Northwoods Riders Snowmobile Club

Supporting the best snowmobile trails in and around Tomahawk, WI!

NOVEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

Hello, Northwoods Riders!

Snowmobile season is getting closer and there's plenty happening as we get ready for winter! From trail maintenance and membership renewals to upcoming club events and our annual destination ride, we've got a lot to look forward to. Here's the latest news and a look at what's coming up.

NEXT CLUB MEETING

Date: Monday, November 23
Location: The Loop Hole
Food Served: 6:15 PM
General Meeting: 7:00 PM

Join us for dinner, club updates, and a chance to catch up with fellow members. We hope to see you there!

MEMBERSHIP & SEASON PREP

Membership Update

We're now at **262 members — 30 more than last month!** Thank you to everyone who has renewed or joined the club. It's great to see our membership growing as we head into another season.

Renew Early & Save

Don't wait for the snow to fly! The club processes memberships on the 1st and 15th of each month. After that, the AWSC processes them so you can order your discounted trail passes. Renewals take a little time to work through the system, so get yours in early and be ready to ride when the snow arrives.

CLUB NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

1. Thank You, Trail Brushing Volunteers!

A huge thank-you to the **77 volunteers** who came out on October 17 to help brush the Northwoods Passage trails. That's an impressive turnout, and we appreciate everyone who gave their time to help prepare our trails for winter.

The after-brushing gathering was sponsored by the Northwoods Passage and hosted by the Northwoods Riders.

Thanks to Dennis and Chetek Wenker and Greg Johnson for organizing the event, Lisa Elliott and Chetek Wenker for serving the food, and Dennis Wenker for grilling. Thanks to everyone who helped make the day a success!









2. Trunk or Treat

Greg Johnson, Lisa Elliott, Nancy Swan, Stephanie VanStrydonk, and Thor Gilbertson helped with Trunk or Treat at The Loop Hole on Sunday, October 25.

This is a great community event, and we appreciate our members taking the time to participate and represent the club. Thank you all!





3. Introducing Our Board Members

We held elections at the October meeting for board positions of Vice President, Treasurer, and two Directors. These are two-year terms. Here is the current board:

Officers

- President: Greg Johnson
- Vice President: Dale Elliott
- Treasurer: Kay Collom
- Secretary: Lisa Elliott
- Membership Coordinator: Chetek Wenker

Directors

- Gary Waters
- Thor Gilbertson
- Aimee Merkel
- Dave Halfmann
- Andy Schaper

Welcome to our newest directors, Dave Halfmann and Andy Schaper! Thank you to all our board members for their time and commitment to the Northwoods Riders.

4. Thank You to Our Retiring Board Members

John Collom and Mark McDonald are retiring from the board, and we want to thank them for their many years of service.

Both have made valuable contributions to the club, and we appreciate all they've done. We look forward to seeing them continue to participate in club events!

5. Tomahawk Sports Center Open House — November 14

The Tomahawk Sports Center open house is Saturday, November 14. The club will once again donate a $50 TSC gift certificate.

We're looking for volunteers to help NWP sell raffle tickets during the event. If you're available to help, please contact us at info@northwoodsriders.org.

6. Snowmobile Safety Class — December 5

A snowmobile safety class will be held on **December 5 at Erv's Sales & Service**.

- Pre-registration is required at https://gowild.wi.gov/customers/safetyedclass.
- Study materials will be mailed to participants.
- The Northwoods Riders will cover the cost of the class.

As a reminder, Wisconsin requires those born after January 1, 1985, to complete a snowmobile safety course to obtain a safety certificate. Wisconsin does not issue a separate snowmobile license.

Please share this information with anyone who may need the class.

7. Cancer Benefit Bikini Run — January 30

Angie LaCanne and Lori Rogney will coordinate the cancer benefit bikini run at the Radar Run at Holly's Bar on January 30, 2027. LaCanne's Contracting will sponsor the trophies.

Thank you to everyone helping organize this event. More details will be shared as they become available!

8. **Thank you Dan Johnson!**

Club member and landowner, Dan Johnson, crafted and donated this amazing sign to our club! Look for it somewhere on the trails this winter!



ANNUAL DESTINATION RIDE: MANITOWISH WATERS

Mark your calendars for our annual destination ride, **January 29–31, 2027**!

We'll leave Tomahawk on the morning of January 29 and return on January 31. Our accommodations will be at The Lodge at Manitowish Waters, where 10 rooms are currently reserved. There are more rooms available but not held in reserve right now. Rooms are filling up quickly so call **715-543-2024** and make your reservation. Also text Dale Elliott at 715-551-8555 to let us know you're coming on the ride!

A big thank-you to the Elliotts for organizing this year's trip. We look forward to another great weekend with our fellow riders!

HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS PARADE FLOAT

We'd love to see a float representing snowmobiling in Tomahawk, bringing together our local clubs for the Hometown Christmas Parade.

Are you interested in helping organize the float or taking the lead on the project? We'd welcome your ideas and involvement.

Please contact us at info@northwoodsriders.org if you'd like to help.

WE'RE INTERESTED IN AN UPDATED LOGO!

We're still looking to update and modernize the Northwoods Riders logo, and we'd like your input.

Have an idea or a design concept? We'd love to see it! Send your submission to info@northwoodsriders.org.

You don't need to be a professional designer to contribute. We're looking for ideas that represent our club and our love of snowmobiling.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE & BRUSHING UPDATES

Our local grooming clubs have been busy getting trails ready for winter. Here's the latest.

Northwoods Passage

Dan Hoover reported that trail brushing took place on October 17, with 77 volunteers helping at various locations. Thank you to everyone who participated!

Crews also resurfaced the center sections of the bridge across the bay near the former Gators/Thirsty Giraffe Bar and replaced some boards on the Windmill bridge.

Thank you to Gary Waters, Thor Gilbertson, and Gene Hodge for their work on the bridges.





Northern Trails Unlimited

Darren Merkel thanked everyone who helped with trail brushing and maintenance on October 24. We appreciate all the volunteers who help keep our trail system in good shape.

Knight Owls

Nancy Swan reported that the Knight Owls brushing day was scheduled for October 31 at 8:30 AM at their groomer shed, located at W5041 Hoovie Road. Food and drinks were planned afterward at Pine Point.

Thank you to everyone who helps maintain our local trails!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Northwoods Riders Calendar

Date	Event
November 23	General Membership Meeting — The Loop Hole
December 5	Snowmobile Safety Education — Erv's Sales & Service
December 28	General Membership Meeting — Swamp Lake Saloon
January 25	General Membership Meeting — Boomba Bar
January 29–31	Destination Ride — Manitowish Waters
February 6	Trailside Cookout — Club Shed - more details coming soon
February 7	Club Breakfast – Billy Bob’s
February 22	General Membership Meeting — Twin Bay
March 22	General Membership Meeting — Holly's Bar
July 18	Pontoon Palooza

Click here for a list of all Tomahawk area club events.

Helpful tip: You can sync the full club schedule to your phone or computer calendar!

Visit northwoodsriders.org, go to **Events & News → Northwoods Riders Calendar**, scroll to the bottom, and click **Subscribe**.

COMMUNITY GIVING



Remember to fill up at **Kracker Barrel Pump 4**! Your fuel purchases help generate a substantial donation to support our club.

A special thank-you to Jim and Audrey Charles for their continued generosity. We appreciate their ongoing support of the Northwoods Riders!

SEE YOU AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING!

Thank you to everyone who helps make our club what it is, whether you're volunteering on the trails, attending meetings, helping with events, or supporting the club through your membership.

We're looking forward to another great snowmobile season and hope to see many of you at our upcoming events. Here's to a safe winter and plenty of good riding ahead!

Club Email: info@northwoodsriders.org
Club Website: northwoodsriders.org