



Highway Department

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St. Croix County Policy – ATV/UTV Routes on County Trunk Highways

Wisconsin statutes (Wis. Stat. 23.33) provide St. Croix County the responsibility/authority to designate county highways, or sections of county highways, for use by ATV/UTV/LSV's (All-Terrain Vehicle/Utility-Terrain Vehicle/Low Speed Vehicles). These sections/routes are generally recognized as connections of ends of off-highway trails when it is obstructed by a city, village, natural obstacle, or other impediment.

St. Croix County's primary concern when making a determination on designating a county highway as an ATV/UTV route is public safety. ATV/UTV's on county highways will create an additional conflict for the traveling public and safety will be considered a priority.

Application/Process

Written applications are required for consideration by the St. Croix County Transportation Committee. Applications are available through the St. Croix County website (www.sccwi.gov) or from the St. Croix County Highway Department. All applications **must** be submitted by the local jurisdiction (City/Village/Town) to be considered. Applications will be considered annually, with the submittal deadline being the last Friday of January in the year to be considered. All application will be considered at the March St. Croix County Transportation Committee meeting. Upon recommendation of the St. Croix County Highway Committee, the route would be considered by the St. Croix County Board. The designation and opening of an approved ATV/UTV route will become effective upon adoption of a County Ordinance by the St. Croix County Board and erection of necessary signage by the St. Croix County Highway Department. All costs associated with erection and maintenance of necessary signs shall be the responsibility of the applicant.

Considerations

Safety of the traveling public is the utmost concern for St. Croix County, below is a list of factors that will be considered by the County in determining whether a county highway, or section of county highway could be designated as an ATV/UTV route. This list is not exhaustive, and as every county highway has unique features additional factors may be considered:

- ADT (Average Daily Traffic)
- St. Croix County Sheriff's Department – concerns
- Accident Rate
- Have all alternatives been considered
- School zones/other special consideration areas
- Does the requested highway/segment of highway connect segments of ATV/UTV trail networks
- Speed limit
- Vertical/horizontal highway alignment issues
- Pavement width
- Commercial truck volumes
- Highway functional classification (Arterial/Collector/Local)
- Length of requested route
- Environmental hazards

Other Items

If a situation warrants closure of a designated ATV/UTV route on a county highway the Highway Commissioner shall have the authority to temporarily suspend or close the route subject to a review and final determination by the St. Croix County Highway Committee. If the route is to be permanently closed the all ATV/UTV signage shall be removed.
