

Using Club Trail Files

(rev. 01/21/20)

Trail files are located on the Havasu SxS Trail Association website (not the Facebook page), under the headings “Trail Files” and “Other Trails” at the top of the page.

*****You must be a Club member and be logged in to the Club website to see these files. You must use your Club website login information, not your Facebook login.*****

Trail files posted on the Club website are in a compressed (.zip) format to conserve storage space. Once you extract the .zip file (see below), you will have a .gpx file, which is the file containing the trail information. You must extract the .gpx file from the .zip file - the .zip file itself is of no use to you, the .gpx file within is what you need.

Click on the file name - this will open a menu to Save or Open the file. Save the file to your computer, taking note of what directory/folder it is saved to. Do not choose “Open” - you must download/save the file to your computer. Once you have the file downloaded/saved, you need to extract the .gpx file from within the .zip file:

Mac OS: Double-click on the file. It will extract and place the .gpx file in the same folder you have the .zip file saved in.

Windows 10: Right-click on the file and click on “Extract All” on the context menu. In the “Extract Compressed (Zipped) Folders” dialog, enter or browse the folder path where you want the files to be extracted. Check the “Show extracted files when complete” checkbox to open the extracted folder after .zip extraction is complete. Click on “Extract” button to complete the extraction process.

You will now have a .gpx file. If you simply want to use it in your GPS unit, you can copy it to your “trails” card and load the card into your GPS unit. If you are using a tablet/app solution, follow the file import procedures for whichever app you are using.

If you want to view the trail file on your computer, you will need an app which handles GPS files. Without one of these apps, your computer will not know what to do with the file and will not display it. A popular (and free) solution is Google Earth Pro, which can be downloaded via the internet. Garmin Basecamp is another free app which is available for download. See the Tech Talk file titled “*View GPX Files Using Google Earth Pro*” for more information on viewing these files on your computer.

The Club is not responsible for these tracks. When on private land, be sure you are on a legal right-of-way or have permission to cross the land. Your off-highway sticker gives you the right to pass through State Trust Land, but not to stop or engage in any other activities. BLM maps showing property ownership are available for purchase from the local BLM office; however, many of those maps are old and things change. Ask the BLM about *Avenza Maps* for a digital solution - *Avenza Maps* is a free app and BLM has handouts which explain how to find and load BLM maps into the app.