

Wetlands

<i>All OHV's are banned in unfrozen public waters</i>	OHVs may not be operated below the ordinary high water level of unfrozen lakes, rivers, and streams. See DNR's website for public waters inventory and locations of maps on a county by county basis.
<i>All OHVs are banned in calcareous fens</i>	OHV operation is prohibited in calcareous fens. Calcareous fens are a rare type of wetland in Minnesota; they are fed by groundwater, highly alkaline, and have low dissolved oxygen. The state has approximately 137 calcareous fens located on private and public property.
<i>Operation of OHVs on land</i>	A person driving an OHV must not operate the vehicle in a way that willfully, wantonly, or recklessly disregards the safety of people or property. OHVs may not be operated in a state parks, scientific and natural areas, or wildlife management areas, unless specifically authorized by law.
<i>OHV operation in wetlands for recreational purposes</i>	<p>A person driving an OHV in a wetland must not operate the vehicle in a way that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willfully, wantonly, or recklessly disregards the safety of people or property; • Carelessly upsets the natural and ecological balance of a wetland; or • Impacts more than the minimum amount of wetlands as allowed by law, which is approximately 400 square feet of a wetland (more or less, but varies by location and size of the wetland).
<i>OHV operation in wetlands for <u>non-recreational</u> purposes</i>	Limited operation of OHVs in wetlands is allowed for non-recreational purposes that include activities such as agriculture, utilities, public works, pipelines, and silviculture, as long as the operation complies with <i>OHV operation in wetlands for recreational purposes</i> , the Wetlands Conservation Act, and public water laws.
<i>Private owners may access their land</i>	A permit may be issued to private landowners or leaseholders allowing them to access their land with an OHV when they must cross DNR administered land. Contact your local DNR Regional Office to inquire about obtaining this permit.
<i>OHV trail development and usage</i>	Trail systems involving wetlands need to comply with public waters laws and the Wetlands Conservation Act. Contact your local DNR Trails and Waterways Office and the Division of Waters for assistance.

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