



# WHAT?

## Illinois Has Groomed Trails!?!

*By Mark Hazzard*

There was a recent Facebook post that shows many people across the state do not know that Illinois has groomed trails.

When we get the goods (snow), many clubs across the state get out and start grooming their trails. Clubs have had groomers since the 1980's. It wasn't until the early 2000's and the ability to use the federally-funded Recreational Trails Program (RTP) that Illinois was able to add more grooming equipment. The RTP fund estimates how much fuel is used by off-road vehicles in each state, and then allots those funds to the DNR for use on building or maintaining trails. There's much more to know about the RTP program, perhaps another article in the future.

Starting in Region 2, there are six groomers, those being Tuckers (3), tractors (2) and UTVs (1). Region 3 has seven groomers, (4) tractors and (3) Track Trucks. Region 5 has a total of three groomers, (2) UTVs and (1) Track Truck. Region 6 has six groomers, those being Tuckers (2) and tractors (4). Region 7 has four groomers for the I&M Canal, (2) UTVs and (2) Track Trucks.

That's a total of (26) groomers throughout the state. Hopefully you ride in the areas that have groomers available.

