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New safety resource gives tips for safe recreational trail access control

March 1, 2019 / Montpelier, Vt. – The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), in partnership with the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife (F&W) announced today a new safety resource for the use of access control devices on recreational trails, such as gates, chains, ropes, wires, or fences, which are commonly used by both State and private landowners to control the flow of traffic in and out of their property.

“While fun, exercise, and adventure are great motivations to use recreational trails or to allow access to private land, safety should be everyone’s number one priority,” said VTrans Secretary Joe Flynn. “Access control devices should be properly marked to ensure visibility. This can include signs, flags, reflective tape, and other markers.”

“Recreational trails give Vermonters and tourists unique access to our beautiful state,” said F&W Commissioner Louis Porter. “Many of the recreational trail systems in Vermont rely on the public use of private land. Each trail is unique and it’s important for recreational users to be aware of the different methods landowners may use to control access to their property.”

The resource is a collaborative effort between VTrans, F&W, Vermont ATV Sportsman’s Association, and many others involved in recreational trail use. For more information on safe use of recreational trails, visit www.dmv.vermont.gov/enforcement-and-safety/safety-on-recreational-trails.

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