



---

**TOWN OF SPIDER LAKE, SAWYER CO, WI**  
**ATV COMMITTEE MEETING 5/24/2006**

The ATV Committee met May 24, 2006. Present were Krause, Promersberger, Larson, Meyer, Hogue, Mrotek, and guest Nick Olson (Sawyer County Recreational Officer).

A brief review of why the committee was formed was given to help Nick understand the purpose of his involvement in this meeting: The Forest Service has put up ATV signs on trails and roads in the township without contacting the township. Concerns of the township and residents are:

- Town roads have always been closed to ATV usage
- People would have to park on Town roads to unload their machines
- Signed trails do not go anywhere, and some signed roads lead to private property (two signs that lead to private property have been removed with the approval of the Forest Service).
- Road maintenance
- Enforcement

The Forest Service has revised their signage maps numerous times since this committee was formed, and the current map that is available to the public does not coincide with the signs they have placed in the township.

One of the main concerns is enforcement. Nick was asked what the township could do to help law enforcement. His first response was “keep the roads closed unless a through trail is made”. He went on to say there needs to be a balance between all involved – private property, townships, county, state, and federal. ATV and snowmobile use, cycling, hunting, fishing, etc. are all recreational activities that bring tourists to the area that keep the area alive. His recreational enforcement issues include speed limit, stay to the right on designated roads, registration, helmets, regulatory signs, safety, basically just following the rules. To have connecting trails for ATVs and snowmobiles simplifies enforcements job. Limited staff spreads him pretty thin.

Don Mrotek discussed the objective of the Forest Service to add up to 100 miles of new trail in the Chequamegon Forest. Within the top 10 items on the Forest Service “ATV Connector Trail Inventory” are trails that connect Clam Lake to the Deadhorse Trail, Moose Lake to Deadhorse Trail, Clam Lake to Lakewoods, and Lake Namekagon to Moose Lake. The Clam Lake to Lakewoods connecting trail is Don’s priority at this time. Sections of 203 and 204 are part of the route. There is no private property in this area and there was discussion about putting together a proposal to open segments of trail and road for this connecting trail.

The committee will meet June 7 at 6:00 to put together a proposal to the Town Board.