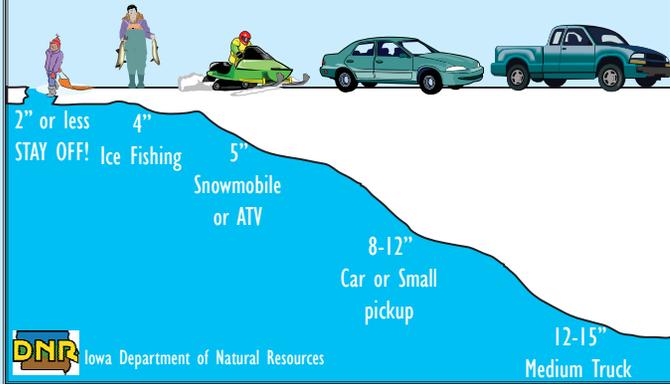


IOWA DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
SNOWMOBILE REFERENCE GUIDE  
NOVEMBER 2009

## Recommended Minimum Ice Thickness

Guidelines for New Clear Ice Only



- ✳ Many ice drownings involve children. When your child is near the ice, you should be near your child.
- ✳ Avoid alcoholic beverages when you're on the ice. They can make you feel colder and slow down your reaction time in case of an emergency.
- ✳ Carry two large nails to use as ice picks to pull yourself out if you fall through thin ice.
- ✳ Never drive on the ice at night.
- ✳ Avoid pressure ridges and areas with current if you do choose to drive on the ice.
- ✳ Drive with your windows down and doors partially open to avoid becoming trapped if your car breaks through.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Law Enforcement Bureau  
502 East 9th Street  
Des Moines, IA 50319-0034  
(515)281-5918  
[www.iowadnr.com](http://www.iowadnr.com)

# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## SNOWMOBILE REFERENCE GUIDE



The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is required to collect social security numbers from all persons obtaining a hunting, fishing, or other recreational license under Iowa Code Section 252J.8 and 42 U.S. Code 666(a)(13). Your social security number will serve as your principal identification number to determine your eligibility for licenses. It will be provided to law enforcement agencies and the Iowa Child Support Collection Unit to establish, modify, and enforce child support obligations. It WILL NOT appear on any printed forms.

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**Dealer:** A person engaged in the business of buying, selling, or exchanging snowmobiles required to be registered under Iowa Code Chapter 321G and who has an established place of business for that purpose in this state.

**Department or DNR:** Means the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

**Direct supervision:** To provide supervision of another person while maintaining visual and verbal contact at all times.

**Measurable snow:** Snow cover must be one-tenth of one inch to be considered measurable snow.

**Nonambulatory person:** An individual with paralysis of the lower half of the body with the involvement of both legs, usually caused by disease of or injury to the spinal cord, or caused by the loss of both legs or the loss of a part of both legs.

**Operate:** To ride in or on, other than as a passenger, use, or control the operation of a snowmobile in any manner, whether or not the snowmobile is moving.

**Operator:** A person who operates or is in actual physical control of a snowmobile.

**Public land:** Land owned by the federal government, the state, or political subdivisions of the state, and land acquired or developed for public recreation pursuant to Iowa Code Sections 321G.7.

**Railroad right-of-way:** The full width of property owned, leased, or subject to easement for railroad purposes and shall not be limited to those areas on which tracks are located.

**Roadway:** The portion of a highway improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel.

**Safety certificate:** A snowmobile safety certificate issued by the Iowa DNR to a qualified applicant who is 12 - 17 years of age as required by Iowa Code Section 321G.24.

**Snowmobile:** A motorized vehicle weighing less than one thousand pounds which uses sled-type runners or skis, endless belt-type tread with a width of forty-eight inches or less, or any combination of runners, skis, or tread, and is designed for travel on snow or ice. "Snowmobile" does not include an all-terrain vehicle, as defined in section 321I.1, which has been altered or equipped with runners, skis, belt-type tracks, or treads.

**Special event:** An organized race, exhibition, or demonstration of limited duration which is conducted on public land or ice under the jurisdiction of the Natural Resource Commission according to a prearranged schedule and in which general public interest is manifested.

**Street or highway:** The entire width between property lines of every way or place of whatever nature when any part thereof is open to the use of the public, as a matter of right, for purposes of vehicular travel, except in public areas in which the boundary shall be 33 feet each side of the center line of the roadway.

Education is mandatory in Iowa for persons ages 12-17 who ride their snowmobiles on designated public land, ice, or land purchased with snowmobile registration funds.

### *Iowa DNR Education Program*

The goal of the Iowa DNR Snowmobile Education Program is to expose riders, old and new, to responsible viewpoints on rider safety and to provide a base for rider skill development. The Snowmobile Education Course is designed to teach students the principles of safe snowmobiling and how snowmobiling affects other people and the environment.

The course is approximately 8 hours in length and is designed to be completed in one day, usually on a weekend. The course is taught by certified instructors and is classroom based. Because snowfall and snow cover in Iowa are not predictable, a riding component is not part of the student evaluation. However, instructors do try to offer riding demonstrations and practice when possible. **Students are strongly encouraged to practice what they learn in class on the trails with supervision from an adult.**

Topics which are covered in the course include identifying common parts of a snowmobile; pre-ride inspections; proper riding positions, skills, and strategies; risk awareness and risk management; safety gear; trail signs; and Iowa's laws and regulations that apply to the sport of snowmobiling.

The cost of the class is \$5.

While anyone is welcome to take this course, education certificates will only be issued to students who are 12 or older and pass the course. Students who are 11 will receive a certificate that will become effective on their 12th birthday. Students who successfully complete the course will receive their certificate at the end of the class.

Students will be given a written exam that they must pass with 80% accuracy in order to earn their certificate.

Classes are typically held during the winter months and are based upon the volunteer instructors' schedules. DNR instructors donate their time and are not compensated for teaching these courses.

For more information about the DNR snowmobile education program, go to:

[www.iowadnr.gov/law/snowmobile/education.html](http://www.iowadnr.gov/law/snowmobile/education.html)

For a listing of current classes, please go to:

[www.iowadnr.gov/law/lawdb/viewcourse.html](http://www.iowadnr.gov/law/lawdb/viewcourse.html)

SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THIS COURSE WILL EARN THE PARTICIPANT AN EDUCATION CERTIFICATE WHICH IS REQUIRED FOR RIDERS 12 – 17 ON PUBLIC LAND AND ICE IN IOWA AS PRESCRIBED BY IOWA CODE SECTION 321G.24.

AN EDUCATION CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES IS RECOGNIZED BY MOST STATES. PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO YOUR DESTINATION STATE TO CHECK THEIR REQUIREMENTS.

### Home-study Certification Course

A home-study course option is offered by the DNR to make the opportunity to earn an education certificate available to individuals who do not have access to a classroom-based course. The home-study course uses the same student material as the instructor-led course. Students must request course material from the DNR. A parent or legal guardian must sign an attestation that the student who is requesting certification has independently completed the coursework and the student exam. The student exam must be sent to the DNR along with the \$5 course fee. If the student successfully passes the exam with 80% accuracy, the fee will be processed and an education certification card will be mailed to the student.

Home-study packets can be requested by calling 515-281-5918 or e-mailing [webmaster@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:webmaster@dnr.iowa.gov).

**Online education information**  
[www.snowmobilers.org/saferider](http://www.snowmobilers.org/saferider)



### Becoming a DNR Snowmobile Education Instructor

An instructor applicant must have strong riding skills and knowledge of snowmobiling, be able to effectively communicate with others, submit to criminal and conservation violation background checks, possess or earn a snowmobile education certificate from the DNR, complete an Instructor Training Session, and apprentice with a DNR-certified snowmobile volunteer education instructor.



Instructor Training Sessions are held in the fall at a variety of locations. Training is designed to familiarize candidates with the Administrative Rules which apply to the program, paperwork requirements, teaching techniques, the DNR's expectations of volunteer education instructors, and to guide candidates individually through the steps that are needed to complete their training.

Teaching experience is not required. We find that those who have a passion for the sport of motorized recreation, and snowmobiling in particular, have a natural ability to connect with their students.

For more information, please contact the Snowmobile Education Coordinator at [webmaster@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:webmaster@dnr.iowa.gov).

## Age-related Operation Guidelines

The following age restrictions apply to the operation of snowmobiles on designated public land and ice:

- **Persons under 12** must be accompanied by a responsible person who is at least 18 years of age and who possesses a valid driver's license or a snowmobile education certificate.
- **Persons 12 to 17** must have a valid education certificate.
- **Persons 18 and older** may operate without an education certificate unless the individual's privilege to operate a motor vehicle has been suspended, barred, or revoked.

**Always play safe with children on board. Go slowly with young passengers. Exert extra care. Avoid side hills and broken terrain. See that the child firmly grips the handles and protectively sits with both feet on the running boards.**

**Check frequently to make sure the child is riding correctly. Always position small children so they can be watched.**

**When carrying tots or any other passengers, smooth starts and stops are required. A fast start could result in a whiplash injury to the passenger seated behind you or in the tow sled.**

## **Tread Lightly!**

By practicing the Tread Lightly! principles you not only protect the outdoors, you also protect access to recreation opportunities for years to come.

**T** **Travel Responsibly** on trails or in permitted areas. Avoid trails with inadequate snow cover. Be aware of unmarked hazards or obstacles hidden beneath the snow. Respect closed gates and regulatory signs. Stay out of designated wilderness areas. Avoid potential avalanche areas.

**R** **espect the rights of others**, including private property owners, to allow them to enjoy their recreational activities undisturbed.

**E** **ducate yourself** by obtaining maps and regulations from public agencies, planning for your trip, taking recreational skills classes, and knowing how to use and operate your equipment safely. Wear proper safety gear, layer clothing, and wear a durable and waterproof outer shell and footwear.

**A** **void sensitive areas** such as meadows, wetlands, and streams, unless on designated routes. This protects wildlife habitat and sensitive soils from damage. Be respectful of wildlife's wintering habitats.

**D** **o your part** by leaving the area better than you found it. Dispose of waste properly and pack out what you pack in. Stay off soft, wet trails that are easily damaged by vehicles. Minimize harmful emissions by keeping your engine tuned up. Don't mix riding with alcohol and drugs.

Tread Lightly! is a nonprofit organization with a mission to promote responsible outdoor recreation through ethics education and stewardship. For more information, please visit [www.treadlightly.org](http://www.treadlightly.org).

### Basics of S-KNOW-mobiling

- Know your snowmobile. It is a powerful machine, but with proper supervision, training, and experience, riding a snowmobile can be a safe and enjoyable recreational experience.
- Know and respect your snowmobile's capabilities and its limitations.
- Know how to operate your snowmobile in a variety of weather, trail, and operating conditions.
- Know the laws and regulations governing snowmobiling where you ride and where you travel to ride.
- Know how to recognize hazardous riding conditions so you can make good decisions based upon this information.
- Know how to read maps and use a compass or GPS unit.
- Know how to dress safely to snowmobile. Always wear a helmet, layer clothing, and wear durable and waterproof outer shell, gloves, and footwear.
- Know that you cannot ride in areas without landowner permission.
- Know to never use drugs or alcohol while riding.
- Know your riding skills and capabilities. **Do not try to ride beyond your skill level.**
- Know to not ride machines that are too large for you or that you cannot control.
- Know to recognize and ignore negative peer pressure. **Stay safe.**
- Know that reducing risks is a choice. Practice safe decision making.
- Know that adult supervision is needed for young riders.
- Know to NEVER ride alone.

### Owner's Manual

The owner's manual for your snowmobile is the most important resource you have in terms of operation, maintenance, and special safety considerations that you should be aware of. Specifics about your braking system, transmission, engine, and suspension can be found there. You should read your owner's manual carefully for this information.

### Trail Etiquette

- Respect all trail restrictions and use only trails open to snowmobile use.
- Be considerate of other riders on the trail.
- Ride on the right side of the trail.
- Slow down when passing.
- Slow down when sight lines are poor.
- Keep speeds low around other riders.
- Keep noise down.
- Keep your ears open – no ear buds for an I Pod or MP3 player. Listening to headphones or ear buds can make it difficult to hear and communicate with other riders and recreationists.
- Yield the right-of-way to those passing you from behind or traveling uphill.
- Report all illegal riding.
- Carry out what you carry in. Pick up litter left behind by others.



International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association

Registration of Snowmobiles

- All snowmobiles operated in Iowa on ice or a designated trail must have a current registration decal displayed on the machine. The decal must be placed on the windshield or area closest to the headlamp so that it is clearly visible.
- Machines which belong to nonresident riders must display a nonresident user permit in order to legally operate on ice or designated trails. The decal must be placed on the windshield or area closest to the headlamp so that it is clearly visible.
- Registration is not required for snowmobiles owned and used by the United States, another state, or a political subdivision of another state or snowmobiles used exclusively for agricultural purposes.
- It is a scheduled violation to operate a snowmobile that does not have a current registration.
- A snowmobile that is more than 30 years old may be registered as an antique machine. Antique registrations may not be transferred.

***Where to Register***

**New Purchases**

***County recorder's office in county of residence***

**Renewals**

***County of residence or any Electronic Licensing System of Iowa (ELSI) vendor. A listing of vendors can be found at <http://www.iowadnr.gov/cs/files/elsivendors.pdf>.***

**Nonresident User Permits**

***County recorder's office or ELSI vendor***

Operation Guidelines

- A snowmobile dealer is required to issue a "registration applied for" card with each purchase which allows the buyer to operate the machine for 45 days while the registration is being processed.
- The registration certificates must be carried either in the snowmobile or on the person operating the machine.
- Operation is prohibited under the following conditions:
  - In or on any part of a state park, wildlife management area, preserve, refuge, or fish and game areas, unless on a designated and signed snowmobile trail.
  - In any tree nursery or planting in a manner which damages or destroys growing stock.
  - In a careless, reckless, or negligent manner.
  - All speeds greater than reasonable or proper under all existing circumstances.
  - Riding while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotics. A violation of Iowa Code Chapter 321J will be applied to your privilege to operate a motor vehicle in addition to any fines or jail time required by Iowa law.
  - In violation of official signs.
  - Without measurable snow cover of at least one-tenth of an inch.
  - On an operating railroad right-of-way.
- Operation on private property is subject to trespass laws and permission must be obtained.

***Snowmobile operators are exempt from carrying insurance on their vehicles and are also exempt from proof of liability coverage requirements.***

### Required Equipment

- **Headlamp and Tail Lamp:** Every snowmobile is required to have at least one headlamp and one tail lamp and use is required from sunset to sunrise and at such other times when conditions provide insufficient lighting to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles at a distance of five hundred feet ahead.
- **Brakes:** Every snowmobile must be equipped with brakes.
- **Mufflers:** Snowmobiles may not exceed an engine noise limit above 96 decibels as tested under SAE J1287.

### Firearms on a Snowmobile

A person shall not operate or ride a snowmobile with a firearm in the person's possession unless it is unloaded and enclosed in a carrying case. However, paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may hunt from a motor-driven land conveyance such as a snowmobile. "Paraplegic" means an individual affected with paralysis of the lower half of the body with the involvement of both legs, usually due to disease of or injury to the spinal cord. [571 IAC 98.2(2)] Turkey and [571 IAC 106.7(4)] Deer

### Signal from Officer to Stop

A person who has received a visual or audible signal from a peace officer to come to a stop shall not operate a snowmobile in willful or wanton disregard of the signal or interfere with, endanger the officer, any other person's vehicle, increase speed, or attempt to flee or elude the officer.

### Reporting Accidents

Any snowmobile-related accident which results in the injury or death of an individual or property damage which exceeds \$1,000 must be immediately reported to a county sheriff or another law enforcement agency. If the accident occurred on public land or ice, a report of the accident must be filed with the DNR within 72 hours of the accident. Accident forms can be obtained from a county sheriff or a DNR conservation officer.

### Prohibited use in Streambeds

Operation of a motor vehicle is prohibited in meandered streams. Sovereign waters of the State have been identified in 571 Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 13. Exceptions exist for operation on ice.

### Prosecution

A person regardless of age can be prosecuted for violating Iowa's snowmobile regulations. A violation of the requirement for a machine to be registered is issued to the operator of the machine. A violation of not possessing an education certificate for riders between the ages of 12 through 17 on public land or ice can be issued to the operator. [Violations of snowmobile laws may apply to an individual's driving record which could impact their privilege to operate a motor vehicle.](#)

### Liability

Both the owner and the operator of a snowmobile that is involved in the negligent operation of the snowmobile which results in an injury or damage may be liable. [See Iowa Code Section 321G.18 \(2009\) for details.](#)

*Operation on Roads and Highways*

*Use of an Underpass:*

- The underpass is abandoned and is no longer in use by motor vehicles or trains
- It is the only alternative to the use of the traveled roadway.
- Use is not in conflict with rules or regulations adopted by the federal government, the State of Iowa, or a political subdivision.

*Direct Crossings:*

- Must be made at an angle of 90 degrees and at a place with no obstructions
- The snowmobile must come to a complete stop before crossing.
- Driver must yield the right-of-way to all oncoming traffic.
- For a divided highway, the crossing is made only at an intersection.

*Public Highway Prohibitions:*

- On the roadway portion and adjacent shoulder or at least five feet on either side of the roadway
- Limited access highways and approaches
- Racing any moving object
- Abreast with one or more other snowmobiles on a city highway.

*Operation on Roads and Highways*

*Allowed Operation:*

- City highways which have not been plowed
- Highways designated by the municipality
- In an emergency when other travel is impractical
- If allowed by a county board of supervisor

*Age Restrictions:*

- A sixteen-year-old rider must have a snowmobile safety certificate to operate on or cross a highway
- A twelve-to-fifteen-year-old rider must have a safety certificate and be under direct supervision of an adult with a driver's license or snowmobile safety certificate to operate on or cross a highway

*Right-of-way:*

- A snowmobile shall not be operated within the right-of-way of a primary highway between the hours of sunset and sunrise except on the right-hand side of the right-of-way and in the same direction as the motor vehicular traffic on the nearest lane of traveled portion of the right-of-way.

*Speed:*

- A snowmobile must not be operated at a speed greater than what is posted for the road or highway on which it is being operated.

### *Affidavits*

For a used snowmobile which has never been registered or titled, the buyer must provide to the County Recorder in the buyer's county of residence an Affidavit for Unregistered and Untitled Snowmobiles at the time of registration. The affidavit must be signed by the seller and must be notarized. An inspection of the vehicle by an Iowa peace officer is also required. Forms can be obtained at [www.iowadnr.gov/license/files/5428050.pdf](http://www.iowadnr.gov/license/files/5428050.pdf).

### *Registration Funds*

User registration fees are deposited into a Special Snowmobile Fund which is used to maintain existing snowmobile trails, develop new trails, provide insurance for project sponsors receiving grant funds, and to fund the expenses of the DNR for program management, education and safety programs, and enforcement efforts.

Program funds are also used to leverage federal and state trail grant money for the purchase of grooming and trail maintenance equipment.

When awarding grant funds preference is given to projects of acquisition and development that are located in areas of high-demand with the most long-term, stable management plans and that have the least adverse environmental and social impacts.

All money that is expended from the special fund is governed by statute under Iowa Code Chapter 321G and 571 Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 28. All purchases must follow competitive bid processes and generally acceptable accounting principles and all grant money is tracked using a cooperative agreement between the DNR and the grantee.

### *Bonding*

To register a used vehicle you must have the bill of sale, registration, and title, if titled, for the machine. If you do not have all of these items, you will need to bond the vehicle. Information on bonding requirements can be found at [www.iowadnr.gov/license/files/bonding\\_instruct.pdf](http://www.iowadnr.gov/license/files/bonding_instruct.pdf) or you can call 515-281-5918 for assistance.

### *Special Events*

The DNR is authorized to permit the holding of special events on land under the jurisdiction of the Natural Resources Commission. Permits issued by the DNR will detail the equipment and facilities necessary for the safe operation of event machines and any safeguards needed to provide for the safety of operators, participants, and observers.

A Special Event Application must be filed with the DNR at least 30 days prior to the date of the event. First-level review is conducted by the local Conservation Officer. Final review and issuance of the permit, or notification of denial, is completed by the Program Coordinator.

Event sponsors must provide their own event insurance and must list the DNR as an additional insured on the policy. Failure to provide proof of insurance may result in the cancellation of the event at any time.

Each participant in an approved event must display a current registration decal on their event machine. A nonresident participant must display a current nonresident user permit on their event machine.

Additional information and permit application forms can be obtained at [www.iowadnr.gov/law/snowmobile/specialevents.html](http://www.iowadnr.gov/law/snowmobile/specialevents.html).

## Iowa State Snowmobile Association

The ISSA has been serving the Iowa snowmobiling community since its incorporation on November 28, 1973. The organization has grown to include 2,021 riders, families, and associate members, as well as a network of 61 local clubs. Through that dedicated membership, the association has helped to maintain an expansive fleet of groomers in the state and has lobbied on behalf of snowmobile-friendly legislation.

The ISSA membership year runs from January 1 to December 31. For more information about membership benefits, how to find a local club, the state association, and the 2010 International Snowmobile Congress which will be hosted by the ISSA in Coralville, Iowa, June 10 - 12, 2010, please go to [www.iowasnowmobiler.com](http://www.iowasnowmobiler.com).

### MISSION:

*THE PURPOSE OF THE ISSA IS TO STIMULATE AND ADVANCE THE GENERAL WELFARE AND SAFETY OF SNOWMOBILING; TO SERVE THE INTERESTS OF SNOWMOBILE OWNERS IN THE STATE OF IOWA; TO DEFEND SNOWMOBILE OWNERS AGAINST DISCRIMINATORY LEGISLATION, REGULATIONS AND BURDENSOME TAXATION; TO DEVELOP A FRATERNAL SPIRIT AMONG SNOWMOBILERS AND OTHER WINTER SPORTS ENTHUSIASTS; TO PROVIDE A MEDIUM FOR THE EXCHANGE OF SNOWMOBILING INFORMATION; AND TO PERFORM ALL DESIRABLE AND LAWFUL FUNCTIONS FOR THE SUCCESSFUL OPERATION OF THE ASSOCIATION AND IN THE GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.*

Funded by member dues and grants, the ISSA is governed by a Board of Directors that meets monthly. Annually-elected officers include the President, Vice President and Secretary, while the Treasurer is appointed by the sitting President. The state is divided into 12 regions. Each region is represented by a director who is elected to his or her post by ISSA members in his or her respective region at convention. Terms last two years, and each Region Director can appoint assistants.



[WWW.IOWASNOWMOBILER.COM](http://WWW.IOWASNOWMOBILER.COM)

The ISSA is a dues-paying member of the American Council of Snowmobile Associations, and each June the organization sends delegates to the International Snowmobile Congress. Other annual events include charity rides, a camp out in July, and a statewide convention in November. The ISSA has also received national recognition for its development of the SPORT (Snowmobilers Protecting Our Recreational Trails) pin.

*Iowa DNR Conservation Officers*

Adair	Eric Sansgaard .....	712-250-0303
Adams	Andrea Bevington .....	712-520-0508
Allamakee	William Collins .....	563-380-0801
	Vicky Hanson.....	563-380-0800
Appanoose	Randy McPherran .....	641-777-2164
	Dallas Davis.....	641-777-2163
Audubon	Jeremy King.....	712-250-0061
Benton	Ron Lane .....	319-350-2871
	Brett Reece .....	641-751-0931
Black Hawk	Mike Bonser .....	319-240-5034
	Aron Arthur.....	319-939-4448
Boone	Mark Edwards .....	515-290-0177
	Bill Fribley .....	515-290-0527
Bremer	Mike Bonser .....	319-240-5034
	Aron Arthur.....	319-939-4448
Buchanan	Scott Kinseth .....	563-920-0566
Buena Vista	Brent Koppie .....	712-260-1010
Butler	Greg Woodley .....	319-240-8033
Calhoun	Nathan Hauptert .....	712-330-8462
Carroll	Dan Pauley .....	515-370-0422
Cass	Eric Sansgaard .....	712-250-0303
Cedar	Shawn Meier.....	319-530-6121
Cerro Gordo	Randy Schnoebelen.....	641-425-0822
	Ben Bergman.....	641-425-0828
Cherokee	Brent Koppie .....	712-260-1010
	Chad Morrow .....	712-260-1023
Chickasaw	Vacant	
Clarke	Craig Roberg .....	641-414-2174
Clay	Gary Biederman .....	712-260-1004
Clayton	Burt Walters .....	563-880-0108
	Jerry Farmer.....	563-880-0422
Clinton	Lucas Webinger.....	563-357-1078
Crawford	Gary Sisco .....	712-420-1486
Dallas	Craig Lonneman .....	515-238-5005
Davis	Bob Stuchel.....	641-777-2169
	Matt Rush .....	641-777-7805

*Iowa DNR Conservation Officers*

Decatur	Craig Roberg .....	641-414-2174
Delaware	Andrew Keil .....	563-590-1945
	Scott Kinseth .....	563-920-0566
	Aric Sloterdyk.....	319-350-2863
Des Moines	Les Nieland .....	319-759-1957
Dickinson	Jeff Morrison .....	712-260-1017
	Gary Owen.....	712-260-1018
Dubuque	Andrew Keil.....	563-590-1945
Emmet	Vacant	
Fayette	Dave Elledge .....	563-380-0497
Floyd	Eric Johnston .....	319-240-9174
Franklin	Greg Woodley.....	319-240-8033
Fremont	Marlowe Wilson .....	712-520-0506
Greene	Dan Pauley.....	515-370-0422
Grundy	Vacant	
Guthrie	Jeremy King.....	712-250-0061
Hamilton	Vacant	
Hancock	Ken Lonneman.....	641-425-0823
Hardin	Vacant	
Harrison	Dave Tierney .....	712-249-2015
Henry	Les Nieland .....	319-759-1957
Howard	Vacant	
Humboldt	Matt Bruner .....	515-571-0127
Ida	Dan Mork .....	712-661-9237
Iowa	Brad Baker.....	319-430-1630
Jackson	Vacant	
Jasper	Kirby Bragg.....	641-521-2003
Jefferson	Chris Flynn.....	641-919-9115
Johnson	Erika Billerbeck.....	319-330-9710
	Brad Baker.....	319-430-1630
Jones	Mike Macke .....	319-480-0397
Keokuk	Jacob Fulk .....	319-653-1636
Kossuth	Virginia Ashby .....	712-260-1003
Lee	Joe Fourdyce.....	319-470-0788
Linn	Aric Sloterdyk .....	319-350-2863
	Ron Lane .....	319-350-2871

*Iowa DNR Conservation Officers*

Louisa	Vacant
Lucas	Kyle Jensen..... 641-414-2175
Lyon	Greg Harson..... 712-260-1006
Madison	Craig Lonneman..... 515-238-5005
Mahaska	Mike Ryan..... 641-660-0741
Marion	John Mertz..... 641-891-2004
	Ken Kenyon..... 641-891-1246
Marshall	Vacant
Mills	Michael Miller.....712-520-0121
Mitchell	Eric Johnston.....319-240-9174
Monona	Gary Sisco.....712-420-1486
Monroe	Randy McPherren.....641-777-2164
	Dallas Davis.....641-777-2163
Montgomery	Deb Smith.....712-520-0507
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	Jeff Barnes.....515-290-4907
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Iowa Department of Natural Resources

[www.iowadnr.gov](http://www.iowadnr.gov)

515-281-5918

Education Course Listings

[www.iowadnr.gov/law/lawdb/viewcourse.html](http://www.iowadnr.gov/law/lawdb/viewcourse.html)

Snowmobile Laws and Regulations in Iowa

[www.iowadnr.gov/law/snowmobile/regulations.html](http://www.iowadnr.gov/law/snowmobile/regulations.html)

Iowa State Snowmobile Association

Local Snowmobile Club Links

[www.iowasnowmobiler.com](http://www.iowasnowmobiler.com)

Online Safety Education Information

[www.snowmobilers.org/saferider/homepage/page\\_00.html](http://www.snowmobilers.org/saferider/homepage/page_00.html)

Avalanche Education for Snowmobilers

[www.snowiasa.org//avalanche-education/public](http://www.snowiasa.org//avalanche-education/public)

Trail Grooming Awareness

[www.snowiasa.org/guidelines-resources/groomingawareness-broch-color.pdf](http://www.snowiasa.org/guidelines-resources/groomingawareness-broch-color.pdf)



Trail Marker - identifies trails or areas where snowmobiles are allowed.



Restricted Area Sign - identifies trails or areas where snowmobiles are not allowed.



Stay on Trail Sign - reminds riders of the importance of staying on the designated trail.



Trail Blazer/Directional Blazer - informs riders that they are on a trail. Arrow indicates changes in direction ahead.



Chevron/Turn Ahead - additional guidance to the rider in a sharp turn.



Intersection ahead - warns riders that they are approaching an intersection.



Bridge ahead - warn riders that there is a bridge ahead.



Directional Arrow - indicates trail direction.



Stop Sign - instructs riders to bring their machine to a complete stop before proceeding with caution.



Easy



Moderate



Difficult

Trail Difficulty Signs

# SNOWMOBILING Do's & Don'ts

## SNOWMOBILING Do's

- ♦ Know the local hazards and forecasted weather conditions.
- ♦ Understand the importance of protective equipment and proper clothing while riding a snowmobile.
- ♦ Be alert and constantly scan the trail or riding area for other snowmobiles, trail users, and hazards.
- ♦ Ride defensively, be courteous, and use common sense.
- ♦ Follow the rules of the road and abide by all trail signs.
- ♦ Steer clear of restricted areas and respect environmentally sensitive areas.
- ♦ Know the operational characteristics of the snowmobile, along with its capacities and limitations: vehicle's range based upon normal fuel capacity and consumption, stopping ability/distance, maneuverability/steering capability, ability in deep snow, ability on steep side slopes, etc.
- ♦ Respect the rights of all other winter recreationists.
- ♦ Obey posted speed limits.
- ♦ Know the assumed risks and potential consequences of careless or reckless behavior while riding a snowmobile, including the potential for fines or injury.

## SNOWMOBILING DON'TS

- ♦ Do not operate at high speeds, especially when near houses, buildings, livestock, wildlife, trailheads, or other recreationists.
- ♦ Do not use alcohol or drugs.
- ♦ Do not engage in reckless, careless, or inappropriate behavior.
- ♦ Do not overload a snowmobile or ride double unless the snowmobile is designed for 2 passengers.
- ♦ Do not get too close to other snowmobiles or other recreationists.
- ♦ Do not operate the snowmobile in areas with limited snow cover or on bare ground.
- ♦ Do not disturb wildlife or livestock.
- ♦ Do not ignore sudden changes in weather conditions.
- ♦ Do not disobey local, state/provincial, or federal snowmobile rules, regulations, and policies.
- ♦ Do not allow the snowmobile rental unit to be operated by anyone who has not completed the required rental orientation, training, and rental agreement documentation.
- ♦ Do not disobey rental company guidelines, instructions, or policies.