

(2) **APPLICABILITY.** The provisions of this section are applicable to all counties participating in the snowmobile aids program.

(3) **DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.** The distribution of funds according to priority ranked purposes is specified in s. 23.09 (26) (c), Stats. Should funds not be sufficient to satisfy the total request for either maintenance, acquisition, or insurance, the funds remaining to satisfy that priority ranked purpose shall be distributed on a proportional basis.

(4) **GENERAL PROVISIONS.** (a) *Planning requirements.* 1. Counties not previously participating in the snowmobile aids program and desiring to sponsor public snowmobile trails are required to have a comprehensive snowmobile plan approved by the county board of supervisors and the department.

2. Counties that have previously met the comprehensive snowmobile plan requirement are required to maintain a current trail system map that describes trail locations, trail classifications and existing trail mileage by classification.

(b) *Acquisition of snowmobile trail rights-of-way.* 1. Value of short-term easement, lease or permit may be based on a rental rate of land. The fee value may be one percent per month of equalized or assessed valuation.

2. A minimum term of 4 months between December 1 and the following March 31 is required and the easement, lease or permit must be irrevocable during the term of the easement, lease or permit.

3. An annual fee of 10 cents per rod may be paid if the assessed valuation procedure is not used. When payment is made, the minimum payment for any one landowner shall be \$5.00.

4. The width of snowmobile rights-of-way shall not exceed one rod unless approved by the department. The easement or lease should contain as a minimum the right to sign, right of limited construction, right to maintain, and right of use by snowmobiles and grooming equipment only. Cost sharing is limited to the minimum land area necessary for the snowmobile trail.

5. The county shall submit a certification that all easements, leases or permits secured grant public access and use of the land for snowmobiling. The county shall maintain a current file of all easements, leases or permits which shall include the name of the property owner, description of the property, duration of the lease, easement or permit, date owner was contacted, amount to be paid for the easement, lease or permit, and name of the county or snowmobile club representative who obtained the lease, easement or permit.

(c) *Development of snowmobile trail.* 1. Development shall begin the same year land is acquired.

2. Snowmobile trail design and construction specifications. a. Minimum graded width for one-way trails is 6 feet and maximum 8 feet.

b. Minimum graded width for 2-way trails is 10 feet and maximum 12 feet.

c. Minimum turning radius is 25 feet.

d. A height of 10 feet above the trail will be cleared.

e. Sustained grades and slopes will be a maximum of 25%.

f. Snowmobile trails shall not be routed over bodies of water. If stream crossings make bridging necessary, bridging shall be at least 6 feet wide. The department shall determine the need for bridging or if ice crossings may be used.

g. Trails shall be routed away from areas designated in department wilderness policy, game preserves, winter browse areas, experimental stations, nurseries, plantations, residences and other areas of anticipated conflict, particularly areas which may be damaged by trail development or snowmobile use.

3. Snowmobile highway and trail sign specifications. a. Snowmobile highway signs shall conform with sign reflectorization, colors and legend listed in the Wisconsin manual of traffic control devices.

b. Signs for use on snowmobile trails to regulate snowmobile traffic or warn snowmobile drivers shall be totally reflectorized. Guide signs which assist the snowmobile driver to reach a destination shall have the letters and legend reflectorized. Informational signs do not need to be reflectorized. Trail signs shall also conform with the following specifications and illustrations:



TRAIL BLAZER

Purpose: To delineate the trail and to reassure the user that he or she is on the trail.

Size: 6" × 6"

Color: Reflective orange



STOP SIGN

Purpose: Halt users on a snowmobile trail at a road crossing, railroad crossing or trail intersection.

Minimum size: 12" × 12"

Color: Reflective red background and reflective white letters and border.

Legend: 12" × 12" size—4" upper case letter.

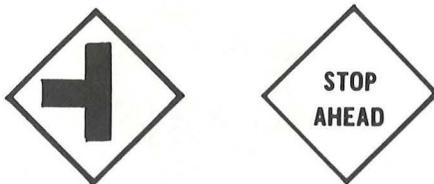


YIELD SIGN

Purpose: To notify the snowmobile driver that right of way should be given to other vehicles, snowmobiles or other trail users at trail intersections and limited vehicle crossings.

Minimum size: 12" × 12" × 12"

Color: Reflective red background and letters. Reflective white border and center.



CAUTION SIGNS

Purpose: To warn the snowmobile driver of a specific trail hazard or advise the driver to proceed with caution at a reduced speed.

Minimum size: 12" × 12"

Color: Reflective yellow background and black letters or legend.



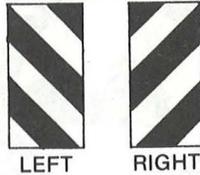
DIRECTIONAL ARROW

Purpose: Indicates a change in trail direction.

Size: 9" × 9"

Color: Reflective orange background with black arrow and border.

Legend: 5" directional arrow.



HAZARD MARKERS

Purpose: Used in pairs, hazard markers indicate the trail opening through which a snowmobile driver may pass over a bridge or a culvert. The stripes of each sign face inward and show the bridge opening. Used singly, a hazard marker indicates a trail obstruction. The stripes of the sign point down toward the path around the obstruction.

Minimum size: 6" × 12"

Color: Alternate reflectorized black and white 45° diagonal stripes.



REGULATORY SIGN

Purpose: To inform snowmobile driver of regulations.

Minimum size: 12" × 18"

Color: Reflective white background and black letters and border.



PERMISSIVE

Purpose: To indicate snowmobile trails and other areas where snowmobiling is permitted.

Minimum size: 12" × 12"

Background color: Reflective white.

Legend: Reflective green circle with reflective black snowmobile symbol.



RESTRICTIVE

Purpose: To indicate areas where snowmobiling is not permitted.

Minimum size: 12" × 12"

Background color: Reflective white.

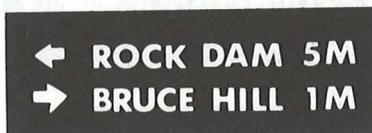
Legend: Reflective red circle and slash. Reflective black snowmobile symbol.

**DO NOT ENTER SIGN**

Purpose: To indicate one-way trail or restricted area.

Minimum size: 12" × 12" with 2" letters.

Color: Reflective red background with white letters, border and legend.

**GUIDE SIGN**

Purpose: Directs snowmobile driver to a destination.

Color: Brown background with reflective white letters and legend.

Legend: 2" upper case letters.



LEFT



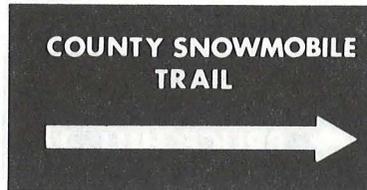
RIGHT

BARRIER MARKERS

Purpose: Barrier markers are used in pairs to indicate a barrier or gate that restricts entry to a trail or road for snowmobiling. The stripes of each sign face inward toward the center of the trail or road.

Minimum Size: 6" × 36"

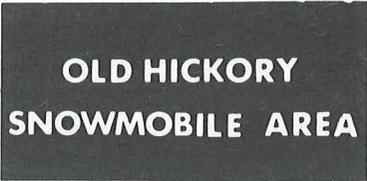
Color: Alternate reflectorized red and white 45° diagonal stripes.



HIGHWAY GUIDE SIGN

Purpose: Inform auto driver of location of snowmobile trail or route.

Color: Reflective brown background with reflective white letters and legend.



**OLD HICKORY
SNOWMOBILE AREA**

INFORMATIONAL SIGN

Purpose: Furnish information about trails or facilities.

Color: Brown background with white letters.

Legend: 2" upper case letters.

c. Federal forest service sign specifications may be used on federal forest service lands.

(d) *Maintenance of snowmobile trail.* 1. Counties shall be required to groom and maintain snowmobile trails developed on lands receiving aids for acquisition and/or development.

2. Trails shall be groomed to a minimum width of 4 feet for one-way and 8 feet for 2-way trails. Maximum width for a 2-way trail to be groomed shall be 12 feet.

(5) **ALLOWABLE COSTS, BILLING AND AUDITS.** (a) County acquisition of right-of-way may be up to 100% of eligible acquisition expenses.

(b) **Development 1.** County development of snowmobile trails shall be on a 100% grant basis, 75% at the time of approval, but no later than January 1 and 25% upon completion of the project.

2. Development work cannot be started or project costs incurred until an agreement has been approved by the department and the sponsor.

(c) County maintenance of snowmobile trails shall be 100% of approved eligible project costs of maintaining the trail up to \$150 per mile per year maximum. Counties may request advance payments of up to 50% of the signed contract amount for maintenance. To be eligible for maintenance advance payments a county must have settled all maintenance claims from previous years.

(d) County liability insurance for approved trails shall be 100% of eligible costs.

(e) Aids for development of trail shelters or sanitary facilities shall not exceed \$5,000. Aids for a combination building including shelter and sanitary facilities shall not exceed \$10,000.

(f) Claims will be on a reimbursement basis except for development project advances.

(g) The project period will not exceed one year. All maintenance agreements will terminate on June 30 of each year.

(h) Trail grooming rates, including operator, power unit and drag, shall be established by the department.

(i) Equipment rates for other maintenance activities and trail development performed by force account, snowmobile clubs or snowmobile club associations may not exceed the county machinery agreement rate established annually by the department of transportation.

(j) Labor rates for other maintenance activities and trail development performed by snowmobile clubs or snowmobile club associations shall be established by the department.

(k) Labor rates for other maintenance activities and trail development by county employes or others included in a labor contract shall be as established by the contract.

(6) **ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS.** In addition to conditions listed in sub. (5), the general provisions of s. NR 50.05 also apply.

(7) **PROCEDURE FOR APPLYING FOR GRANT.** Contact appropriate department district office for prescribed application forms and instructions. Submit completed application to the district office by April 15.

History: Cr. Register, March, 1975, No. 231, eff. 4-1-75; am. (1) (d), (2) (a) 2 b and c, (2) (b), (c) and (d), and (3), Register, March, 1976, No. 243, eff. 4-1-76; r. and recr. Register, June, 1980, No. 294, eff. 7-1-80; renum. (1) (a), (b), (c), (2) and (3) to be (4) (b), (c), (d), (5) and (7), renum. (5) (h) and (i) to be (5) (g) and (h), am. (4) (b) 5., (4) (c) 3.b., (5) (b) and (c), r. and recr. (5) (f) and (h), cr. (1), (2), (3), (4) (a), (5) (i), (j) and (k) and (6), r. (7) (b), Register, May, 1983, No. 329, eff. 6-1-83.

NR 50.10 Aids to cities, villages or towns for route signs. (ch. 350, Stats.)

(1) **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this section is to establish standards for the implementation of an aids program for cities, villages or towns for the initial purchase of snowmobile route signs under ss. 23.09 (26) and 350.12 (4), Stats.

(2) **APPLICABILITY.** The provisions of this section are applicable to all cities, villages or towns participating in the route sign program. Aids are available to cities, villages or towns for up to 100% for approved eligible project costs of initial signing of snowmobile routes which connect authorized trails or which offer entrance to or exit from trails leading to such municipalities.

(3) **GENERAL PROVISIONS:** (a) Snowmobile route sign standards.

1. Snowmobile route signs. Signs for use on highways and sidewalks designated for use by snowmobile operators by the governmental agency having jurisdiction or authorized by s. 350.04, Stats., are as follows:

a. The snowmobile route (D11-6) sign shall have a reflectorized white symbol, margin and message on a reflectorized green background. The standard and minimum size of this sign is 24" x 18". The design of the stylized snowmobile symbol and the word message "SNOWMOBILE ROUTE" shall essentially conform to the standard design on file in the division of highways, department of transportation.

b. A directional arrow marker shall have a reflectorized white arrow and margin on a reflectorized green background. The standard and mini-Register, April, 1989, No. 400

mum size of a directional arrow marker is 24" × 6", and the arrow shall have a length of 15½" and a stem 1½" wide.

c. A snowmobile route sign with appropriate directional arrow shall be placed at the beginning of a snowmobile route and at such locations and intervals as necessary to enable snowmobile operators to follow the route.

d. All snowmobile route signing shall be done by or under the direction of and is the responsibility of the unit of government which designates the snowmobile routes. The department of transportation reserves the right to require such changes in the signing of snowmobile routes marked over the state trunk highway system as it deems necessary in the interest of efficient and safe operation of the highway.

2. Reflectorization. The reflective material for all reflectorized signs shall meet the specifications of paragraph 637.2.2.1 on reflective sheeting in the state of Wisconsin division of highways standard specifications for road and bridge construction, edition of 1981.

(4) PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION. (a) Submit department application form including snowmobile ordinance in accordance with s. 350.04 (2), Stats., and map of municipality showing routes and trails.

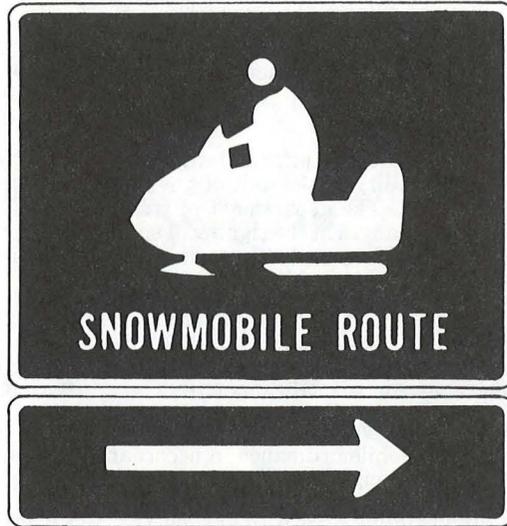
(b) Submit application by April 15 of each year to the proper department district office.

(c) Snowmobile crossing warning signs, route signs, posts and hardware are eligible for aid.

(d) Signs, posts and hardware may not be purchased until funds are approved for the project by the department.

(e) Labor costs are not eligible.

(5) BILLING PROCEDURES. Submit billing upon placement of signs.



GREEN-REFLECTORIZED BACKGROUND WITH WHITE-REFLECTORIZED LETTERS AND SYMBOLS

SNOWMOBILE ROUTE SIGN

History: Cr. Register, March, 1975, No. 231, eff. 4-1-75; am. (3), Register, March, 1976, No. 243, eff. 4-1-76; r. and recr., Register, June, 1980, No. 294, eff. 7-1-80; r. and recr. (1), renum. (2), (3) and (4) to be (3), (4) and (5), cr. (2), am. (3) (a) 2., r. (5) (b), Register, May, 1983, No. 329, eff. 6-1-83.

NR 50.11 Aids to snowmobile clubs. (ch. 350, Stats.) (1) **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this section is to establish standards for the implementation of the cooperative sign program under to ss. 23.09 (26) and 350.12 (4), Stats.

(2) **APPLICABILITY.** The provisions of this section are applicable to all snowmobile clubs participating in the cooperative sign program. Free cardboard signs and reflectORIZED material are available to snowmobile clubs.

(3) **GENERAL PROVISIONS.** (a) Trails signed must meet standards under s. NR 50.09 (4) (d) 2.

(b) Trails must be open to the public.

(c) Signs will be limited to directional arrows, trail blazers, stop and caution signs.

(4) **PROCEDURES FOR APPLICATION.** (a) Submit department application to the proper district office by October 1. Application shall include:

1. Certification that the trail meets standards set out in department guidelines and that landowners on whose property the trail traverses have given their permission for trail use.

Register, January, 1989, No. 397