NATL’s John Deere Gator4x2 utility vehicle   
**Overview of maintenance program**TJ Walker, 9 Jan 2018

NATL’s Gator 4x2 utility vehicle makes it possible to do important tasks in NATL that might otherwise go undone. If it is to continue serving this purpose, the vehicle must be properly maintained.

An obvious means of insuring that needed maintenance is done is for a NATL’s staff member to volunteer (or be designated) to be the person in charge of seeing that those using the vehicle do the routine maintenance and that unusual maintenance is done personally or by others (free or for fee).

A copy of the Maintenance Log Sheet (next page) should be kept posted on the north wall of Shed 2, to the right of the light switch. All maintenance services for the Gator should be recorded on it, with the “Gator-maintenance person” retiring the used sheets to the plastic bag that contains the Gator service manual and its maintenance records. [This bag is currently on an upper left shelf of the metal cabinet in Shed 1].

A backup record of the major events in past maintenance should be online as a convenient aid to solving future problems. Cory has made the backup record an appendix to this document and, in the future, the person in charge of maintenance should conclude their duties by adding the major services performed during their tenure. [This two-page document with its appendix should be made easily accessible online to NATL staff as part of the NATL Operating Manual or its replacement.]

**Numbered categories of maintenance services for John Deere Gator**The first two are to be performed by all users. The last three are to be performed by one or two designated persons.

**Service No. 1 Add gasoline**  
Each time gasoline is added, the user mustrecord the date, their initials, the hour-meter reading, and Service Number. If the hr-meter reading has increased by 3hr or more since the last oil check, check the oil level and add its data as a second record*.* [If the can is emptied, hang the empty can on the hook near the log sheet to signify that gas should be purchased soon and email the appropriate person.]

**Service No. 2 Check oil level**  
Raise the bed of the Gator by tilting the driver’s seat forward and pushing the lever found underneath. Next, locate the dipstick, pull it out, wipe it with a tissue or rag, re-insert, and pull it out carefully. If the oil level is in the upper half of the safe range, write “Oil OK*”* in Notes. If oil level is in the lower half of the safe range, write “Oil LOW” in Notes and notify the person in charge of Gator maintenance.

**Service No. 3 Purchase gasoline**Record date, amount purchased, and hr-meter reading in the Gator Maintenance Log Sheet.  
[Gasoline purchases may be the responsibility of the “Gator maintenance person” or some other person designated by the NAAC Chair. In either case, an empty gas can hanging on the bracket of the north wall of Shed 1 is a signal that a refill is needed.]

**Service No. 4** Repair or major service*:* Record details in the Gator Maintenance Log Sheet.

**Service No. 5 Annual checkup** Every 100 hrs as recorded on the hr-meter, or every December: Change oil and record other services in Gator Maintenance Log Sheet. Make needed additions to the online record of Gator maintenance

**John Deere Gator4x2 Maintenance Log Sheet**

Those who use NATL’s Gator utility vehicle must help maintain it and record their role in doing so in the table below. For their convenience, the two services that are most-often needed are described below (Services 3-5 are the responsibility of one or two designated staff members.)

**Service No. 1 Add gasoline**  
Each time gasoline is added, the user mustrecord the date, their initials, the hour-meter reading, and Service No. (If the can is emptied, hang the empty can on the hook near the log sheet to signify that gas should be purchased soon and email the appropriate person.) If the hr-meter reading has increased by 3hr or more since the last oil check, check the oil and add its data as a second record.

**Service No. 2 Check oil level**  
Raise the bed of the Gator by tilting the driver’s seat forward and pushing the lever found underneath. Next, locate the dipstick, pull it out, wipe it with a tissue or rag, re-insert, and pull it out carefully. If the oil level is in the upper half of the safe range, write “Oil OK” in Notes.If oil level is in the lower half of the safe range, write “Oil LOW” in Notes and notify the person in charge of Gator maintenance.

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| **Date** | **User’s initials** | **Hr-meter reading** | **Service No.** | **Notes** |
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*This sheet posted by (in charge of Gator maintenance).*

**Appendix to *Overview of Gator Maintenance Program***

Maintenance History of NATL’s John Deere Gator 4×2  
(Transcribed from the Gator maintenance logbook by Cory Gillis, 4 Jan 2018)

**July/25/2007** (Thomas J. Walker - TJW)

1. Repaired slow leaks in two rear tires.

**July/2007** (Kevin Ratkus)

1. Checked air filter (good).
2. Added D.I. H20 to battery

**Aug/24/2007** (Kevin)

1. Cleaned sparkplug.
2. Changed oil and oil filter.
3. Checked transmission fluid.
4. Fixed sunshade from shifting.

**Jul/2009** (Robert Guggenheim - RG)

1. Patched back/driver side tire.
2. Tied down sunshade & tightened.

**Aug/2009** (TJW)

1. Patched back/driver side tire again.

**Sep/2009** (TJW)

1. Put tube in back/driver side tire.

**Oct/2009** (RG)

1. Patched back tire tube.
2. Checked oil and Transmission fluid (both o.k.).

**Oct/2010** (RG)

1. Tied down sunshade & braced with wire.

**Jul/2010** (RG)

1. Needs transmission axle oil change. (HY- Guard JDM J20C, 4.8Qt=4.5L)
2. Needs fuel stabilizer for gas tank.
3. Hours= 1412.6
4. Needs oil change (10w40)

**Jul/1/2011** (TJW)

1. Hours= 1572.1

**Feb/9/2012** (Lary Reeves - LR)

1. Replaced tube in rear/driver side tire. Tire has puncture in it.
2. Hours= 1598.2

**Feb/23/2012** (LR)

1. Replaced rear/driver side tire.
2. Rear wheel= currently no tube in wheel.
3. Hours= 1599.5

**Mar/24/2012**

1. Replaced loose windshield frame by replacing bolts that attach to the main frame; attached loose “hood” to windshield frame with cable ties.
2. Hours= 1736.8

**May/2/2012**

1. Repaired puncture to rear/driver side tire.
2. Tube with puncture patched installed.
3. Hours= 1743.5

**July/11/2012** (TJW)

1. Hours=1840.5
2. Replaced four lug bolts on rear wheel

**Jan/26/2015**

1. Hours=1991.9
2. Oil changed

**Nov/12/2015** (TJW)

1. Replaced special bolt at the gear that transfers movement at the rod attached to the shift lever to an arm of the gear box. New part was much stronger than broken part but it lacks a shoulder on the broken part that allows positive tightening of the bolt against the rod from the shift lever. The new part works well but its nut may need to be replaced with one that grips the threaded shaft of the bolt. (Broken part saved in bag with the operators manual)
2. Hours= 2035

**April/26/2016** (TJW)

Gator taken to Ag. Pro. Complete service & oil change:

1. Oil and oil filter change.
2. Lubricated.
3. Air filter and fuel filter replaced.
4. Spark plug replaced.
5. Visual inspection of cooling system drive components.
6. Re-mounted pulley, tightened [linkage?]

**Sep/20/2016**

1. Replaced battery.
2. Hours=2432.9.

**Nov/22/2016** (LR)

1. New back right tire.
2. Hours=2438.0.

**Dec/4/2017** (Cory Gillis - CG)

1. Replaced front passenger tire.
2. Hours=2498.