

TITLE 12 ► Chapter 3

Tri-County Recreational Corridor

12-3-1 Tri-County Recreational Corridor Regulations

Sec. 12-3-1 Tri-County Recreational Corridor Regulations.

(a) Purpose.

- (1) This Section is established to regulate areas of the Tri-County Recreational Corridor right-of-way subject to the ownership and jurisdiction of the Tri-County Recreational Corridor Commission pursuant to Sec. 59.01, 59.02, 59.54(6) and 66.30, Wis. Stats., and the Charter of the Tri-County Recreational Corridor Commission as ratified by the participating counties.
- (2) The Tri-County Recreational Corridor Commission was established by the Counties of Douglas, Bayfield, and Ashland for the purposes of acquiring, maintaining, and regulating the abandoned railroad right-of-way now known as the Tri-County Recreational Corridor.
- (3) The Tri-County Recreational Corridor Commission has found a need for certain regulations governing the use of that portion of the Tri-County Recreational Corridor subject to its ownership and jurisdiction.

(b) **Applicability.** This Section shall apply to all lands lying within the right-of-way of the Tri-County Recreational Corridor which is subject to the ownership and jurisdiction of the Tri-County Recreational Corridor Commission unless otherwise specified.

(c) Vehicle Use Regulations.

- (1) No person may operate a motor vehicle as defined by Sec. 340.01(35), Wis. Stats., an all-terrain vehicle or a snowmobile within the Corridor right-of-way in excess of a speed which is reasonable and prudent. Towns, villages and cities in which the Corridor is located are specifically permitted to enact, post, and enforce speed limits within their respective jurisdictions. The costs of posting shall be the responsibility of the municipality.
- (2) No person may operate a motor vehicle as defined by Sec. 340.01(35), Wis. Stats., anywhere within the traveled or untraveled portions of the Corridor right-of-way.
- (3) No person may operate an all-terrain vehicle as defined by Sec. 340.01(35), Wis. Stats., or a snowmobile as defined by Sec. 340.01(58)(a), Wis. Stats., on a portion of the Corridor right-of-way not designated for travel.

- (d) **Use Regulations.** No person shall do any of the following on lands within the Corridor right-of-way:
- (1) Discharge a firearm within fifty (50) feet of the centerline of the Corridor right-of-way;
 - (2) Camp overnight in areas not designated for said purpose or not in accordance with posted camping rules;
 - (3) Ignite an open fire unless such fire is in a fireplace, grill or other suitable container provided for or constructed to contain a fire, or unless the ground is one hundred percent (100%) snow covered;
 - (4) Ignite an open fire during Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Red Flag Ban periods or on a site otherwise posted for no open fires;
 - (5) Cut or remove forest products;
 - (6) Cause damage to any natural feature, resource, trail, gate, berm, barrier, sign, or facility;
 - (7) Construct or locate any tree stand or other manmade structure without prior authorization in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter;
 - (8) Remove fill, soil, ore, gravel, or any mineral;
 - (9) Litter or dispose of trash or rubbish in any manner other than depositing in a provided container;
 - (10) Disturb or remove any artifact or historical article;
 - (11) Move or remove any posting or sign;
 - (12) Post or cause to be posted any sign, picture, or advertisement or other informational device without prior authorization as provided in this Section.
- (e) **Exceptions.** Exceptions to the terms of this Section, excepting applicable local speed limit ordinances, and necessary prior authorizations may be granted by the Corridor Administrator or Commission Chairperson or, in the case of emergency, any Commissioner. An emergency for the purpose of this Section shall constitute any natural or manmade condition, which may constitute a life-threatening situation for any person or persons.
- (f) **Penalties.**
- (1) Any person who violates, disobeys, neglects, omits or refuses to comply with any of the provisions of this Section shall forfeit not less than Fifty

Dollars (\$50.00), nor more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), together with the cost of prosecution, and in default or payment thereof, by imprisonment in the county jail of the county in which the offense was committed for a term of not more than sixty (60) days or until such forfeiture is paid. Every day a violation exists or continues, shall constitute a separate offense. In addition, for every violation that results in damage to the Tri-County Corridor or property located thereon, the violator may be required to make restitution upon a hearing and a finding of damages by the court.

- (2) Any law enforcement officer as defined by Sec. 165.85(2)(c), Wis. Stats., acting with his/her jurisdiction is authorized to enforce the terms of this Section and shall be exempt from Subsection (c) when necessary to enforce this Section.