

Dickinson County Trails Board Policy Governing the Use of Motorized Vehicles on Recreational Trails

An assessment of the use of motorized vehicles on the county's recreational trails was conducted and included the following factors:

- Engineering limitations of trail construction
- Safety of all users of the Iowa Great Lakes Trails
- Desire to encourage the use of the trail system by all individuals
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That assessment included technical data supplied by the engineering firms of Beck Engineering and J&W Engineering. This data revealed the following data that determines the limitations for motorized vehicles that are permitted on the DCTB trails:

- DCTB trails are designed to federal and state standards that allow for maximum speeds of twenty (20) miles per hour
- To permit safe passage of two vehicles on the ten foot wide trails, a maximum width of any motorized vehicle should be no wider than 4' 8 "
- The trails are designed to carry a maximum load of 10,000 lbs but only for occasional, maintenance purposes. The maximum weight limit for recreational vehicles will be 950 lbs.

To qualify to use a motorized vehicle on the recreational trails DCTB requires the following documentation be provided to the executive director.

- A copy of a state-issued handicapped parking permit

Upon documentation review, the DCTB will contact you with determination of permit issuance.

Upon being issued a trail permit; an emblem indicating that permission has been granted will be issued to you.

1. Trail permit must be in your possession at all times when operating a motorized vehicle on the trail.
2. Permit holder must either be the operator or passenger of the vehicle while on the trail.
3. Motor vehicles used on the trail cannot exceed 4'8" in width.
4. Motorized vehicles used on the trail will be governed not to exceed 20 mph and not weigh in excess of 950 lbs.
5. A slow moving vehicle sign will be in plain view and attached to the rear of the motorized vehicle.
6. Operation of a permitted vehicle will be from sunrise to sunset only.
7. Vehicles will stay on trail surface and use the right side of the trail only.
8. Persons operating motorized vehicles on the trail will yield right-of-way to all other trail users. Caution and courtesy will be shown to other trail users at all times.
9. It is the responsibility of the person issued the permit to assure that he/she or the person who is driving the vehicle for them is capable and will operate the motorized vehicle in a safe and cautious manner.
10. The permit is only for the sections of trail that are designated for trail use only. All trail segments that are located on city or county roads are not covered by this permit. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to obtain permission from the proper authorities to operate his/her vehicle on these areas.
11. Failure to comply with these rules and regulations will result in revocation of permit and all privileges pertaining to the same.

Persons wishing further information may contact Barry Sackett, vice president, DCTB, at 712 338-9106