

## On the Day

Where D.E.F.A. land is involved, check that written consent is in place from the Department and that any special conditions stipulated are being followed.

In the event of poor weather or where ground conditions dictate be prepared for the Department to request route changes or to cancel the event in order to minimise the chance of environmental damage.

Additional signage indicating that an event is in progress to be erected at the main entry points to the venue(s).

Organisers to ensure that an adequate number of marshals are available to patrol all main access points around the route.

Spill kits to be on hand for handling any accidental spillage of fuel/oil. This is especially important adjacent to watercourses.

Insist riders/drivers keep to an agreed course and spectators keep clear of sensitive areas.

Ensure all vehicles not taking part are parked sensibly and are not causing obstruction to the highway or damaging soft verges. Encourage car sharing to minimise the number of vehicles on site.

## After the event

Carry out a full reconnaissance of the course and remove ALL marker tape, signs and litter.

Any damage to gates, walls, fences etc. to be reported to the landowners. Litter removal to be completed within 48 hours or as soon as practically possible.

Contact the landowners when the site has been tidied to discuss any outstanding problems, including the repair of any land damaged during the event.

Assess the overall impact of the event and make recommendations for future events.

## Informal Access & Recreational Use

The Environmental Code is not intended to provide advice on recreational driving and riding on the Island. Much of this is covered in the Green Lane User Code, copies of which can be obtained from the Highways Division:

[www.gov.im/highways](http://www.gov.im/highways)

## Useful Contacts:

Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture  
Call **685835** email [defa@gov.im](mailto:defa@gov.im)

Agriculture and Lands Directorate

Call **695701** email [forestry@gov.im](mailto:forestry@gov.im)

DEFA Freshwater Fisheries

Call **685857** email [fisheries@gov.im](mailto:fisheries@gov.im)

DoI Highways Division

Call **850000** email [enquiries@highways.gov.im](mailto:enquiries@highways.gov.im)

Manx Utilities Authority (MUA)

Call **687687** email [enquiries@manxutilities.im](mailto:enquiries@manxutilities.im)

Event Safety Group

email [eventsafety@gov.im](mailto:eventsafety@gov.im)

DEFA Countryside Ranger

Call **205250**

Environmental Protection Unit

Call **685885**

**This code is endorsed by:**

- IOM Auto Cycle Union ACU and all affiliated motorcycle clubs and organisations
- Manx Trials Club Limited
- Isle of Man Four Wheel Drive Club
- Manx Auto Sport
- Druidale Rally Club



Help us to prevent the spread of plant diseases... **Keep it Clean**

Further information [www.gov.im/DEFAevents](http://www.gov.im/DEFAevents)

DEFA-HillsForestGlens



# Environmental Code

## Land used for Motorised Events



Department of Environment,  
Food & Agriculture

2020 Edition

[www.gov.im/defa](http://www.gov.im/defa)

## Introduction

The use of land, both in public and private ownership, to hold motorised events, has a long history in the Isle of Man. The purpose of this Code is to provide guidance to those involved in planning and delivering off-road motorsport events on DEFA's Public Estate in order to minimise the chance of environmental damage or disturbance and increase the chances of your application being successful.

Although the majority of off-road motorsport involves motorcycles, this code is provided to cover all motorised access including 4x4 vehicles. It is in the interests of landowners, participants in events, and the public at large, that organised events are safe. The Department also has a duty to minimise the environmental impact of these events.

The adoption of the Code by the main motorised sport clubs and associations on the Island is recognition of its importance. Following the Code will also minimise the risk of breaches of legislation such as; the Wildlife Act, Fisheries Act 2012 and Water Pollution Act

## Organised Events Procedures.

Whenever an organised event is proposed the organisers will carry out the following procedures:-

## Prior to Event

**Plan ahead** and consult with the landowner at an early date. Where D.E.F.A. land is involved, complete and submit an application form and venue maps with desired routes at least 8 weeks before the event. This is to allow adequate time for consultations between various sections of the Department and its tenants.

All route reconnaissance requiring vehicular access and any route clearing work must be agreed with DEFA in writing prior to commencement. Agreed risk control measures, including the use of appropriate PPE must be complied with at all times.

Other documents to be submitted prior to every event:

- **4 weeks prior** - Detailed map showing agreed routes/sections.
- **3 weeks prior** - Safety plan and/or risk assessment
- **2 weeks prior** - Copy of the public liability insurance
- **2 weeks prior** - Copy of ACU/MSA permit or equivalent.



Prior to the event, at all junctions with other recreation routes the course must be clearly marked to ensure the route is clearly defined for participants. Other known site hazards and environmental constraints highlighted in the landowner's site risk assessment should also be clearly identified and demarcated.



Any motorsport considering holding an event in or adjacent to a watercourse must firstly contact the Inland Fisheries section at DEFA on **685857**, email: **fisheries@gov.im**

Watercourses, including ditches, should not normally be used as part of your event. Where special permission is granted, such as river crossing points, there should be no travelling up or down main watercourses or activity in tributaries which would disturb sediment or river bed. To prevent diffused pollution, when stipulated, heather or straw bales should be used and removed immediately after the event.



Do not hold events in areas where Japanese Knotweed is growing.

If events are to take place in known public water supply catchment areas, organisers must also contact the Manx Utilities Authority.

Where events involve use of the Public Rights of Way network, event organisers should contact the Highways Division of the Department of Infrastructure.

Where events involve the use of land adjacent to private households, event organisers should notify the occupiers of the event to minimise any inconvenience.

To prevent the spread of tree and other plant diseases, organisers should adopt and promote the Department's Keep it Clean policy which encourages good biosecurity measures such as cleaning wheels before and after events.

