

**Nature Rules – Curb Your Dust  
Know The Law Before You Drive, Ride, Or Park On  
Unpaved Surfaces**

**Motor vehicle use on unpaved surfaces is limited in Maricopa County.**

**Please check with the agencies listed below, before you drive, ride, or park your motor vehicle on unpaved surfaces in Maricopa County.**

**Tonto National Forest:** You can drive your motor vehicle on marked National Forest System Roads or Motorized Trails, as identified in the forest transportation atlas, without obtaining permission from the Tonto National Forest. Possessing or using a motor vehicle off any National Forest System Road/Trail is prohibited (36 CFR 261.56). In addition, the Tonto National Forest has identified two areas where management of off-highway vehicle use is the primary emphasis. Authorization for the use of the following areas can be obtained from the Mesa Ranger District:

- Rolls Off-Highway Vehicle Area-Mesa. Call 480-610-3300 for more information.
- Bulldog Canyon Off-Highway Area-Mesa. Call 480-610-3300 for more information.

**BLM Lands:** You can drive your motor vehicle on unpaved surfaces after obtaining permission from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) or on trails posted "open." Call the BLM at 623-580-5500 for more information. As of this publication, the following trails are posted "open":

- Harquahala Mountain Summit Road Backcountry Byway-Wickenburg. Call 623-580-5500 for more information.
- Harquahala Mountains Area / Boulders Staging Area-Wickenburg. Call 623-580-5500 for more information.

**State Trust Lands:** State Trust Land is **not** public land. You can drive your motor vehicle on unpaved surfaces after obtaining permission from the Arizona State Land Department or if the property is posted "open." Not all State Trust Land is available for recreation. For more information, log on to <http://www.land.az.us> or call 602-364-2753.

**Game & Fish Land:** You can drive your motor vehicle on unpaved surfaces after obtaining permission from the Arizona Game & Fish Department or if the property is posted "open." Call 602-942-3000 or log on to [www.azgfd.gov/ohv](http://www.azgfd.gov/ohv) for more information.

**Native American Communities:** You can drive your motor vehicle on designated trails on Indian reservations if you have a permit from the particular tribe. Call the Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs at 602-542-3123 for more information.

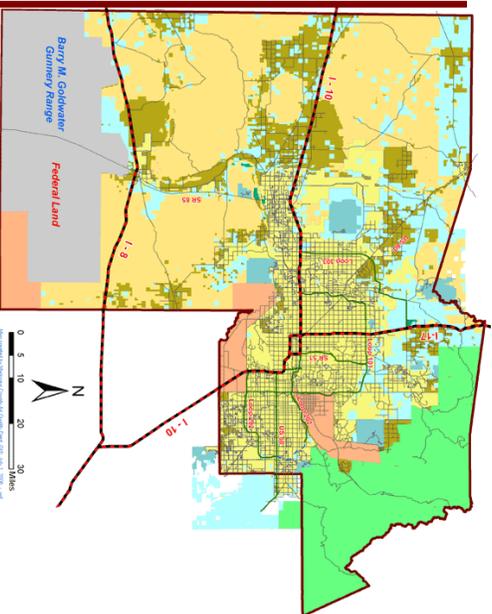
**County Parks:** All trails within Maricopa County parks are for **non-motorized** use only and are **off-limits** to motor vehicles. Call Maricopa County Parks & Recreation Department at 602-506-2930 or log on to [www.maricopa.gov/iaq](http://www.maricopa.gov/iaq) for more information.

**Incorporated Cities:** You can drive your motor vehicle on legally designated roads or highways. You **cannot** drive, ride, or park your motor vehicle on unpaved surfaces. For more information, call a city listed below:

Apache Junction	480-982-8260
Avondale	623-333-7001
Buckeye	623-349-6800
Carefree	602-876-1742
Carefree Marshal	480-488-3686
Cave Creek	480-595-1930
Chandler	480-782-4100
El Mirage	623-933-1341
Fountain Hills	602-252-7840
Gilbert	480-503-6500
Glendale	623-930-3000
Goodyear	623-932-1220
Guadalupe	602-876-1011
Litchfield Park	623-935-1066 x109
Mesa	480-644-2211
Paradise Valley	480-948-7410
Peoria	623-773-8311
Phoenix	602-262-7626
Queen Creek	480-358-3770
Scottsdale	480-312-5000
Surprise	623-222-4000
Tempe	480-966-6211
Tolleson	623-936-7111
Youngtown	623-974-3665
Wickenburg	928-668-0518

**Unincorporated Lands:** Unincorporated lands are lands that are not legally part-of a city (i.e., county islands). You can drive your motor vehicle on legally designated roads or highways. You **cannot** drive, ride, or park your motor vehicle on unpaved surfaces. For more information, call 602-506-6010.

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**Enlarged map on reverse side.**

**Disclaimer:**  
Before driving, riding, or parking on any land, check with the appropriate agency about the rules and requirements. **You may be subject to fines and penalties if you violate the rules and requirements.**  
Riding is **prohibited** on High Pollution Advisory (HPA) days in most of Maricopa County.

Sign up for HPA alerts and information at [RunningOuttoAir.com](http://RunningOuttoAir.com)

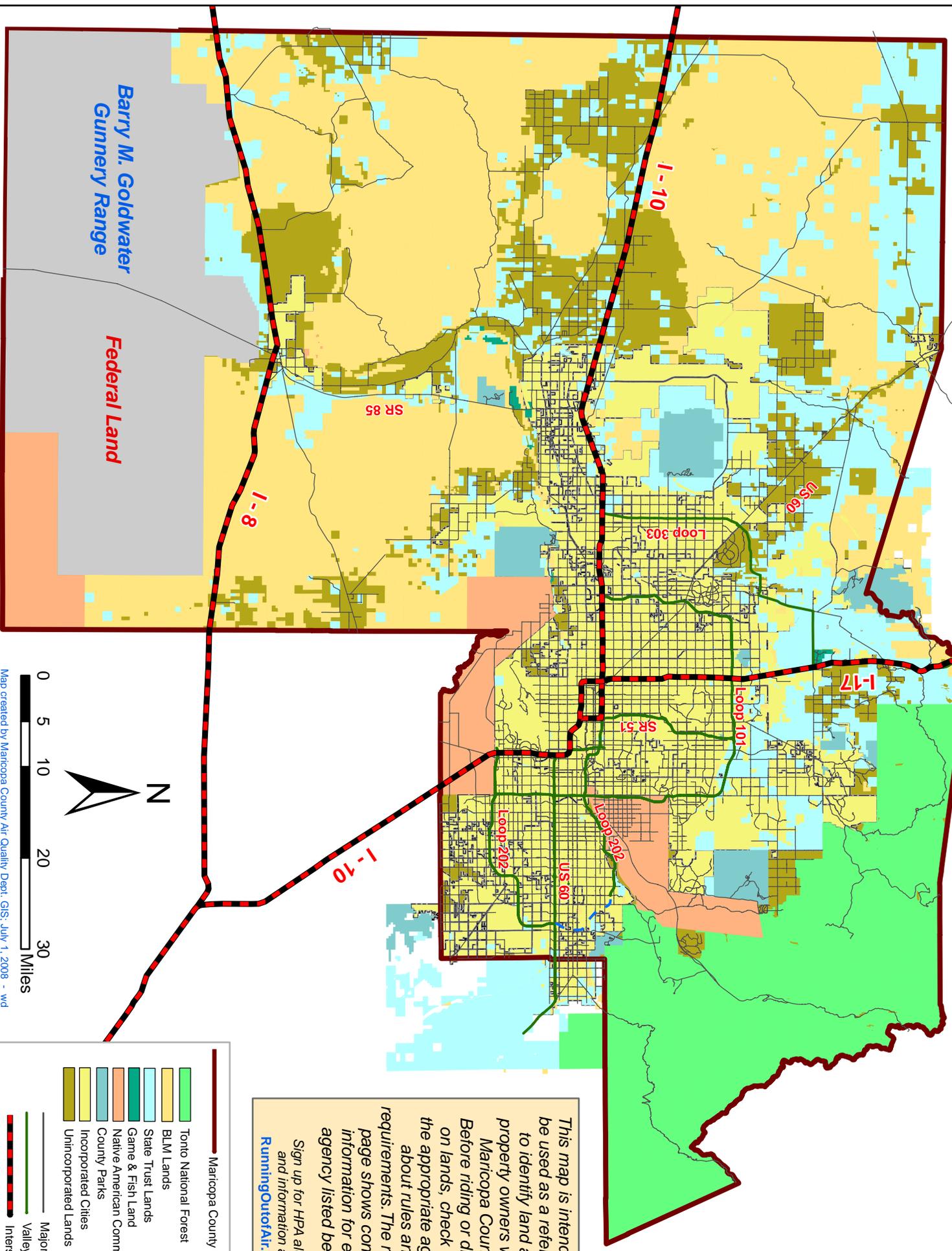
In cooperation with:

- Tonto National Forest
- BLM Lands
- State Trust Lands
- Game & Fish Department
- County Parks



**Maricopa County**  
Air Quality Department

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This map is intended to be used as a reference to identify land and property owners within Maricopa County. Before riding or driving on lands, check with the appropriate agency about rules and requirements. The reverse page shows contact information for each agency listed below. Sign up for HPA alerts and information at [RunningOutofAir.com](http://RunningOutofAir.com)

- Maricopa County Boundary
- Tonto National Forest
- BLM Lands
- State Trust Lands
- Game & Fish Land
- Native American Communities
- County Parks
- Incorporated Cities
- Unincorporated Lands
- Major Streets
- Valley Freeways
- Interstates



Map created by Maricopa County Air Quality Dept. GIS, July 1, 2008 - wd



## FACT SHEET

### **P-28 – Off-Road Vehicle Use in Unincorporated Areas of Maricopa County**

**This ordinance is intended to prevent off-road vehicle use in areas are not designated to the public.**

A person cannot use any vehicle on unpaved public or unpaved private property within unincorporated areas of Maricopa County without lawful authority. Unincorporated areas of Maricopa County are sometimes referred to as county islands and include all areas of the county that are not included in cities and towns (incorporated areas).

If you chose to operate a vehicle on unpaved property in cities and towns (incorporated areas), please observe the local codes/ordinances that restrict vehicle operations on unpaved surfaces.

Lawful authority can be determined or granted in several ways. A person may find the status of property access in an order/ rule or regulation from a government land management agency, a current map approved by such agency, proper sign posting on the land, or by written permission from a public or private land owner.

If a person uses a vehicle on unpaved public or unpaved private property without lawful authority then they are guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor. The associated penalty is performing at least eight but not more than 24 hours of a community restitution course related to off-highway operation of motor vehicles

You can use a vehicle on:

- designated or opened trail systems
- service roads
- any other property dedicated or otherwise reserved for public or private street uses, as evidenced by a recorded document, or having thereon a public easement for such use

For more information, please visit the following websites:

[www.azstateparks.com/partnerships/ohv/ohvindex.html](http://www.azstateparks.com/partnerships/ohv/ohvindex.html)

[www.azgfd.gov/outdoor\\_recreation/arizona\\_ohv\\_trails.shtml](http://www.azgfd.gov/outdoor_recreation/arizona_ohv_trails.shtml)

[www.nohvcc.org](http://www.nohvcc.org)

[www.land.state.az.us/programs/natural/recreation\\_permit.htm](http://www.land.state.az.us/programs/natural/recreation_permit.htm)



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