

Penokee Rangers, Inc PO Box 431 Montreal, WI 54550 • info@penokeerangers.com

The Penokee Rangers Trail Corps is a 501(c)(3) volunteer organization of trail stewards who have been maintaining the Montreal and Uller Ski trails for the past 40 and 50 years respectively. These 40 km of trails are located across a historic area housing the remnants of the Montreal Mine and out into the Penokee Range. These trails provide free access to this beautiful piece of nature for all to enjoy silent sports such as cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and hiking. The Penokee Rangers have also developed and maintained interpretive signs along the trails to highlight the historic artifacts of the old mine and pay homage to the rich history of the area.

Throughout the years, we have developed strong relationships with land owners, the DNR, Forestry Service, local Sheriff's office, and the towns of Montreal and Pence. The Sheriff's office recently installed a radio that was donated by a local business owner into our groomer. This allows for direct communication with the Sheriff's office, as we are able to assist in search and rescue missions that may arise in back-country areas that we know well and can reach with our equipment. We also co-sponsor community events such as NICER's annual Hygge Hike, which raises awareness of the beautiful trails while providing a family-friendly event that promotes an active healthy lifestyle and an appreciation of local history.

Our way forward:

The Penokee Rangers currently utilizes a gas-powered UTV as our primary grooming vehicle to lay XC ski tracks. This vehicle is approaching 1000 hours, which is nearing the estimated lifespan of a vehicle used to tow heavy equipment such as that required to groom the trails. In a typical season, the Penokee Rangers put in over 400 hours of work to maintain the trails. Needless to say, we're in imminent need of updating our equipment. Additionally, we aim to reduce our reliance on oil and gas while providing the same public services we've

Our goal is to purchase a Pickman XR UTV, which is 100% electric, operates quietly, with no noxious gasoline fumes, and a minimal carbon footprint! It has a higher towing capacity than our current Gator (3 ton towing and 1 ton payload) and can run 70-90 miles per charge. For the past 2 years, we have been researching our options for electric vehicles that will help us move our operations into the future. After meeting with the owner of Pickman last year, test driving the vehicle and discussing a collaborative relationship with the manufacturer, we are confident that the Pickman XR will

We humbly ask for your support in helping us reach our fundraising goal of \$50,000 to purchase a Pickman XR UTV with an updated track system from Mattracks to bring the Penokee Rangers into the future of trail grooming!

How to contribute:

Please contact the Penokee Rangers at info@penokeerangers.com with any questions.

Donations can be made directly via our website, <u>www.penokeerangers.com</u>, or by check to "Penokee Rangers Trail Corps Inc" via mail at PO Box 431 Montreal, WI 54550.

Your donation is tax-deductible, as we are a 501(c)(3) organization. EIN: 87-1643641

If you or your organization would like to be featured on our website, social media, trail signage or elsewhere, please let us know! We're happy to promote our donors and sponsors!

Thank you for your support! Ski Freely!