

JANUARY 14, 2026

Weather FORECAST

Fri Partly Cloudy/Snow 30° F | 26° F

Sat Morning Snow/Cloudy 36° F | 23° F

Sun Cloudy 26° F | 13° F

2025 CHAPTER ENDED-
LOOK AHEAD TO 2026**RAUSCH CREEK**
TRAILRIDERS

Hunting Schedule - Riding Restrictions

NO riding until 9am

From now until January 19, 2026

Welcome to a New Year at
Rausch Creek

Happy New Year, Trailriders! We're excited to kick off 2026 with fresh trails, a full event calendar, and a renewed focus on safety, community, and the riding experience that makes Rausch Creek feel like home.

Before we dive into what's ahead, let's take a look back at everything we accomplished together in 2025. It was a year full of big weekends, new improvements, memorable events, and a few lessons learned along the way.

JANUARY

January kicked off the 2025 season with winter weather, early year reminders, and the first wave of event announcements.

The month opened with frigid temperatures, snow accumulation, and icy campground conditions. Members were reminded that: Camp roads were not plowed, tour wheel drive was strongly recommended, shovels were advised for both camping and trail use, trails had knee high drifts in places, making the **Buddy System mandatory** for all riders. This early season safety push set the tone for responsible winter riding.

Members were reminded that **no riding was permitted before 9 AM** through January 20 due to hunting season.

Early Year Events Announced

January introduced the events of the 2025 calendar

Groundhog Day Feature Issue 3 included a fun seasonal piece about Punxsutawney Phil, folklore origins, and predictions for an early spring.

Super Bowl Sunday Spotlight Members got a preview of the

February 9 Super Bowl matchup (Eagles vs. Chiefs), along with a playful breakdown of the year's commercial lineup.

FEBRUARY

-The Sweetheart Ride brought love birds and just friends out into the crisp weather for a nice wintery ride that included some chocolate treats. Yummy!
-The end of the renewal **All 2025 campsite reservations expired at the end of February**
-All decks, porches, sheds, and sitework must be approved through the office. This was the first major administrative reminder of the year.

MARCH

-Campsites that were not renewed become available on March 4th. The office asks for at least a week and a half period to get all our ducks in a row. This helps the list of available campsites be more accurate.

Spring Arrives The first official weekend of spring brought warmer temperatures, longer daylight, and a noticeable shift in member activity. Trails thawed, streams ran high, and riders finally got a break from the winter freeze.

Guest Policy Reminder A strong emphasis was placed on guest responsibilities: Hosts must ensure all guests sign waivers and pay fees. Hosts must accompany guests at all times. Failure to follow guest rules can result in suspension or revocation

Campground Updates Campsite availability lists were distributed. Some campsite signs were being replaced. Campsite audits continued throughout the season. Members were reminded to notify the office before adding any structures.

APRIL

April brought the first true surge of spring activity, the return of major events, and a renewed focus on rules as member traffic increased.

Spring Cleanup Approaches The biggest April focus was the

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RIDING OR NON-RIDING ALL GUESTS MUST BE SIGNED IN UPON ARRIVAL! THE GUEST WAIVER IS ON THE OUTSIDE OFFICE WALL 24/7.

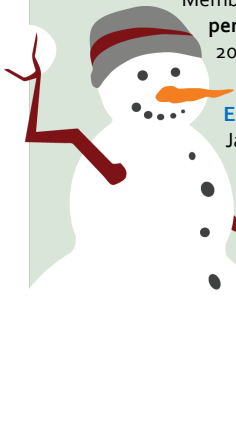
*Need the Lockbox
Combo for the gates?*

Call the office at 570.682.1075 and give the following info:

**Member Number

**Member Name

**Campsite Address



Adopt-a-Highway Spring Cleanup on April 26.

- Volunteers were urgently needed
- Trail closures lasted until mid-afternoon
- No riding was permitted until cleanup was complete

This event traditionally marks the unofficial start of the busy season.

Increase in Member Traffic With warmer weather came more riders — and more rule reminders. The office noted an uptick in:

Guest sign in issues, Riding through campsites, Township road violations, and Helmet compliance problems

Members were encouraged to “relax and breathe in the fresh air” and follow the basics to keep the season running smoothly.

Easter Office Closure The office was closed on April 20 for Easter.

-Trails open to members only, No guest riding, Normal hours resumed April 21

Pump House Reopens A major convenience returned:

- Pump house reopened for filling water totes and campers
- Water tested high in iron (not recommended for drinking)
- Members could wash machines “in moderation”

Tip of the Month A detailed guide on how to hard boil eggs properly — perfect for Easter weekend.

Other Notes Preferred Portables remained the septic service provider. Price increases were noted due to system upgrades.

MAY

-Summer store hours began Memorial Day weekend—open till 6pm. May marked the true start of the busy season at Rausch Creek, bringing holiday crowds, major events, and the first warm weather reminders of the day.

May opened with:

Mother's Day (May 11)

Sarge's Pass Group Ride (May 17)

A strong push to enjoy the improving weather and upcoming events

Dumpster & Fire Safety Reminders With more members on site, the office emphasized:

- A **2 bag trash limit** per campsite
- NOOOO tires, appliances, electronics, metal, or building materials in dumpsters
- A mild burn ban was enacted—Only small, controlled campfires permitted

These reminders were necessary as summer traffic increased.

Spring Cleanup Recap The April 26 cleanup was revisited in early May:

- Rain kept many members at their campsites
- Only **60 volunteers** participated—very disappointing!
- Trash levels were higher than expected
- Volunteers were rewarded with a **pig roast** and leftovers sold in the office

Memorial Day Weekend One of the busiest weekends of the year brought:

- Heavy crowds
- Strict enforcement of the **5 mph speed limit**
- Guest sign-in reminders
- No fireworks on RC property
- A full list of safety basics to keep the weekend running smoothly

Members Only Poker Run Held May 24, the Poker Run drew huge participation.

JUNE

June was packed with events, celebrations, and the long-awaited return of racing to

Rausch Creek.

Jammin' June The month kicked off with ATV Safety Week (June 1–10), graduation celebrations, a June 7 guided group ride, the annual Treasure Hunt (June 14), and Father's Day treats for the first 20 dads. June newsletters encouraged members to enjoy the sunshine and the full slate of activities.

Hare Scramble Returns For the first time in nearly 12 years, Rausch Creek hosted a Hare Scramble:
Youth race – June 28 and the Main event – June 29

Major trail closures east of the 1–2 split and south of Gap Street —Strict rules about avoiding course markings

Spectators required to enter via Summit Coal haul road and pay \$10

Poker Run Recap

The May Poker Run recap appeared in June: **260 members** participated; **\$315** raised for the Hegins Food Bank; Member #102 Debbie Norris won the free 2026 membership! It PAYS to play!

JULY

July brought heat, holiday crowds, and some of the most popular events of the summer.

Fly By July The July 4th holiday kicked off with: local fireworks schedules, safety reminders, and encouragement to enjoy the height of summer

Member Appreciation Luncheon (July 5) Members enjoyed a free lunch under the pavilion before hitting the trails — always one of the most appreciated events of the year.

Christmas in July Ride (July 19) A fan favorite Trail 7 ride featuring Santa hats, decorated machines, and of course stocking stuffers from RC.

Kids' Scavenger Hunt Held the same day as Christmas in July, this event gave younger riders a chance to explore the campground and win prizes.

Heat & Safety Reminders With temperatures soaring, the office emphasized to stay hydrated, slowing down on dusty roads and watching for children, keeping campfires small and controlled and respecting quiet hours (10 PM–7 AM).

AUGUST

August brought wildlife sightings, summer crowds, and one of the most beloved events of the year.

Bear Activity in the Campground Multiple black bear sightings were reported. Those bears were very busy in 2025 BUT only because members weren't securing their trash or avoiding leaving “attractions” out. Respect the wildlife and be smart about it. Quit leaving your sugar in outdoor cabinets because they will find it and destroy anything to get in it.

Behavior Reminders With summer crowds at their peak, the office reinforced: 5 mph speed limit, Helmet strapping rules, courtesy toward neighbors, and general campground etiquette that most people should not have to reminded of. Boy do some have a hard time thinking about others.

Bonfire Event (August 2) A major highlight of the month was our ever loved camper burning bonfire. Every year we host a paper bag raffle benefiting Hegins Valley Fire Co, raising a nice donation for them at the end of the night. Campfire treats are roasted over a fire separate from the big bonfire. Marshmallows are the perfect treat.

Tip of the Month There were lots of poison rashes being reported so the office sent out a visual guide to of what each leafed “poison” looks like; poison oak, ivy, and sumac.

-Kids head back to school at the end of the month.



SEPTEMBER

-Office hours change back after Labor Day to closing at 4pm on the weekend.

September marked the shift from late summer heat into crisp fall riding, bringing packed weekends, major events, and the start of hunting season restrictions.

Labor Day Weekend Wrap Up The month opened with a huge Labor Day turnout: Full campground, Busy trails, Strong community spirit, Members praised for following rules and keeping things safe

This weekend set a positive tone heading into fall.

Fall Riding Season Begins As temperatures cooled, riders enjoyed:

- Less dust and better traction
- Longer, more comfortable rides
- Perfect weather for exploring technical terrain

September newsletters encouraged everyone to "keep the energy rolling into fall."

Hunting Season Restrictions Announced A major focus of September was preparing members for fall/winter riding limitations: These reminders appeared in multiple issues to ensure everyone planned ahead.

Under 12 Supervision Reminder

A strong safety message was issued:

- Children **12 and under** must be under **direct adult supervision** at all times
- No solo riding in the campground
- No joyriding near campsites
- The rule was emphasized as a **safety requirement**, not a suggestion

This was one of the firmest reminders of the year.

Guided Group Ride — September 20 Members were invited to the first fall group ride.

Mud Ride Recap Despite the name, the Mud Ride turned into a Dust Dash: Dry weather created fast, dusty trail with only a few muddy pockets remained but riders adapted and enjoyed technical terrain, hydration and visibility were key and we think members appreciated the change of pace.

9/11 Remembrance A thoughtful tribute honored -This added a meaningful moment to the month's newsletters.

Tip of the Month A fun one: National Chocolate Milkshake Day — complete with ways to celebrate after a dusty ride.

OCTOBER

October brought a full mix of fall riding, major events, and important reminders as the season wound down.

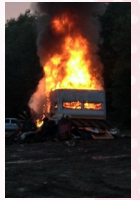
Hard Enduro Weekend One of the biggest events of the fall, with major trail closures for safety and heavy spectator turnout. Saturday riding closed after 2 PM; Sunday was closed all day. Spectators enjoyed great course views from the office and railroad tracks.

2026 Rates Released Applications became available both online and in the office.

Trail 7 & South of 209 Reminders Strict enforcement continued: only guided rides permitted, no scouting, and the final Trail 7 ride of the year was announced for November 17.

Seasonal Riding Restrictions Fall/winter hours began, including no riding before 9 AM and full closures for Black Bear and Deer days started in October.

Fall Foliage ride Trail 7 ride—we had about 100 riders.
Trick or Treat—what a turn out!!!



NOVEMBER

November wrapped up the 2025 season with fall colors, holiday traditions, and the final events of the year. It was a month filled with gratitude, community, and the last big push before winter riding took full effect.

Fall Foliage Ride — November 1 The final guided group ride of the season took members across Trail 7 at peak color. This scenic ride is always a favorite, and it closed out the guided ride calendar on a high note.

Turkey Ride & Turkey Feast —November 15 A double header day of tradition: Turkey Ride: Three turkeys were hidden on the trails; riders who found one earned a prize. Turkey Feast: Members gathered under the pavilion for deep fried turkey, potluck dishes, and a cozy evening of stories and community. This event remains one of the most beloved ways to close out the season.

Veterans Day Recognition The November newsletters included a heartfelt tribute to U.S. veterans, thanking them for their service and reminding members to honor them year-round.

Thanksgiving Office Closure The office was closed on Thursday, November 27 for the holiday.

2026 Membership Applications Released Members were reminded that: All memberships and campsites expire December 31, the owner extended the renewal deadline to February 28 but you can be on property unless you are renewed. Applications were available online and in the office

Tarp Policy

To maintain campsite standards, the November newsletter clarified: This policy was reinforced heading into Spring and Summer.

-The final event of the year brought many members to the Turkey Feast and feast we did. The donation race between the bikes and quad ended with the quads winning this year. The final count raised was \$603 for the local food closet.

-Fall back—turn back those clocks already!

-Time to winterize the pump house water source closes for the season.

DECEMBER

December wrapped up the 2025 season with icy weather, final reminders, and the transition into the new membership year. It was a quieter month on the trails but a busy one for renewals, safety notices, and holiday updates.

Final Riding Restrictions of the Season The last no ride day of 2025 fell on Saturday, December 13, marking the end of the major hunting season closures.

Campsite Renewal Warnings Members were urged to pay close attention to renewal timing: Renewing a membership **without** renewing a campsite will show the site as "available" in the system. After **February 28**, any unrenewed campsite may be claimed by another member. Applications must be submitted **in person or by mail**—no exceptions. Members must be renewed in *some* capacity to be on the property (see the office for more info).

TIP OF THE DAY

Winter Trail Prep

Before heading out, give your machine a cold weather check:

- Top off fluids and check tire pressure
- Pack hand warmers, a flashlight, and a tow strap
- Keep your phone charged and tucked in a warm pocket
- And always ride with a buddy—especially when the temps drop

Cold weather makes everything slower and stiffer. A little prep goes a long way.

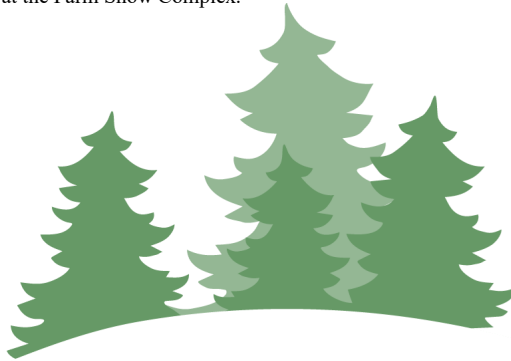
LOCAL TO DO'S

***PA Farm Show

Pennsylvania is proud to host the largest indoor agricultural exposition in the country, with nearly *6,000 animals, 10,000 competitive exhibits and 300 commercial exhibits.* January 10th through 17th

**Motorama

THE NATIONS LARGEST ALL INDOOR MOTORSPORTS EVENT FEATURING 1 MILLION SQ FEET OF EXHIBIT SPACE...It all goes down February 21st & 22nd in Harrisburg, Pa at the Farm Show Complex.



2026 Event Schedule Below

HUNTING SEASON

FROM NOW UNTIL January 19, 2026

NO RIDING BEFORE 9:00AM



New Year Continued...

2026 Stickers Delayed A backorder delayed the arrival of the new yellow 2026 stickers and still is causing issues: Members were told there was no rush. All red 2025 stickers became invalid after December 31. This set expectations for the transition into the new season.

Winter Conditions December brought icy camp roads and extremely cold temperatures. An announcement to avoid towing trailers and keep in mind that the lower camp roads were the only safe option for hauling. These conditions marked the true start of winter at RCTR.

LOOKING AHEAD to 2026

New Season, New Stickers, New Events

2026's sticker color is **yellow**. We are currently still in the process of correcting some minor issue with the new 2026 stickers and hope to have those resolved soon.

*Please make sure your membership is renewed before riding or entering the property.

2026 Event Schedule

FEBRUARY 14 SWEETHEART DAY
MARCH 14 ST PATTY'S DAY RIDE
APRIL 25 SPRING CLEANUP
MAY 16 SARGES RIDE
MAY 23 MEMBERS POKER RUN
JUNE 20 TREASURE HUNT
JUNE 27-28 SPER HARE SCRAMBLE
JULY 4 MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY
JULY 18 CHRISTMAS IN JULY RIDE
AUGUST 1 BONFIRE
AUGUST 16 OBSERVED TRIALS
SEPTEMBER 5 MUD RUN RIDE
OCTOBER 11 RORR DUAL SPORT
OCTOBER 17 TRICK OR TREAT
OCTOBER 24 FALL FOLIAGE RIDE
OCTOBER 25 RORR HARD ENDURO
NOVEMBER 14 TURKEY FEAST

Safety & Conduct

2025 reminded us how quickly situations can escalate. This year, we're doubling down on:

- *Respectful conduct
- *Reporting issues to the office instead of confronting others
- *Following membership and waiver rules
- *Kids riding under 12
- *Dumpster Etiquette
- *Tarp Policies
- *Keeping Rausch Creek safe for everyone

THANK YOU

Thank you to every member who helped make 2025 a strong year. Whether you joined a ride, volunteered, brought a dish to the Turkey Feast, or simply enjoyed the trails responsibly — you're the reason this community works.

Here's to a safe, fun, and memorable 2026.

FOCUS

MOTIVATION

