

Snowmobile Safety

TRAIL SENSE – IT’S UP TO YOU – KNOW BEFORE YOU GO!

As an off-road experience, snowmobiling is a risky activity. Every rider needs to understand and accept that:

- Operators and passengers know and will obey all Alberta laws, bylaws and regulations, which pertain to the operation of snowmobiling, including the Alberta Traffic Safety Act.
- Operators and passengers will not consume drugs or alcohol prior to or while using the trails;
- Operators and passengers know how to snowmobile competently and understand that the operation of snowmobiles requires full cognitive abilities;
- It is recognized and accepted that snowmobiling is essentially an off-road activity taking place in an unpredictable natural environment;
- It is not practical, possible or desirable to maintain all trails uniformly or to remove all potential hazards;
- Operators and passengers will be prudent and responsible and shall ensure that snowmobiles are operated with appropriate care, caution and control at all times;
- Trail access is without any guarantee of service or quality or safety;
- Operators and passengers know that snowmobile trails are not engineered highways or roadways;
- Operators will stay to the right of the trail, notwithstanding that there are no center lines;
- There may be permitted users on the trail other than snowmobilers;
- All operators and passengers willingly use trails at their own risk;
- Operators and passengers are aware that there are generally no legal requirements for signage on trails and, when provided, it is only for assistance and convenience of the user;
- The grooming and maintenance of trails, when provided, is meant solely to enhance the comfort and enjoyment of the safe and prudent operators and passengers;
- Operators know that there may be grooming or other maintenance activities under way at any time of the day or night, which may take up the whole or any part of the trail and have the right of way;
- Operators and passengers are aware that emergency and cell phone service may not be available;
- Operators and passengers know the unique and particular hazards associated with ice crossing and traveling in mountainous regions;
- Operators and passengers will dress appropriately for all conditions and will have appropriate safety and emergency equipment at all times.

Snowmobile safety while riding trails is related to rider responsibility for their own safety.

If you have any suggestions on traffic safety issues that are of interest to you and your community, or for more information, please contact:

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