trail mapping software program
- PA Snowseekers Snowmobile Club (Elk County) – \$54,100 for equipment to maintain and construct approximately 100 miles of snowmobile trails
- McKean Area Snowmobile Club (Erie, Crawford, and Warren counties) – \$26,700 for equipment to maintain and construct approximately 162 miles of snowmobile trails

DCNR awards grants twice a year to municipalities and organizations for development of publicly accessible ATV and snowmobile trails and facilities. The [fall grant round](#) (opens in a new tab) opened on August 1 and closes on September 30. Eligible projects include planning, land acquisition, development, rehabilitation, maintenance, purchase of equipment for construction and maintenance, and development of educational programs. Grants are open to municipalities, non-profits, and for-profit organizations. While no match is required, applications with matching funds will receive additional consideration.

With a few limited exceptions, all snowmobiles and ATVs in Pennsylvania must have a registration issued by DCNR. Statewide, Pennsylvania has more than 32,000 active snowmobiles and more than 291,000 ATVs. Grants are administered by DCNR with funding provided from registrations.

Read the full article on the Shapiro Administration website [HERE](#).

RIDE PA IS HERE!

Ride PA

**The official Pennsylvania snowmobile trail conditions map & app powered by PSSA.
Made for PA riders by PA riders.**

The online version of the PSSA Snowmobile Trail Conditions Map is completely free to use. Plan your trips, save itineraries for future adventures or share them with friends.

Trail Map features:



- Cell Service Not Required for Navigation
- No cell service needed to pinpoint your exact location and load routes
- Thousands of PA miles in the palm of your hand
- Select a starting point and destination, then go!
- Plan trips in advance and save them for future adventures
- Easily modify destinations on the go, with drag and drop menu
- \$4.95 per season for the mobile app
- Get the App Now!

Learn more and see the online version of the app here:



Or visit: <https://www.pasnow.org/trail-guide/>

Webcams!

Many thanks to all the snowmobile clubs for sharing and maintaining these webcams.

CHECK THEM OUT!



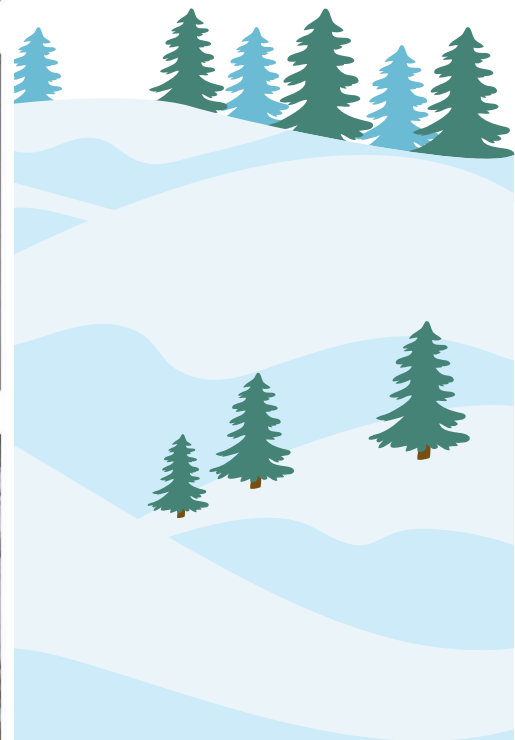
Marienville Trail Riders Snowmobile Club



Hilltop Howlers



NEPA Snowtrails



WHAT DOES PSSA DO?

- Promote snowmobile recreation via Website (www.pasnow.org) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/pasnow "Pennsylvania Snowmobiling")
- Obtain funding to help clubs maintain and groom trails
- Monitor state and federal issues and send alerts
- Represent snowmobilers on the Snowmobile/ATV Advisory Committee (SAAC) and PA Trails Advisory Committee (PTAC)
- Support volunteer clubs by: Joining a club, participate in activities, offer to help
- Provide funds for trail maintenance/grooming, webcams/images on the PSSA website and GPS units in groomers.
- Support Navigational Signage (GPS) on trails
- Coordinate connectors and new trails
- Encourage Business to join PSSA and provide Discounts to members
- Promote Safe Riding and offer Education and Safety Classes for Youth 10-15
- Host the annual PA Powersport Show provided Dealers have sufficient inventory
- Offer Discounts to members to buy and sell snowmobiles, ATVs, and trailers etc. at our show
- Represent the Association at national events such as: American Council of Snowmobile Associations, United Snowmobile Alliance
- Liaison with elected officials
- Inform members of current issues, trails and legislation etc. via "Keystone Snowmobiler" and Facebook
- Maintain a website: (www.pasnow.org) which contains up-to-date information concerning snowmobile recreation, issues, clubs, legislation and concerns of our members
- Prepares a mini-grant application in support of all clubs Helps clubs prepare other grants when necessary.

DONATIONS APPRECIATED

The PA Powersports Show is the #1 way our organization raises money to advocate for and support snowmobiling in Pennsylvania. We are in the process of raising \$20,000 to make up for this loss of income and are asking that you consider a donation to PSSA in addition to your membership dues. Please also consider a monetary donation in lieu of your usual PA Powersports Auction item if you've supported us this way in the past. We would be very grateful.

Your donation will be used to help PSSA establish and maintain important connections with local clubs to exchange ideas and share important technical information and education on all snowmobile areas of interest. PSSA also works with both federal and state government agencies to preserve and enhance trails and riding opportunities. Our focus includes preserving our natural resources and the environment as well as advocating for the safety and general welfare of snowmobiling. You can make a difference for the good of snowmobiling in Pennsylvania when you send in your donation with your membership dues and raffle ticket funds! Together, let's ensure that all snowmobilers can have safe, fun, and available trails to ride in Pennsylvania!

DONATE



Support PSSA's Snow Angel Fund today!

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

What do Regional Directors do?

Board Member and participate in Board meetings
Represent clubs in their Region.
Liaison with the Board
Help promote snowmobile recreation.
Ambassadors for snowmobile recreation state-wide
Help with projects- Power Sport Show, rides
Contact elected officials as needed

REGION 1

Daryl Busch
McKean, PA
(814) 434-0226
pisc.president@gmail.com

REGION 2

VACANT

REGION 3

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REGION 4

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REGION 6

VACANT

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REGION 7

VACANT

REGION 8

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MATERIALS DEADLINE

20th of month preceding the issue

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member@pasnow.org with the subject
line "Keystone Snowmobiler"

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PSSA Website:
www.pasnow.org

PSSA Facebook
"Pennsylvania
Snowmobiling"
[www.facebook.com/
pasnow](http://www.facebook.com/pasnow)

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**American Council of
Snowmobile Associations
(ACSA)**
www.snowmobilers.org

**International Snowmobile
Manufacturers
Association (ISMA)**
www.snowmobile.org

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**For a full list of PSSA
Member Snowmobile
Clubs, Associate
Members, Dealers &
Accessory Dealer
Members please visit
www.pasnow.org**

Executive Board of PSSA

**Rich Hayes, President
Norm Strotman, Vice President
Steve Matscherz, Secretary
Arline LaTourette, Treasurer**

STANDING COMMITTEES:

**Executive Committee
Richard Hayes, President, Chair**

**Finance Committee
Arline LaTourette, Chair**

**Trails Committee
Clinton LaTourette, Chair**

**Fund Raising Committee
Norm Strotman, Chair**

**Safety Committee
Don Mosier, Chair**

**Website Administrators
Kathy Woolever and Maura Donley**

**Public Affairs Committee
Richard Hayes**

**Snowmobile ATV Advisory Comm. (SAAC)
Norm Strotman, Chair, & Arline LaTourette,
Secretary, Officers representing PSSA**

Keystone Snowmobiler

Advertising Rates for 2025/26 Season

BASE RATE PER MONTH SEVEN DIGITAL ISSUES AUGUST - FEBRUARY

Full Page - \$500

1/2 Page - \$300

1/4 Page - \$200

AD SIZES

Full Page
10" wide x 13" high

1/2 Page Vertical
5" wide x 13" high

1/2 Page Horizontal
10" wide x 6.5" high

1/4 Page Vertical
5" wide x 6.5" high

1/4 Page Horizontal
10" wide x 3.25" high

Advertise in all seven digital
issues and receive a 10% discount
if paid in full.

PREMIUM ADDITIONS

FULL PAGE ADVERTISER RECEIVES:

*Banner ad placement in
Keystone Snowmobiler monthly
E- Newsletter
Website Recognition
Facebook Thank you*

1/2 PAGE PAGE ADVERTISER RECEIVES:

*Website Recognition
Facebook Thank you*

1/4 PAGE ADVERTISER RECEIVES:

Facebook Thank you

AUDIENCE SIZE

Monthly Digital Magazine and E-
Newsletter distribution : 3100

Website Monthly Traffic August to
February: 35,500 Sessions/20,500
Users

Facebook Audience: 11,000

