



Montana's Groomed Snowmobile Trail Pass FAQs

1. What is the groomed snowmobile trail pass in Montana?

- ✓ In 2015, the Montana Legislature passed House Bill 300 the Groomed Snowmobile Trail Pass. The Trail Pass is required to recreate on any of the 4,000 miles of designated groomed snowmobile trails in Montana.

2. Who must purchase a trail pass?

- ✓ Montana residents that operate mechanized equipment and dog sleds on designated groomed trails are required to purchase the trail pass beginning October 1, 2015. The trail pass must be attached to the equipment. Mechanized equipment includes snowmobiles, fat-tire pedal bikes, converted motorized snow bikes and tracked ATV's. Rental equipment is the only exemption.

3. Do nonresidents have to purchase the groomed trail pass?

- ✓ No, nonresidents are not required to purchase the trail pass, but they must purchase the annual \$35 nonresident permit to ride in Montana.

4. How long are the trail passes valid and what do they cost?

- ✓ The trail passes are \$20 and are valid for two seasons (season is July 1 to June 30).

5. Where can you purchase a trail pass?

- ✓ Trail passes can be purchased from many local vendors or on-line seasonally from October to April. A list of all the vendors and a link to purchase them online can be found at <http://fwp.mt.gov/activities/snowmobiling>

6. What are the revenues from the trail pass used for?

- ✓ The revenues from each trail pass, (\$17 of \$20) will go back to administer the state grooming program; with 40% of the funds used for grooming trails and 60% used to purchase and maintain grooming equipment.

7. What if I choose not to buy a trail pass?

- ✓ Law enforcement officers will be out patrolling the groomed, snowmobile trails each winter. Fines for using groomed trails without a trail pass range from \$25 to \$100.

8. Who benefits from the trail pass sales?

- ✓ Everyone that uses a designated, groomed, snowmobile trail will benefit from the revenues generated by the trail pass sales. Montana's snowmobile clubs will receive more money for grooming, and Montana State Parks will be able to update grooming equipment more frequently. This means improved groomed trails to ride in Montana.