

## Landowners Are The Foundation of the Statewide Snowmobile Trail System

### INFORMATION FOR LANDOWNERS

Nearly 80% of all snowmobile trails in New York State are located on private lands. Without the generous support of thousands of private landowners across the state and hundreds across the county, there would be no snowmobile trail system for wintertime enjoyment.

Snowmobiling is a family activity which provides a measurable boost to the local economy during the winter months.

The landowner, when giving permission to a snowmobile club, continues all rights of ownership of the land the trail is on. The landowner is simply allowing the local club seasonal use of a specific portion of the landowner's property for a snowmobile trail.

Clubs seeking landowner permission for a trail are requesting permission for seasonal snowmobile use, not for other trail uses.

By giving permission for seasonal access to the club, the landowner is [protected by the provisions of the General Obligations law](#). The incorporated snowmobile club assumes the responsibility for the condition of the snowmobile trail. Its liability insurance policy as part of the New York State Snowmobile Association (NYSSA) protects the club for its trail maintenance actions and protects the landowner that gives permission for the trail.

After consulting the landowner, the club may install bridges and culverts, open and close gates, remove brush, install signs, and groom the trail according to his or her wishes. The club will work with the landowner to provide the safest trail possible for use on the landowner's property



The club should provide each landowner with the name of the club, a contact person, and that person's telephone number so that the landowner can get immediate response if a problem arises with the snowmobile trail. The club can also provide contact information and an email address for NYSSA, if the landowner wishes that information.

Landowners giving permission for a snowmobile trail do not jeopardize their right of continued ownership of the property. All the landowner is doing is allowing the seasonal use of a specific portion of the landowner's property for a snowmobile trail.

Landowner generosity is the foundation of the statewide system that provides over \$800 million annually to the state and local economy.

Mike Christie, President  
Bud Rivenburgh, Vice-President  
Dave Toborg, Secretary  
Donna Rivenburgh, Treasurer