



**New York State  
Parks, Recreation and  
Historic Preservation**

# 2021 Snowmobile Season Report

# Legislative Findings and Purpose

The New York State Snowmobile Program exists by mandate from the Legislature. The Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) has been given the responsibility to plan for the development, maintenance, and oversight of a statewide snowmobile program.

In accordance with Article 21 of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law, the Legislature finds that it is in the public interest to:

- Register snowmobiles as recreational vehicles for the purpose of enforcement of reasonable provisions concerning their use and control,
- Encourage the sport of snowmobiling as a family activity,
- Promote the proper and safe use and operation of snowmobiles,
- Provide an adequate safety educational program for youthful operators,
- Limit the operation of snowmobiles upon public highways and private property without the consent of the owner,
- Protect and preserve the state's natural resources, including its wildlife, wild forests, waters and scenic and wilderness character,
- Reduce the effect on the environment of excess noise,
- Insure privacy of remote areas,
- Afford opportunity for compatible enjoyment of various recreational activities on the state's lands and open spaces.

It is the purpose of this title to promote the safe and proper use of snowmobiles for recreation and commerce in this state by encouraging their use and development and minimizing detrimental effects of such use upon the environment.

A background image of a snowy forest path. The path is covered in snow and leads through a dense forest of tall, thin trees. The ground is covered in a thick layer of snow, and the trees are also covered in snow. In the foreground, the top of a snowmobile is visible, suggesting the perspective is from someone riding a snowmobile through the forest.

## Program Overview

### What does the trail fund support?

- Municipal Snowmobile Trail Grant-In-Aid Program
- Snowmobile Safety Education Program
- Snowmobile Law Enforcement
  - Training Program hosted annually
  - Snowmobile Law Enforcement Grant
- Snowmobile Special Events
- Snowmobile Accident Reporting
- Snowmobile Publication Materials
- Statewide Snowmobile Trail Insurance
- Program Administration

# Snowmobile Unit Duties & Responsibilities

- Trail grant administration - ~\$4-5 million grant, 10,000+ trail miles
- Law enforcement grant administration
- Law enforcement training for snowmobile operations
- Safety education program
- Office of record for snowmobile accident reports & tickets
- Response to FOIL requests
- Special event permits
- Create, update, and distribute publications (Snowmobile Guide, Groomer Guide, Trail Signing Handbook, etc.)
- Advise OPRHP commissioner/agency on snowmobile related issues
- Coordination with other states, federal agencies, associations, manufacturers, & user groups
- Promotion of snowmobiling & the state funded trail system
- Public outreach (NYS Fair, snowmobile shows, etc.)

*The Snowmobile Unit is limited by law to three paid staff members!{PRHPL 27.17(2)}*

## Snowmobile Registrations

Snowmobile registrations for the 2021-2022 season totaled 114,479 registrations reflecting a decrease of 1,315 or 1.1% from the 2020-2021 season. This report includes charts with historical registration information.

In the **2021-22** season, \$5,783,195 was collected from the 114,479 registrations and \$4,246,752 was budgeted to provide financial support for the maintenance and development of the statewide trail system, which was comprised of 10,552 miles. This revenue is returned to local areas as reimbursement grants-in-aid for snowmobile trail development and maintenance.

Program Overview  
Snowmobile Revenue Fiscal Year 2021-2022  
April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022

91,748 club registrations x \$40	\$3,669,920
22,245 non-club registrations x \$95	\$2,113,275
Registration revenue	<hr/> \$5,783,195
Revenue from fines & penalties	\$11,485
<b>Total program revenue</b>	<hr/> <b>\$5,794,680</b>

## NYS Registrations vs Out of State Registrations

**NYS Registrations: Any snowmobile registered by New York state resident**

**Out of State Registrations: Any snowmobile registered by a resident of a U.S. state other than New York or outside of U.S.**

## Renewals vs Originals

**Renewals: Any snowmobile previously registered within New York state**

**Originals: Any snowmobile in registrant's name for the first time**

## Club Registrations vs Non-Club Registrations

**Club registration fee: \$5 to DMV; \$40 deposited into the Snowmobile Trail Development and Maintenance Fund.**

**Non-club registration fee: \$5 to DMV; \$95 deposited into the Snowmobile Trail Development and Maintenance Fund.**

**Exceptions: do not provide revenue**

<b>2021-2022 Registration Breakdown</b>	
Total Club Registrations	91,748
Total Non-Club Registrations	22,245
Total Exceptions	486
Total NYS Registrations	97,687
Total Out of State Registrations	16,792
Total Renewals	85,424
Total Originals	29,055
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>114,479</b>

# 2021-2022 Program Year Expenses

2020-2021 30% payments	\$1,231,997
2021-2022 70% payments	\$2,850,658
Salaries	\$161,748
Fringe	\$101,186
NYSSA insurance & admin ask	\$255,164
Law enforcement – state aid	\$188,717
NPS (safety, education, travel, equipment, supplies)	\$107,256
DEC/OPRHP allocations	\$0
<b>Total program expenses</b>	<b>\$4,896,726</b>

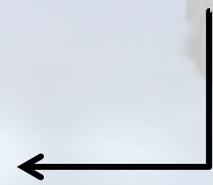
Total Revenue \$5,794,680

Total Expenses \$4,896,726

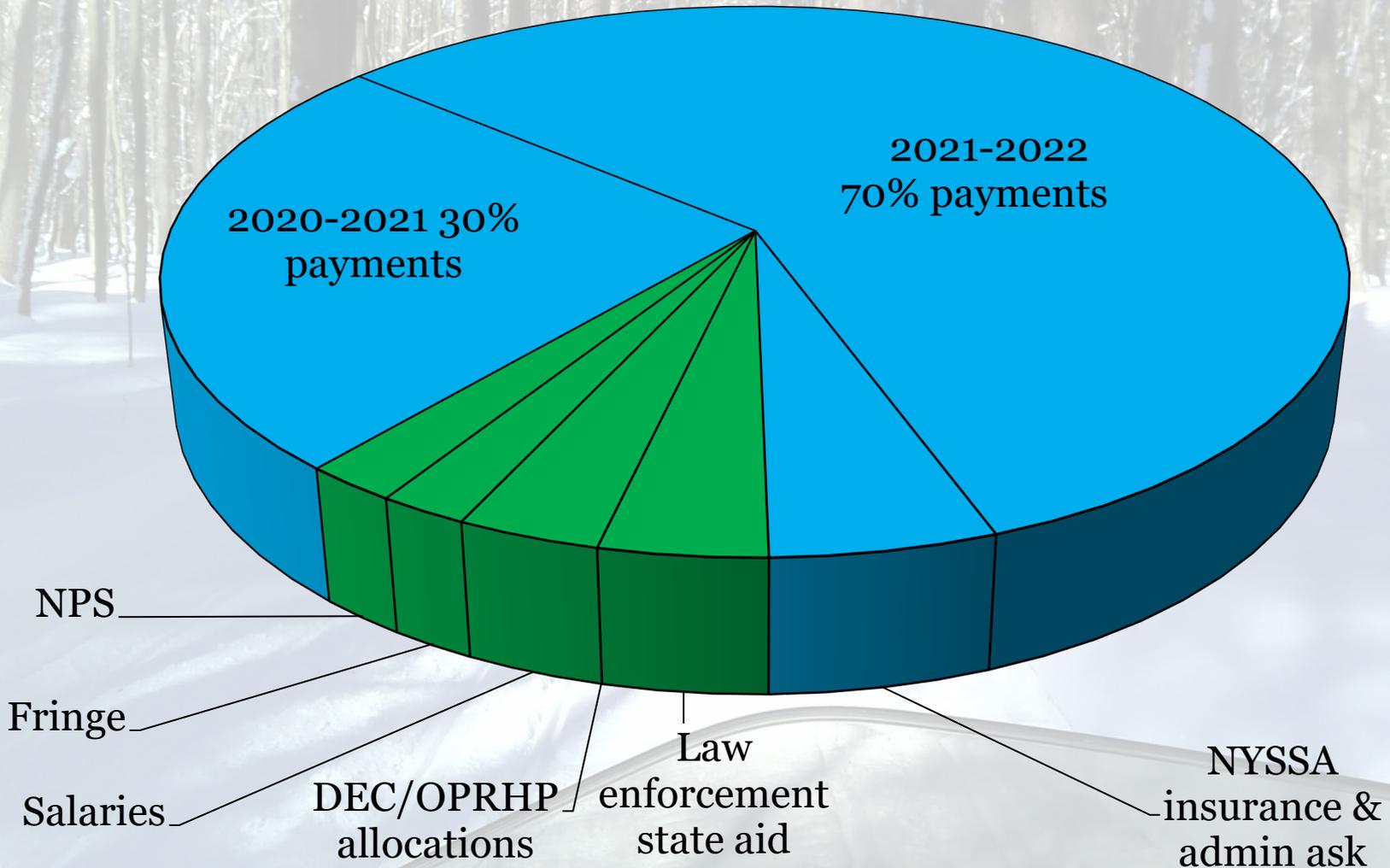
Subtotal: \$897,954

Funds not paid or owed: \$66,830

**Balance \$831,124**

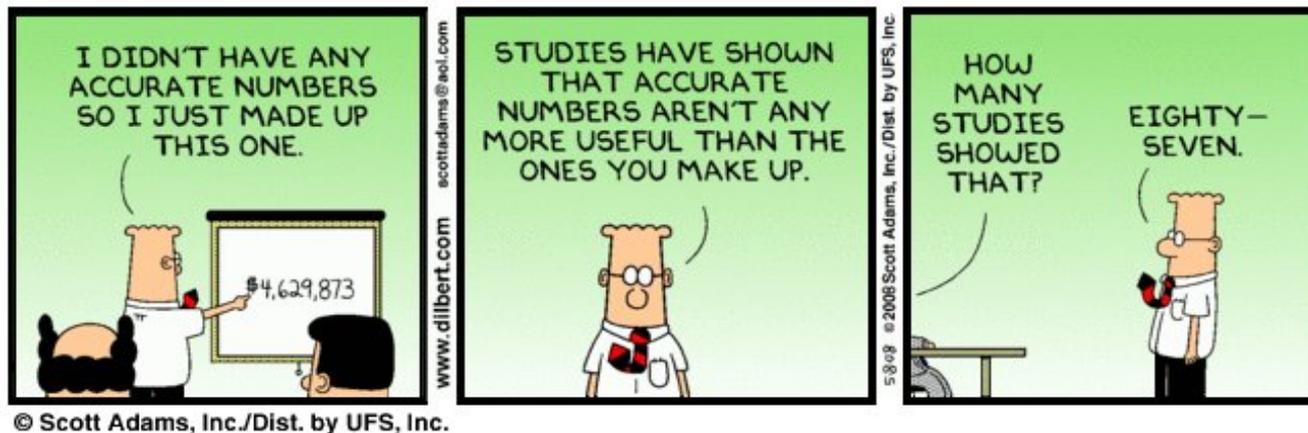


# 2021-2022 Program Year Expenses



# 2022-2023 Projections

Club registrations: 85,000 x \$40	\$3,400,000
Non-club Registrations: 15,000 x \$95	\$1,425,000
Registration fine revenue	\$15,000
Total Revenue	\$4,840,000
Non trail grant program expenses	<u>-\$600,000</u>
Funds Available for 2019-20 grant	\$4,240,000



# Snowmobile Trail Mileage Breakdown

Dollar amounts are used to calculate **maximum** award amounts; actual award reimbursements must be justified and properly documented

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Miles</b>	<b>\$ / Mile</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Corridor A</b>	6,432	\$336	\$2,161,152
<b>Corridor B</b>	560	\$276	\$154,560
<b>Secondary A</b>	3,098	\$336	\$1,040,928
<b>Secondary B</b>	462	\$276	\$127,512
<b>High Snow</b>	2,542	\$300	\$762,600
		<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$4,246,752</b>

## *Definitions:*

Corridor: "Through trail" community connectors

Secondary: "Access trail" connecting trailheads/facilities/destinations to corridors

Class A: At least 12 feet wide, capable of handling groomer/drag units 8+ feet wide

Class B: At least 8 feet wide, capable of handling groomer/drag units 4+ feet wide

High Snow: Area receiving an average of 110+ inches of snowfall based on 30 year NOAA data; sections of trail within the high snow area receive the high snow allowance as an addition to the maximum award amount

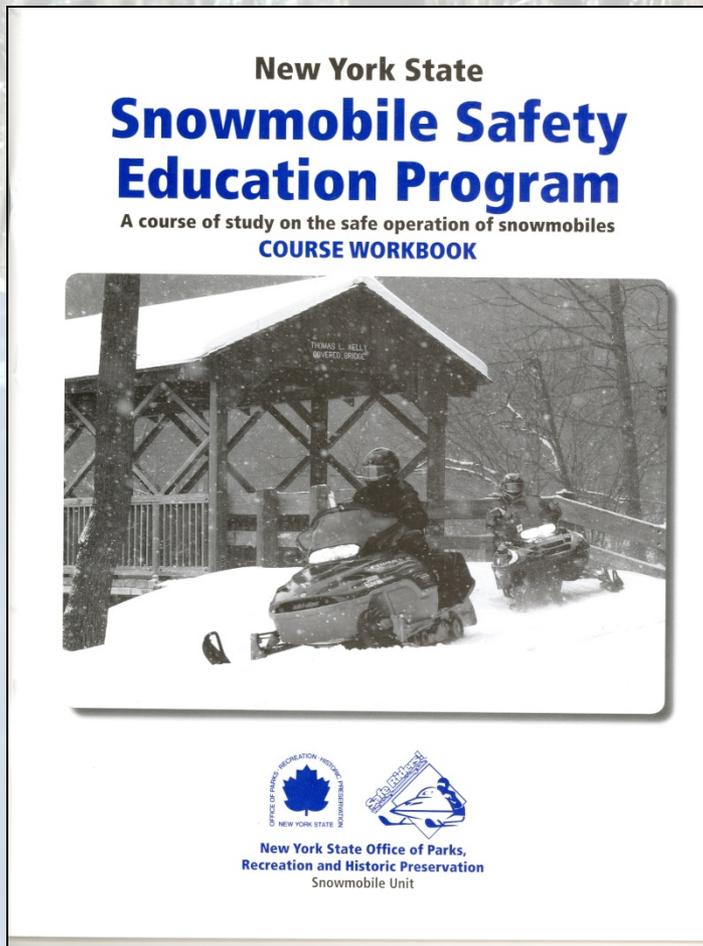
# Snowmobile Safety Education Program 2021-2022 Program Year

Youth Ages 10-13 must pass a safety course and operate within 500' of an adult.

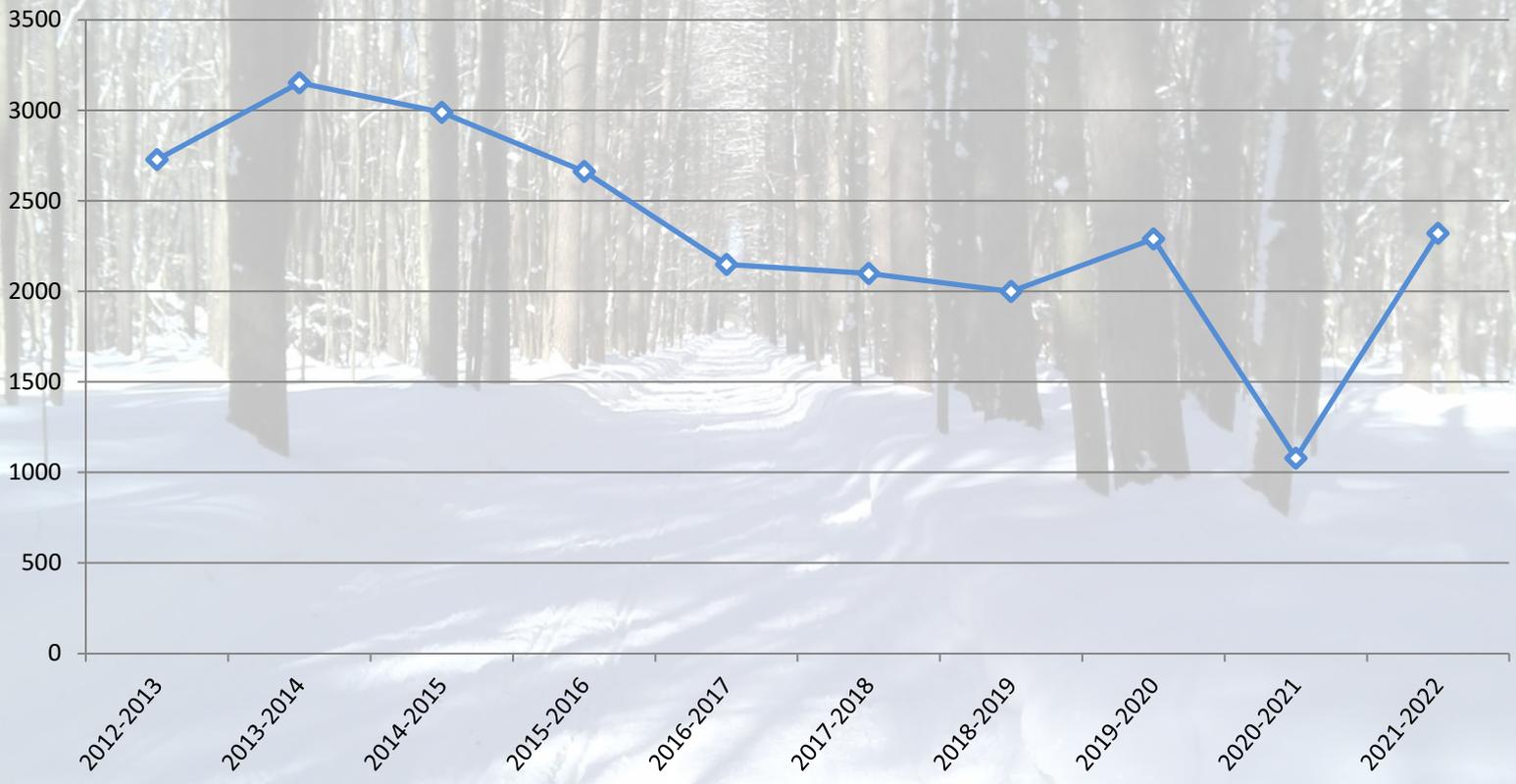
Youth ages 14-17 must pass a safety course or operate within 500' of an adult.

8 hour classroom course.

During the 2021-22 season 111 courses were held and approximately 2,320 students received certification.



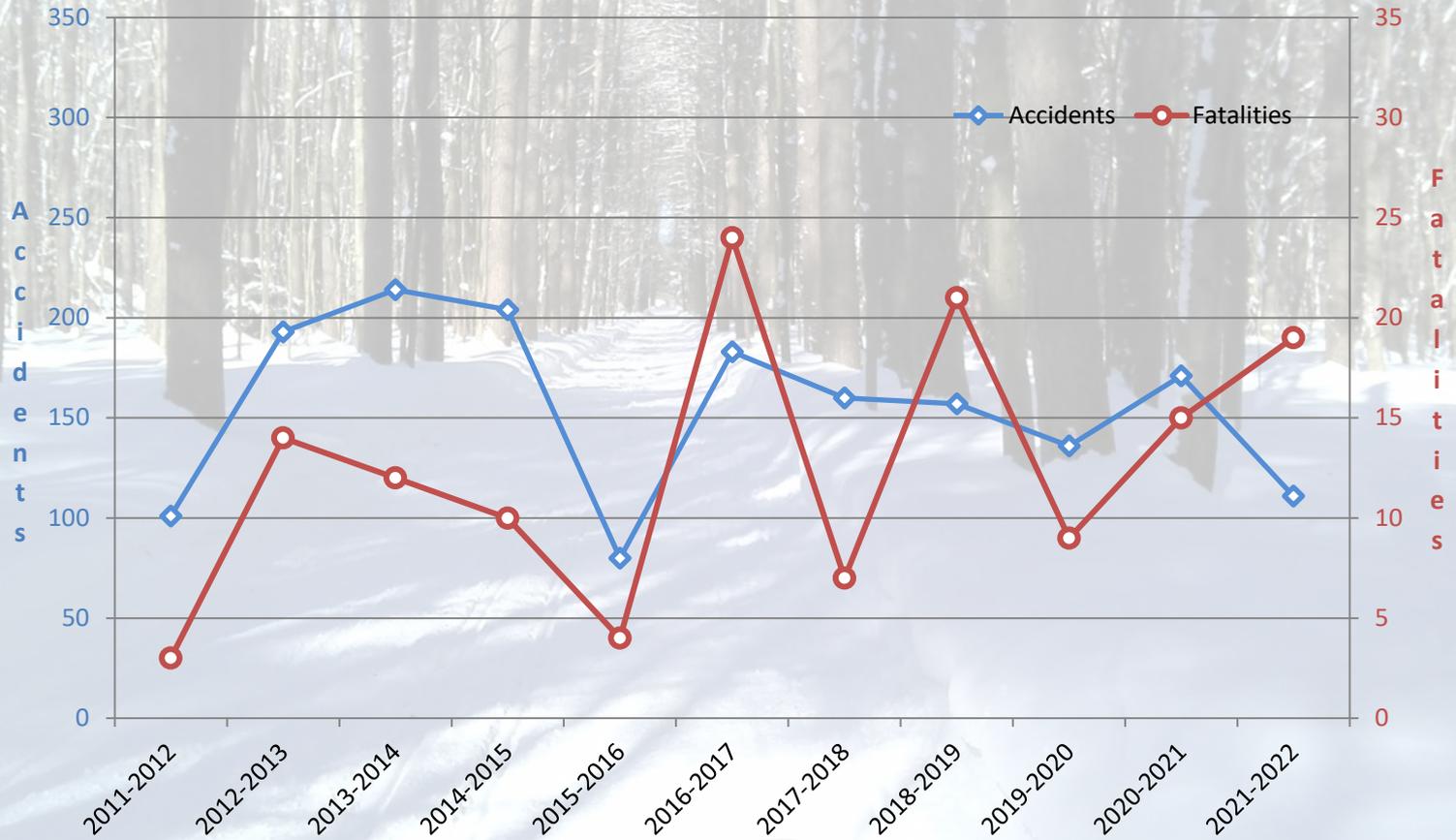
# Students Completing Snowmobile Education Course 10 Year Summary



# Reported Snowmobile Accidents and Fatalities 2021-2022 Program Year



## Reported Snowmobile Accidents/Fatalities 10 Year Summary



## 2021-2022 Summary of Snowmobile Related Fatalities

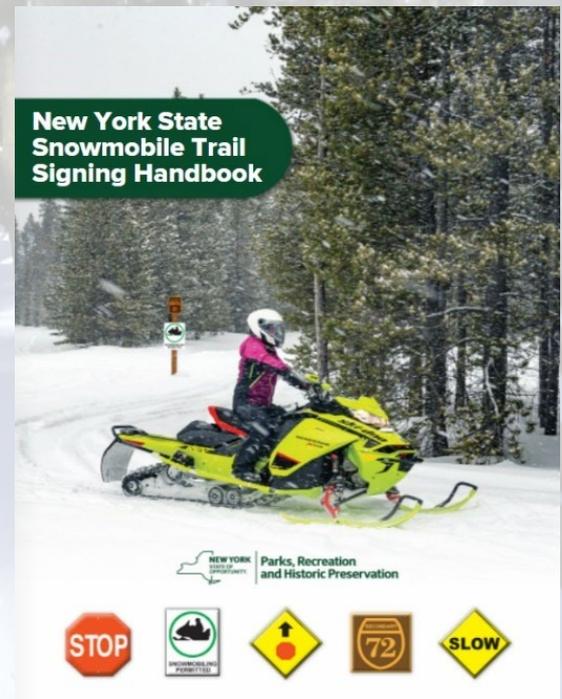
Date	Time	County	Leading Factor	Result
1/2/2022	6:25 PM	Essex	Unsafe Speed	Collision with a Fixed Object
1/4/2022	2:07 PM	Herkimer	Unsafe Speed	Collision with a Fixed Object
1/16/2022	7:36 PM	Lewis	Failed to Negotiate a Turn	Collision with a Fixed Object
1/17/2022	10:00 PM	Oswego	Unsafe Speed	Collision with a Fixed Object
1/20/2022	21:04	Lewis	Failed to Negotiate a Turn	Collision with a Fixed Object
1/22/2022	2:46 AM	Lewis	Alcoholic Involvement	Collision with a Fixed Object
1/27/2022	4:14 PM	Oswego	Failed to Yield the ROW	Collision with a Moving Object
1/28/2022	6:07 PM	Herkimer	Unsafe Speed	Collision with a Fixed Object
1/28/2022	3:41 PM	Oneida	Unfamiliar with Terrain	Collision with a Fixed Object
1/30/2022	10:11 PM	Chautauqua	Unsafe Speed	Collision with a Fixed Object
2/4/2022	7:43 PM	Essex	Failed to Negotiate a Turn	Collision with a Fixed Object
2/13/2022	12:27 PM	Lewis	Unsafe Speed	Collision with a Fixed Object
2/13/2022	3:44 PM	Warren	Unsafe Speed	Collision with a Fixed Object
2/20/2022	10:00 PM	Clinton	Failed to Negotiate a Turn	Collision with a Fixed Object
2/27/2022	11:38 AM	Schenectady	Unsafe Speed	Collision with a Fixed Object
2/27/2022	2:28 PM	Madison	Reckless Operation	Fell From a Moving Vehicle
3/3/2022	11:43 PM	Lewis	Failed to Negotiate a Turn	Collision with a Fixed Object
3/4/2022	12:44 AM	Lewis	Failed to Keep Right	Collision with a Moving Object
3/4/2022	12:44 AM	Lewis		Collision with a Moving Object

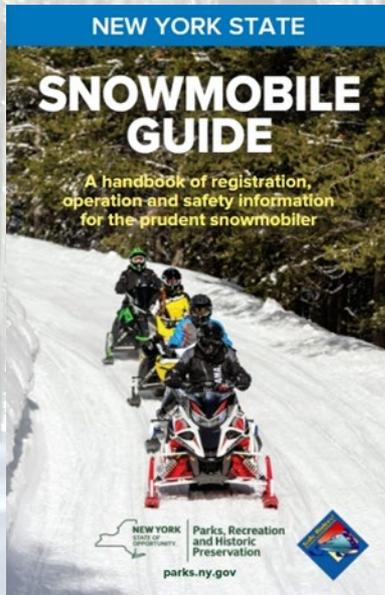
*\*Information still being collected at time of publication*

## Snowmobile Publications

Publications can be found on our website at <https://parks.ny.gov/recreation/snowmobiles/documents.aspx>. Publication materials can also be requested by sending an email to our unit mailbox at [Snowmobile.Unit@parks.ny.gov](mailto:Snowmobile.Unit@parks.ny.gov).

[New York State Snowmobile Trail Signing Handbook](#): outlines a comprehensive and uniform system of trail signing across the state. The objective of trail signing is to enhance the safety of persons, vehicles, and property; improve travel within and between trail systems by maintaining consistent standards; increase comfort and confidence in navigating the statewide trail system; and promote recreational snowmobiling trails.





New York State Snowmobile Guide: Serves as a snowmobile resource guide, with over 50 pages of useful information.

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Check out the interactive guide under “Training Manuals & Informational Guides” on our webpage.

Snowmobile Trail Groomer Operator Training:  
Serves as a resource guide for trail grooming  
managers and equipment operators

## Guidelines For Snowmobile Trail Groomer Operator Training

A Resource Guide for Trail Grooming  
Managers and Equipment Operators



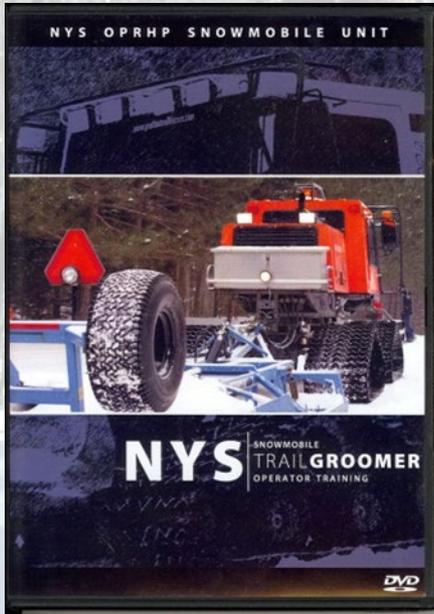
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Reprinted 2021



## Snowmobile Trail Groomer Training Video

The Snowmobile Unit has developed a Groomer Operator Training Program combining the guidelines from the International Association of Snowmobile Administrators (“IASA”) Grooming Manual, input from experienced groomers, and past OPRHP publications. Training includes technical information and advice on the art of grooming snowmobile trails. Through the cooperation of OPRHP, NYSSA, and local TMEs, many groomer operators have attended grooming workshops held throughout New York State. The Guidelines for Snowmobile Trail Groomer Operator Training serves as a resource guide for trail grooming managers and equipment operators. Trail Maintenance Entities/Clubs can request a copy of the “NYS Snowmobile Trail Groomer Operator Training” DVD, developed by OPRHP, by sending an email to [snowmobile.unit@parks.ny.gov](mailto:snowmobile.unit@parks.ny.gov). The video can also be found online at <https://youtu.be/mkOYD6Izvhc>



### **Snowmobile Law Enforcement Development School (SLEDS)**

Law enforcement officers of the state, including Park Police, Sheriffs, local and State Police, Environmental Conservation Officers, and Forest Rangers are authorized to enforce snowmobile laws and regulations.

OPRHP is the lead agency conducting the Snowmobile Law Enforcement Development School (SLEDS) training program. The program is designed to present officers with the fundamentals of snowmobile operation and law enforcement, as well as provide an understanding of the knowledge and skills needed by the snowmobile law enforcement officer in order to function in an effective and professional manner. It is the intent of this program to achieve effective and uniform snowmobile law enforcement practices and policies across the state, while building upon the basic law enforcement and investigative skills of police agency personnel, involved in snowmobile patrol activities which require knowledge of snowmobile-related laws, rules, regulations, and accident investigation techniques. This is accomplished through a combination of classroom lectures and outdoor field exercises.



## Snowmobile Law Enforcement Grant-In-Aid Program

Every county, city, town, or village, engaged in snowmobile enforcement activities shall be entitled to receive state aid for costs incurred by municipal police agencies in the enforcement of snowmobile rules, regulations, and safety training.

Authorized expenditures shall not exceed \$50,000 for each county, including the municipalities therein, shall bear to the total authorized expenditures of all the counties, cities, towns, or villages for enforcement of article 25 of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law during the fiscal year. The maximum reimbursement value is 75% of approved expenditures with a county maximum award of \$37,500.

In accordance with Article 27.15, State aid; snowmobile enforcement: the amount of funding allocated cannot exceed the sum of \$200,000 (two hundred thousand dollars). If the combined statewide post audit submission total exceeds the \$200,000 limit, individual awards shall be equally pro-rated, based on the maximum allowable amount

A summary for the 2020-2021 Snowmobile Law Enforcement State Aid Grant Awards are provided below. 2021-22 submissions have not been processed at the date of this publication.

### 2020-2021 Snowmobile Law Enforcement State Aid Grant

Participating Organizations	Statewide Amount Requested	Statewide Amount Approved	Statewide 75% Payment Value
18	\$254,391.48	\$251,622.03	\$188,716.52

#	Agency	Statewide Amount Requested	Statewide Amount Approved	Statewide 75% Payment
1	County of Niagara	\$16,287.91	\$16,287.91	\$12,215.93
2	Town of Webb	\$41,587.00	\$36,707.87	\$27,530.90
3	Warren County Sheriff's Office	\$14,246.58	\$14,201.48	\$10,651.11
4	Oswego County	\$40,560.20	\$40,560.20	\$30,420.15
5	County of Hamilton	\$6,729.80	\$6,829.77	\$5,122.33
6	Delaware County	\$835.80	\$817.24	\$612.93
7	County of Wayne	\$5,461.40	\$5,461.40	\$4,096.05
8	Fulton County Sheriff Office	\$4,560.00	\$4,561.29	\$3,420.97
9	Monroe County Sheriff's Office	\$9,565.34	\$9,565.34	\$7,174.01
10	Oneida County	\$36,885.15	\$36,900.95	\$27,675.71
11	Town of Inlet	\$24,756.00	\$24,762.70	\$18,572.03
12	St. Lawrence County	\$7,281.36	\$7,281.42	\$5,461.07
13	Lewis County	\$25,321.59	\$25,571.61	\$19,178.71
14	Cattaraugus County	\$3,283.79	\$3,283.79	\$2,462.84
15	County of Cortland	\$7,650.23	\$7,650.23	\$5,737.67
16	Livingston County Sheriff's Office	\$3,108.05	\$3,108.04	\$2,331.03
17	Chautauqua County	\$5,747.89	\$7,547.39	\$5,660.54
18	Ontario County	\$523.39	\$523.40	\$392.55
		<b>\$254,391.48</b>	<b>\$251,622.03</b>	<b>\$188,716.52</b>

## Snowmobile Special Events

A "special event" is an organized rally, race, exhibition, or demonstration of limited duration, which is conducted according to a prearranged schedule and in which general public interest is manifested. An OPRHP-issued permit allows participants to operate snowmobiles at special events (including on-site practice) with exemption from provisions concerning speed, mufflers, lights, and registration.

The sponsor of a snowmobile special event must secure a permit from the Snowmobile Unit, and the application must be submitted at least 15 days prior to the special event.

Appropriate law enforcement agencies must be notified of the event, written permission from the landowner must be secured, and any other potentially impacted parties must be notified. It is the responsibility of the person in charge and the event sponsor to plan and undertake the event with the utmost regard for the safety of the participants and spectators.

The Special Event permit application and instructions are available under "Applications & Forms" on our webpage <https://parks.ny.gov/recreation/snowmobiles/documents.aspx>





**New York State**  
Parks, Recreation and  
Historic Preservation

Snowmobile Unit  
Albany, NY 12238-003  
T: (518) 476-6466  
F: (518) 485-7378  
snowmobile.unit@parks.ny.gov

### APPLICATION FOR SNOWMOBILE SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT

**NOTE:** BEFORE COMPLETING THIS APPLICATION, THE PERSON IN CHARGE OF THIS PROPOSED SPECIAL EVENT MUST READ AND ACKNOWLEDGE THE INSTRUCTIONS ATTACHED WITH THIS APPLICATION. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH INSTRUCTIONS SHALL BE CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF THIS EVENT PERMIT.

1. NAME AND ADDRESS OF SPONSORING ORGANIZATION:	2. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON-IN-CHARGE OF THIS EVENT:																														
	Phone #: E-MAIL: Fax #:																														
3. SPECIFIC LOCATION WHERE EVENT IS TO BE HELD (NAME & ADDRESS):	4. TYPE OF EVENT: (RAVE, SNOWMOBILE, CRAIGS, ETC...)																														
5. I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE OBTAINED A STATEMENT OF NO OBJECTIONS FROM THE OWNER OR BORROWER AND THAT THE EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE ON PUBLIC LANDS HAVE SECURED REQUIRED PERMITS. ADDITIONALLY, I AM NOT AWARE OF ANY OBJECTIONS FROM ANY OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES.																															
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <small>**If NO, EXPLAIN ON SEPARATE SHEET</small>																															
6. DURATION OF SPECIAL EVENT:																															
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>BEGIN:</th> <th>DAY</th> <th>DATE</th> <th>TIME</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>BEGINS:</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ENDS:</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ALTERNATE BEGINS:</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ALTERNATE ENDS:</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			BEGIN:	DAY	DATE	TIME		BEGINS:					<input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM	ENDS:					<input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM	ALTERNATE BEGINS:					<input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM	ALTERNATE ENDS:					<input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM
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7. NAME, ADDRESS, & PHONE #S OF THREE (3) PERSONS TO BE APPOINTED "SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PERSON-IN-CHARGE" OF THIS EVENT. <small>(NOTE: THE PERSON-IN-CHARGE BOX (4) MUST NOT ALSO BE AN ASSISTANT.)</small>																															
1. _____																															
2. _____																															
3. _____																															
<small>BY SIGNING AND SUBMITTING THIS APPLICATION, THE PERSON-IN-CHARGE CERTIFIES THAT:  -INSURANCE COVERAGE WILL BE IN PLACE THROUGHOUT EVENT  -LOCAL POLICE HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED OF THE DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF THE EVENT  -PROPERTY OWNERS IN THE VICINITY AND ANYONE ELSE WHO MAY BE AFFECTED HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED OF THE DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF THE EVENT  -ALL COVER REQUIREMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS ARE ATTACHED WILL BE MET</small>																															
DATE:	SIGNATURE OF PERSON-IN-CHARGE OF SPECIAL EVENT:																														

**IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS**

**THIS APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE OPRHP OFFICE AT LEAST 15 DAYS PRIOR TO THE EVENT START DATE AND BE ACCOMPANIED BY:**

- A DETAILED DRAWING OF THE EVENT LAYOUT
- LETTER OF NO OBJECTION FROM LANDOWNER OR PERMIT IF PUBLIC LAND

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# Snowmobile Trail Grant

## Phase I GPS requirements for 2022-2023:

All trails must have GPS derived GIS data no older than January 1, 2019.

Thereafter, each trail must have GPS derived GIS data no more than three years old. It is recommended that clubs stagger their GPS data collection..

Data no more than three years old will be the minimum requirement; clubs are encouraged to collect data more often if they are able and local sponsors may set more stringent requirements.

# A special thanks to:

All participants for their hard work, dedication and contribution provided to the trail system:

- Local Sponsors
- Club Volunteers
- Groomer Operators
- Club Administrators
- Landowners
- All NYSSA Members, Staff, & Volunteers
- Everyone who dedicates time & energy to the grant program making the NYS snowmobile system great!

# Snowmobile Unit

Phone: (518) 474-0446 Fax: (518) 486-7378

[snowmobile.unit@parks.ny.gov](mailto:snowmobile.unit@parks.ny.gov)

[www.parks.ny.gov](http://www.parks.ny.gov)



Thank you for attending our presentation.

We will open the floor for questions and discussion.

Please provide your Club name and the County/Counties in which you participate.