

ORDINANCE NUMBER 56 - The Mesabi Trail Ordinance

The Board of Commissioners of St. Louis County ordains:

SECTION 1.

Purpose: The purpose of this Ordinance, which is enacted pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 375.51, is to secure the quiet, orderly, and suitable use and enjoyment by the public of the Mesabi Trail Corridor.

SECTION 2.

Definitions:

- A. Authority - The elected members of the St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority.
- B. Trail Corridor - Any land or water area and all facilities thereon within the right-of-way of that certain trail designated as the Mesabi Trail within St. Louis County.
- C. Ranger - Those persons vested by the St. Louis and Lake County Regional Railroad Authority with the authority and primary duties to enforce laws, ordinances and regulations relating to the Trail and to issue permits referred to in this Ordinance.
- D. Motor Vehicle - As defined in Minn. Stat. § 169.01, subd. 3. “Motor vehicle” includes every vehicle which is self propelled but does not include a vehicle moved solely by human power.
- E. Off-Road Recreational Vehicle - An off-highway motorcycle as defined in Minn. Stat. § 84.787, subd. 7; off-road vehicle as defined in Minn. Stat. § 84.797, subd. 7; snowmobile as defined in § 84.81, subd. 3; and an all-terrain vehicle as defined in Minn. Stat. § 84.92, subd. 8.
- F. Non-Motorized Vehicle - Any human powered mechanical device used for transportation.
- G. Weapon - Any device, including, but not limited to, firearms, bows, slings, and spring guns, from which a shot or projectile of any type can be discharged or propelled by means of an explosive gas, compressed air, or other means.
- H. Natural Resources - All flora and fauna within the Trail Corridor and the physical factors upon which they depend including the air, water, soil, and minerals.

- I. Pollutant - Any substance, liquid, gas or solid, which could cause contamination of any air, land, or water so as to create or cause a nuisance or render unclean or noxious or impure so as to be actually or potentially harmful or detrimental or injurious to public health, safety, welfare or to wildlife.
- J. Pet - Any animal that is tamed and domesticated and kept as a companion.

SECTION 3.

General Conduct within the Trail System: It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- A. Serve, possess, or consume any alcoholic beverage or beer within or upon the Trail Corridor unless authorized by written permit from a Ranger.
- B. Deposit, scatter, drop or abandon, in or on the Trail Corridor, bottles, cans, broken glass, hot coals, ashes, sewage, waste or other material, except in receptacles provided by the Authority for such purposes.
- C. Place any debris or other pollutant in or upon any body of water within the Trail Corridor.
- D. Start a fire in the Trail Corridor except in an area officially designated by the Authority and then only in fire rings, portable stoves and grills, or to leave a fire unattended or fail to fully extinguish a fire or scatter or leave unattended lighted matches, burning tobacco, paper or other combustible material.
- E. Sell, solicit, advertise, including but not limited to placing or erecting any type of sign or advertisement, or conduct any commercial enterprise within the Trail Corridor unless authorized by resolution of the Authority.
- F. Discharge waste water or any other wastes on the Trail Corridor except into containers, drains or dumping stations provided by the Authority for such purpose.
- G. Dig trenches, holes or other excavations in the Trail Corridor without written authorization from a Ranger.
- H. Operate or permit the use or operation of any loud speaker, sound amplifier, or other device for the production or reproduction of sound within the Trail Corridor for the purpose of commercial advertising or attracting the attention of the public to any commercial establishment.
- I. Bring or allow a pet into or on the Trail Corridor, except on a leash not to exceed six feet in length.

- J. Leave the Trail Corridor and enter on private property without permission of the landowner.
- K. It shall be unlawful for a person to violate any provision of a use permit granted by a Ranger. It shall be unlawful for a person to use, without payment, any facility or area within the Trail Corridor for which a fee or charge has been established by resolution of the Authority.

SECTION 4.

Protection of Natural Resources within the Trail System: It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- A. Intentionally remove, alter, injure, or destroy any tree, other plant, rock, soil or mineral within the Trail Corridor.
- B. Kill, trap, hunt or harass, any species of wildlife within the Trail Corridor.
- C. Discharge any missile or other projectile from a weapon upon, over or across the Trail Corridor.
- D. Possess any loaded weapon within the Trail Corridor.
- E. Release or abandon within the Trail Corridor any animal or introduce any plant, chemical or other agent without written authorization from a Ranger.

SECTION 5.

No Camping: It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- A. Camp within the Trail Corridor except in areas provided and designated for that purpose by the Authority.

SECTION 6.

Horseback Riding: It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- A. Ride, lead or allow a horse within the Trail Corridor, except where designated by resolution of the Authority.

SECTION 7.

Non-Motorized Vehicle: It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- A. Operate a bicycle on any area of the Trail Corridor except on bikeways and roadways. Bicycles shall be operated as close to the right hand side of the bikeways and roadways as conditions will permit.
- B. Operate or control roller blades, carts, wagons, strollers, wheelchairs and other wheeled conveyances on any area of the Trail Corridor except on bikeways and roadways. Wheeled conveyances shall be operated as close to the right hand side of the bikeways and roadways as conditions permit.
- C. Operate or possess a Non-Motorized Vehicle exceeding thirty-six (36) inches in total width within the Trail Corridor.

SECTION 8.

Motor Vehicles: It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- A. Operate a Motor Vehicle or Off-Road Recreational Vehicle within the Trail Corridor except where designated and authorized by resolution of the Authority.
- B. To park or leave a motor vehicle within the Trail Corridor except snowmobiles where authorized by resolution of the Authority.

SECTION 9.

Motorized Wheelchairs: Are allowed for use within the Trail Corridor by those persons with a disability requiring the use of a wheelchair. Motorized wheelchairs shall not exceed thirty-six (36) inches in width and shall be operated as close to the right hand side of the bikeways and roadways as conditions will permit.

SECTION 10.

Meetings, Speeches, Demonstrations and Parades: It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to conduct public meetings, assemblies, parades or gatherings on the Trail which would in anyway interfere with or obstruct travel in the Trail Corridor, except with a written permit from a Ranger.

SECTION 11.

Operations and Enforcement:

- A. Licensed peace officers are authorized to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance. Rangers shall, in connection with their duties imposed herein, diligently enforce the provisions of this Ordinance, and may, in addition to any authority imposed by statute, issue citations and eject from the Trail Corridor persons acting in violation of this

Ordinance.

- B. Any part of the Trail Corridor may be declared closed to the public or to certain uses at any time, as the Authority or Ranger shall find reasonably necessary.
- C. A Ranger shall have the authority to revoke for good cause any permit. Any permit or reservation may be revoked upon the violation by the permittee of any ordinance, rule or regulation of the Trail.
- D. Nothing in this Ordinance shall prevent employees or agents of the Authority from performing their assigned duties.
- E. If any provision of the Ordinance is held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of any other provision of this Ordinance.
- F. The Authority shall have the right to issue rules and regulations to enhance or supplement these Ordinances.

SECTION 12.

A person guilty of violating any provision of the Ordinance shall be guilty of a petty misdemeanor punished as that term is defined by Minn. Stat. § 609.02, subd. 4a, or as hereafter amended.

SECTION 13.

Effective Date:

This Ordinance shall be effective upon passage by the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners.

This Ordinance was declared adopted by the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners on the 24th day of October, 2000.

Commissioner Sweeney moved the adoption of this Ordinance, and Commissioner Forsman, duly seconded the motion, and it was adopted on the following vote:

Yeas: Commissioners Fink, Fay, Kron, Forsman, Raukar, and Chair Sweeney - 6
Nays: None
Absent: Commissioner Prebich - 1

STEVE RAUKAR
Chairman, County Board

Certified as a complete and accurate
copy of Ordinance No. 56

GORDON D. McFAUL, County Auditor

ATTEST:
Paul Tynjala, Deputy Auditor