

Frequently Asked Questions

Off-Road Vehicle Use on Crown Land

1. Do I need a permit to hold an off-road vehicle event on Crown land?

Yes. If you are planning to hold an off-road vehicle event on Crown land you must obtain a licence of occupation from the Province of Manitoba.

2. What is an Off-road Vehicle (ORV) Event?

An Off-road Vehicle Event is an advertised, promoted or organized trail ride or competition, regardless of size or frequency on Crown land that involves off-road vehicles (excluding snowmobiles).

3. Where and when are ORV events allowed?

ORV events are not allowed:

- In Provincial Parks, Wildlife Management Areas, Ecological Reserves or protected portions of Provincial Forests.
- In the Agassiz and Sandilands Provincial Forests until green-up is completed, that is from March 15 to June 1.
- In other areas depending on local circumstances.
- On Crown land leased or permitted for agricultural use, unless specifically approved and a right of entry agreement is obtained from the lessee or permittee.
- During periods of high fire risk and following periods of extensive rainfall.

4. How do I apply for a Licence of Occupation?

- You can download the Licence of Occupation application form from the [Real Estate Services Branch \(RESB\) website](#).
- Before submitting your application to RESB, you must first contact the regional Crown Land Specialist. Approval by the regional office is required prior to further consideration.
- The final page of the application form includes important details such as:
 - Where to send your completed application
 - Accepted methods of payment
 - Contact information for inquiries or assistance

- Phone numbers for Crown Land Specialists

5. What are the costs?

An application administration fee and a licence issuance fee for the licence of occupation. Additional fees may be applied if the event involves lands administered by other branches or government departments.

6. What information is required?

In addition to filling out the application form, the following information must be provided:

- A map showing the proposed trail or route and location of all water bodies.
- Total number of stream crossings encountered along proposed trail or route and method of crossing (i.e. bridge, ford, etc.)
- Documentation that the applicant has or will obtain upon approval of the event a minimum of 2 million Liability Insurance with the Province of Manitoba named as the co-insured.
- It is recommended that a shapefile or kml/kmz file of the event route be provided with the application.

If your event involves a raffle, 50-50 draw, etc., a Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries license must be obtained and shown on all advertising materials.

7. Can I make route changes?

No changes to the approved route are allowed and no new trails can be developed during the event without written authorization. Any changes to an already approved route require an application for Change in Land Use to be submitted.

8. Do I need to confirm my event before it takes place?

Yes. Licensees and / or permittee shall contact the Conservation Officer regional office 48 hours prior to the event and advise whether the event is still scheduled to occur.

The Conservation Office will, within 24 hours of the notice, assess conditions with respect to the risk of wildfire and potential environmental damage and advise whether the event can proceed or must be postponed or cancelled.

9. Are there any restrictions for water crossings during an off-road vehicle event?

Yes. The following conditions apply to event routes adjacent to or requiring water crossings:

- There shall be no traversing along the bed of a water course or within the shoreline of a lake.
- Where no temporary or permanent crossings are in place or will be constructed prior to the event, in-stream water crossings will not be allowed as follows:

	South of 53rd parallel	North of 53rd parallel
Spring Spawning Fish	April 1 – June 15	April 15 – June 30
Fall Spawning Fish	September 15 – April 30	September 1 – May 15

- Where the water course contains fish species at risk, stream crossings will only be permitted at existing crossings or the establishment of temporary or permanent bridges.
- All water crossing structures and any alterations to or within a water course are to adhere to Canada Department of Fisheries and Oceans' (DFO) operational statements and/or guidelines and if not, the activities must be reviewed by DFO.