

STATE OF ALABAMA ATV OPERATION

The following laws establish how an ATV may be legally operated within the state of Alabama, on both private and public/state owned property. While ATVs do have 4 wheels, they are designed for off-road use and typically do not meet federal safety guidelines. As such, the state created laws to limit their use and protect the public from accidents. Failure to abide by these laws will typically result in costlier fines and potentially jail time depending on the offense.

Required Equipment in Alabama

The following items are required by Alabama law to be installed upon an ATV or worn by an operator during use.

- **Helmet** Not Required.
- **Headlight(s)** Required if operated within the period of one half hour before sunset or one half hour after sunrise.
- **Tail Light** Required if operated within the period of one half hour before sunset or one half hour after sunrise.
- **Muffler** Not Required.
- **Spark Arrestor** Not Required.
- **Brakes** Not Required.
- **Other**

What is the Minimum Age to Operate an ATV in Alabama?

NA - As ATVs may only be operated on private property in Alabama there exists no law which restricts the age at which a person can operate an ATV.

Can I Drive my ATV on Public Roads in Alabama?

No - § 32-1-7 - Alabama strictly prohibits the use of ATVs on public roads and property, including beaches and sand dunes. Legal operation is only allowed on property in which you own or have permission to use, which can include beaches.

Alabama ATV Rules of the Road

- **Excessive Speed** - ATV operators may not travel at a speed that is greater than reasonable for the conditions.
- **DUI/DWI** - It is illegal in every state to operate a motor vehicle on public roads or property while under the influence of alcohol. Most states also employ a zero tolerance approach to ATVs and more strict penalties for excessive blood alcohol concentrations (BAC).

STATE OF ALASKA ATV OPERATION

The following laws establish how an ATV may be legally operated within the state of Alaska, on both private and public/state owned property. While ATVs do have 4 wheels, they are designed for off-road use and typically do not meet federal safety guidelines. As such, the state created laws to limit their use and protect the public from accidents. Failure to abide by these laws will typically result in costlier fines and potentially jail time depending on the offense.

Required Equipment in Alaska

The following items are required by Alaska law to be installed upon an ATV or worn by an operator during use.

- **Helmet** Not Required.
- **Headlight(s)** Not Required.
- **Tail Light** Not Required.
- **Muffler** Not Required.
- **Spark Arrestor** Not Required.
- **Brakes** Not Required.
- **Other** State law allows towns and municipalities to set their own rules regarding use and required safety equipment so you should also check with your local officials.

What is the Minimum Age to Operate an ATV in Alaska?

NA - At the state level, there is no age restriction for operating an ATV. This is because law mostly restricts the use of ATVs to private property with only a few situations where it is legal to operate on/near a road. Some cities and towns in Alaska may set their own age restrictions for the use of ATVs so its a good idea to check with your local government.

Can I Drive my ATV on Public Roads in Alaska?

No - [3 AAC 02.455](#) - Alaska generally prohibits the use of ATVs on public roads and land, however in few scenarios it may be legal including when: crossing a bridge or culvert, the road is impassable by other motor vehicles, permitted by local law, riding on highways other than controlled access highways and not within 3 feet of the shoulder, and crossing a highway at a 90 degree angle (when safe).

Alaska ATV Rules of the Road

- **Riding on the Shoulder** - An ATV may be operated on the shoulder of the highway or roadway but not within 3 feet of the paved surface.
- **Crossing a Road** - It is illegal to cross a roadway on an ATV unless at a 90 degree angle and only after yielding to oncoming traffic.
- **DUI/DWI** - It is illegal in every state to operate a motor vehicle on public roads or property while under the influence of alcohol. Most states also employ a zero tolerance approach to ATVs and more strict penalties for excessive blood alcohol concentrations (BAC).

STATE OF ARIZONA ATV OPERATION

The following laws establish how an ATV may be legally operated within the state of Arizona, on both private and public/state owned property. While ATVs do have 4 wheels, they are designed for off-road use and typically do not meet federal safety guidelines. As such, the state created laws to limit their use and protect the public from accidents. Failure to abide by these laws will typically result in costlier fines and potentially jail time depending on the offense.

Required Equipment in Arizona

The following items are required by Arizona law to be installed upon an ATV or worn by an operator during use.

- **Helmet** Not Required.
- **Headlight(s)** Required if the ATV is operated within one half hour before sunset and one half hour after sunrise.
- **Tail Light** Required if the ATV is operated within one half hour before sunset and one half hour after sunrise.
- **Muffler** Required.
- **Spark Arrestor** Required.
- **Brakes** Required.
- **Other**

What is the Minimum Age to Operate an ATV in Arizona?

NA - The state of Arizona does not restrict the age at which an ATV can be used on public or private land. If the ATV is registered for public roads however, state license laws apply and an operator must be 16 years of age with a valid driver's license.

Can I Drive my ATV on Public Roads in Arizona?

Yes - § 28-1177 - Arizona allows ATV owners to register their ATV as a motor vehicle, so long as it meets all safety requirements required by the state. Unfortunately as most ATVs do not meet these requirements as they are designed from the manufacturers, this exemption rarely applies. Otherwise it is only legal to operate an ATV on a public road while crossing at a 90 degree angle between two private property's or state land.

Arizona ATV Rules of the Road

- **Automobiles** - If the ATV is registered for on-road use, it must abide by all traffic laws which apply to motor vehicles.
- **DUI/DWI** - It is illegal in every state to operate a motor vehicle on public roads or property while under the influence of alcohol. Most states also employ a zero tolerance approach to ATVs and more strict penalties for excessive blood alcohol concentrations (BAC).

STATE OF ARKANSAS ATV OPERATION

The following laws establish how an ATV may be legally operated within the state of Arkansas, on both private and public/state owned property. While ATVs do have 4 wheels, they are designed for off-road use and typically do not meet federal safety guidelines. As such, the state created laws to limit their use and protect the public from accidents. Failure to abide by these laws will typically result in costlier fines and potentially jail time depending on the offense.

Required Equipment in Arkansas

The following items are required by Arkansas law to be installed upon an ATV or worn by an operator during use.

- **Helmet** Not Required.
- **Headlight(s)** Required if the ATV is operated within one half hour before sunset and one half hour after sunrise.
- **Tail Light** Required if the ATV is operated within one half hour before sunset and one half hour after sunrise.
- **Muffler** Required.
- **Spark Arrestor** Required.
- **Brakes** Required.
- **Other**

What is the Minimum Age to Operate an ATV in Arkansas?

NA - § 27-21-107 - In general, a rider of any age may operate an ATV while on private property. On public land, riders 11 and younger must be supervised by an adult 18 years or older.

Can I Drive my ATV on Public Roads in Arkansas?

No - § 27-21-106 - Generally, it is illegal to operate an ATV on public roads in Arkansas, regardless of whether it meets federal safety requirements. There are few scenarios where operation is permitted including: traveling between two privately owned fields while in the business of farming or ranching, crossing a roadway but only at a 90 degree angle after yielding to all motor vehicles and using appropriate lights, or if the operator has a serious walking handicap diagnosed by a licensed physician. Handicapped operators may only drive the ATV on state roads (not including any interstate system) and must display a red flat 3 feet above the seat as well as carry a certificate of their walking impairment from the physician.

Arkansas ATV Rules of the Road

- **Excessive Speed** - ATV operators may not travel at a speed that is greater than reasonable for the conditions.
- **DUI/DWI** - It is illegal in every state to operate a motor vehicle on public roads or property while under the influence of alcohol. Most states also employ a zero tolerance approach to ATVs and more strict penalties for excessive blood alcohol concentrations (BAC).

STATE OF CALIFORNIA ATV OPERATION

The following laws establish how an ATV may be legally operated within the state of California, on both private and public/state owned property. While ATVs do have 4 wheels, they are designed for off-road use and typically do not meet federal safety guidelines. As such, the state created laws to limit their use and protect the public from accidents. Failure to abide by these laws will typically result in costlier fines and potentially jail time depending on the offense.

Required Equipment in California

The following items are required by California law to be installed upon an ATV or worn by an operator during use.

- **Helmet** Not Required.
- **Headlight(s)** Required on every ATV and must be visible from at least 200 ft away.
- **Tail Light** Required - Must be illuminated red.
- **Muffler** Required.
- **Spark Arrestor** Required.
- **Brakes** Required.
- **Other** State law allows public land managers to set their own regulations including helmets, seat belts (if installed), goggles, and may also limit the number of passengers.

What is the Minimum Age to Operate an ATV in California?

NA - § 38503 - California does not specify a minimum age at which it is legal to operate an ATV however they do have restrictions for the use by riders under the age of 18. All operators whom are 17 and under must either complete an approved Safety Course or be riding with the direct supervision of an adult who has completed the safety course. Out of state operators under the age of 18 must demonstrate they have completed the safety course in their home state.

Can I Drive my ATV on Public Roads in California?

Yes - § 38160 - Only ATVs which have been registered for on highway use by the California DMV and driven by a licensed operator may be used on “combined use” roads within the state. It is legal for anyone to cross a two lane highway so long as the operator crosses at a 90 degree angle and at a place where quick and safe passing can occur.

California ATV Rules of the Road

- **ATV Size** - It is unlawful for an operator to use an ATV in which they cannot reach all of the controls.
- **Excessive Speed** - Vehicles should also only be operated at a speed which is reasonable for the conditions and may not be operated at a speed greater than 15mph while within 50 feet of campsites, animals or groups of people.
- **Signage** - Operators must obey all signage set on public roads and land by managing departments.
- **Start, Stop, or Turn** - It is illegal to start, stop, or turn an ATV while it is not safe to do so.
- **DUI/DWI** - It is illegal in every state to operate a motor vehicle on public roads or property while under the influence of alcohol. Most states also employ a zero tolerance approach to ATVs and more strict penalties for excessive blood alcohol concentrations (BAC).

STATE OF COLORADO ATV OPERATION

The following laws establish how an ATV may be legally operated within the state of Colorado, on both private and public/state owned property. While ATVs do have 4 wheels, they are designed for off-road use and typically do not meet federal safety guidelines. As such, the state created laws to limit their use and protect the public from accidents. Failure to abide by these laws will typically result in costlier fines and potentially jail time depending on the offense

Required Equipment in Colorado

The following items are required by Colorado law to be installed upon an ATV or worn by an operator during use.

- **Helmet** Not Required.
- **Headlight(s)** Required on every ATV and must be visible from at least 100 ft away.
- **Tail Light** Required - Must be illuminated red.
- **Muffler** Required.
- **Spark Arrestor** Required.
- **Brakes** Required.
- **Other** State law allows municipalities to set their own laws and regulations which further restrict the equipment needed to operate within their jurisdiction. This includes requiring helmets for minor riders, wear a seatbelt if equipped, wear eye protection, and limit the number of riders.

What is the Minimum Age to Operate an ATV in Colorado?

10 - The board of Parks and Regulation in Colorado does not allow the use of an ATV by persons under the age of 10 on any public roads or land. Operators between 10 and 16 years old must also be under the direct supervision of an adult. There are no age requirements for use on private property.

Can I Drive my ATV on Public Roads in Colorado?

No - § 33-14.5-108 - Colorado strictly prohibits the use of ATVs on public roads and highways unless the highway has been designated open by an agency of the state, when crossing at a 90 degree angle and after yielding to all traffic, traversing a bridge or culvert, during off-road vehicle events, during emergency conditions declared by the state, or when using the vehicle in conjunction with agriculture. With this being said, the law does allow for a county or city to designate roads open for use by ATVs so long as they are not part of the state highway system. Always check with your local government for clarity.

Colorado ATV Rules of the Road

- **Exceeding the Speed Limit** - It is illegal to operate an ATV at a speed greater than the posted speed limit for the road or property.
- **Improper Parking** - Operators may not park their ATV so that it blocks the normal flow of traffic or in the road for greater than 24 hours.
- **Reckless Operation** - ATVs may not be operated in a manner which is reckless and/or endangers people or animals.
- **Damaging State Property** - It is illegal to operate an ATV in a manner which damages state property.
- **DUI/DWI** - It is illegal in every state to operate a motor vehicle on public roads or property while under the influence of alcohol. Most states also employ a zero tolerance approach to ATVs and more strict penalties for excessive blood alcohol concentrations (BAC).

STATE OF CONNECTICUT ATV OPERATION

The following laws establish how an ATV may be legally operated within the state of Connecticut, on both private and public/state owned property. While ATVs do have 4 wheels, they are designed for off-road use and typically do not meet federal safety guidelines. As such, the state created laws to limit their use and protect the public from accidents. Failure to abide by these laws will typically result in costlier fines and potentially jail time depending on the offense

Required Equipment in Connecticut

The following items are required by Connecticut law to be installed upon an ATV or worn by an operator during use.

- **Helmet** Not Required.
- **Headlight(s)** Required unless the engine size is less than 90cc which may not be used after dark.
- **Tail Light** Required unless the engine size is less than 90cc which may not be used after dark.
- **Muffler** Required.
- **Spark Arrestor** Required.
- **Brakes** Required.
- **Other**

What is the Minimum Age to Operate an ATV in Connecticut?

12 - § 23-26e - Connecticut prohibits the use of ATVs on state land by minors under the age of 12. All riders under the age of 18 require a safety education course to operate on public property, and riders between 12 and 16 years old also require parental supervision. No age limits apply for ATV use on private property.

Can I Drive my ATV on Public Roads in Connecticut?

No - § 14-387 - Connecticut generally prohibits the use of ATVs on public roads unless to cross at a 90 degree angle, after completing a full stop, and only when the crossing can be completed safely after yielding to traffic. It is illegal to cross an interstate roadway.

Connecticut ATV Rules of the Road

- **Harassing or Interfering with Wildlife** - It is illegal to operate an ATV in a manner that disturbs or harasses any game or domestic animal.
- **Property Permission** - Operators may only operate an ATV on land which they have permission and must adhere to all signage which controls traffic.
- **Railroad Tracks** - ATVs may not be driven on or across railroad tracks.
- **DUI/DWI** - It is illegal in every state to operate a motor vehicle on public roads or property while under the influence of alcohol. Most states also employ a zero tolerance approach to ATVs and more strict penalties for excessive blood alcohol concentrations (BAC).

STATE OF DELAWARE ATV OPERATION

The following laws establish how an ATV may be legally operated within the state of Delaware, on both private and public/state owned property. While ATVs do have 4 wheels, they are designed for off-road use and typically do not meet federal safety guidelines. As such, the state created laws to limit their use and protect the public from accidents. Failure to abide by these laws will typically result in costlier fines and potentially jail time depending on the offense.

Required Equipment in Delaware

The following items are required by Delaware law to be installed upon an ATV or worn by an operator during use.

- **Helmet** All operators under the age of 18 must wear a helmet which meets the U.S. Department of Transportation Standards.
- **Headlight(s)** Required if the ATV is operated between sunset and sunrise.
- **Tail Light** Required if the ATV is operated between sunset and sunrise.
- **Muffler** Required.
- **Spark Arrestor** Required.
- **Brakes** Required.
- **Other**

What is the Minimum Age to Operate an ATV in Delaware?

NA - § 6824 - Minors under the age of 12 may operate an ATV but only under the following circumstances: on private property owned or leased by the parent/legal guardian; or any public land while supervised by an adult which is 18 or older.

Can I Drive my ATV on Public Roads in Delaware?

No - § 6814 - It is illegal to operate an ATV on public roads in Delaware unless expressly permitted by local or state government during a special event. ATVs must be pushed along side or across any public road so long as the vehicle is in neutral and the transmission is disengaged.

Delaware ATV Rules of the Road

- **Excessive Speed** - § 6815 - ATV operators may not travel at a speed which cannot be so controlled as may be necessary to avoid colliding with any person, vehicle or other conveyance.
- **Reckless Operation** - § 6819 - It is also illegal to operate an ATV in a manner that disturbs or damages property, or endangers another person.
- **Property Permission** - Operators may only operate an ATV on land which they have permission and must adhere to all signage which controls traffic.
- **DUI/DWI** - It is illegal in every state to operate a motor vehicle on public roads or property while under the influence of alcohol. Most states also employ a zero tolerance approach to ATVs and more strict penalties for excessive blood alcohol concentrations (BAC).

STATE OF FLORIDA ATV OPERATION

The following laws establish how an ATV may be legally operated within the state of Florida, on both private and public/state owned property. While ATVs do have 4 wheels, they are designed for off-road use and typically do not meet federal safety guidelines. As such, the state created laws to limit their use and protect the public from accidents. Failure to abide by these laws will typically result in costlier fines and potentially jail time depending on the offense.

Required Equipment in Florida

The following items are required by Florida law to be installed upon an ATV or worn by an operator during use.

- **Helmet** Required by operators under the age of 16 years old while riding on public land.
- **Headlight(s)** Required if operated within the period of sunset and sunrise, or when visibility is reduced due to rain, smoke, or smog.
- **Tail Light** Required if operated within the period of sunset and sunrise, or when visibility is reduced due to rain, smoke, or smog.
- **Muffler** Required - ATVs manufactured after January 1, 1986 may not have an exhaust noise greater than 96 decibels. ATVs manufactured before this date may not have an exhaust noise great than 99 decibels.
- **Spark Arrestor** Required.
- **Brakes** Required.
- **Other** Operators under the age of 16 must also wear eye protection and over-the-ankle boots while operating on public land.

What is the Minimum Age to Operate an ATV in Florida?

NA - § 261.20 - Operators under the age of 16 while operating an ATV on public land or roads in Florida must have proof of completion of a Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) safety course and must be supervised by an adult.

Can I Drive my ATV on Public Roads in Florida?

No - § 316.2123 - Florida law prohibits the use of ATVs on public roads except on unpaved roads where the speed limit is 35 mph or less. The law also allows for a county to vote and pass legislation which allows ATV use on paved roads, so long as the speed limit is 35 mph or less and signage is posted which allows ATV use. Check with your local county to confirm your local laws.

Florida ATV Rules of the Road

- **Reckless Operation** - It is illegal to operate an ATV in a careless or reckless manner that endangers or causes injury to another person or property.
- **Passenger Limits** - It is illegal to carry more passengers on an ATV than the vehicle is designed for by the manufacturer.
- **DUI/DWI** - It is illegal in every state to operate a motor vehicle on public roads or property while under the influence of alcohol. Most states also employ a zero tolerance approach to ATVs and more strict penalties for excessive blood alcohol concentrations (BAC).

STATE OF GEORGIA ATV OPERATION

The following laws establish how an ATV may be legally operated within the state of Georgia, on both private and public/state owned property. While ATVs do have 4 wheels, they are designed for off-road use and typically do not meet federal safety guidelines. As such, the state created laws to limit their use and protect the public from accidents. Failure to abide by these laws will typically result in costlier fines and potentially jail time depending on the offense.

Required Equipment in Georgia

The following items are required by Georgia law to be installed upon an ATV or worn by an operator during use.

- **Helmet** Not Required.
- **Headlight(s)** Not Required.
- **Tail Light** Not Required.
- **Muffler** Required.
- **Spark Arrestor** Not Required.
- **Brakes** Required.
- **Other**

What is the Minimum Age to Operate an ATV in Georgia?

NA - § 40-6-3 - The state of Georgia does not specify a minimum age at which an ATV may be operated on private property or state property. If an ATV is operated on public roads, or forest roads, then the rider must comply with all motor vehicle laws including holding a license and be 16 years of age or older.

Can I Drive my ATV on Public Roads in Georgia?

No - Georgia requires any vehicle used on public roads in the state to be registered with that state. As the Georgia DOR does not allow the registration of ATVs, they cannot be operated on public roads.

Georgia ATV Rules of the Road

- **Private Property** - It is illegal to operate an ATV on private property without the permission of the land owner.
- **Perennial Streams** - ATVs may not be operated within any perennial stream, except when directly crossing.
- **DUI/DWI** - It is illegal in every state to operate a motor vehicle on public roads or property while under the influence of alcohol. Most states also employ a zero tolerance approach to ATVs and more strict penalties for excessive blood alcohol concentrations (BAC).

STATE OF HAWAII ATV OPERATION

The following laws establish how an ATV may be legally operated within the state of Hawaii, on both private and public/state owned property. While ATVs do have 4 wheels, they are designed for off-road use and typically do not meet federal safety guidelines. As such, the state created laws to limit their use and protect the public from accidents. Failure to abide by these laws will typically result in costlier fines and potentially jail time depending on the offense.

Required Equipment in Hawaii

The following items are required by Hawaii law to be installed upon an ATV or worn by an operator during use.

- **Helmet** Required if operating an ATV on public roads in conjunction with the provision listed under 'Can I Drive my ATV on Public Roads in Hawaii?'
- **Headlight(s)** Not Required.
- **Tail Light** Not Required.
- **Muffler** Not Required.
- **Spark Arrestor** Not Required.
- **Brakes** Not Required.
- **Other**

What is the Minimum Age to Operate an ATV in Hawaii?

NA - § 286-12 - There are no age restrictions for general ATV use on private property in Hawaii, however if the ATV is operated on any public road the rider must be 16 years old with a valid driver's license.

Can I Drive my ATV on Public Roads in Hawaii?

No - § 286-12 - Hawaii generally restricts the use on ATVs on public roads unless it being operated as farm equipment, by a licensed driver, traveling on a two lane road with a speed limit less than or equal to 35 mph, between two agricultural zones, during daylight, and while wearing a helmet.

Hawaii ATV Rules of the Road

- **DUI/DWI** - It is illegal in every state to operate a motor vehicle on public roads or property while under the influence of alcohol. Most states also employ a zero tolerance approach to ATVs and more strict penalties for excessive blood alcohol concentrations (BAC).

STATE OF IDAHO ATV OPERATION

The following laws establish how an ATV may be legally operated within the state of Idaho, on both private and public/state owned property. While ATVs do have 4 wheels, they are designed for off-road use and typically do not meet federal safety guidelines. As such, the state created laws to limit their use and protect the public from accidents. Failure to abide by these laws will typically result in costlier fines and potentially jail time depending on the offense.

Required Equipment in Idaho

The following items are required by Idaho law to be installed upon an ATV or worn by an operator during use. Vehicles registered for on-road use must comply with all required motor vehicle equipment.

- **Helmet** Required by operators under the age of 18 while operating an ATV on public roads/land.
- **Headlight(s)** Not Required but recommended by the Idaho Parks and Rec Department.
- **Tail Light** Not Required but recommended by the Idaho Parks and Rec Department.
- **Muffler** Required and must reduce the exhaust to less than 96 decibels.
- **Spark Arrestor** Not Required.
- **Brakes** Not Required.
- **Other**

What is the Minimum Age to Operate an ATV in Idaho?

NA - § 49-302 - Idaho allows ATVs to be operated on private property with no age restriction, however operation on public/state land has very specific restrictions. ATVs which are registered for on-road use may only be operated by licensed riders (16 y/o). On public land, operators under the age of 16 must be supervised by an adult (within 300 ft) and have completed an ATV safety course approved by the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation.

Can I Drive my ATV on Public Roads in Idaho?

Yes - The state of Idaho allows ATVs to be registered for on-road use, but only if the ATV meets Federal Safety Guidelines and it is operated on roadways which have been permitted by local government. The ATV must be registered and have an in-date tag applied before operation. All rules of the road apply to ATVs operated on public roads.

Idaho ATV Rules of the Road

- **DUI/DWI** - It is illegal in every state to operate a motor vehicle on public roads or property while under the influence of alcohol. Most states also employ a zero tolerance approach to ATVs and more strict penalties for excessive blood alcohol concentrations (BAC).

STATE OF ILLINOIS ATV OPERATION

The following laws establish how an ATV may be legally operated within the state of Illinois, on both private and public/state owned property. While ATVs do have 4 wheels, they are designed for off-road use and typically do not meet federal safety guidelines. As such, the state created laws to limit their use and protect the public from accidents. Failure to abide by these laws will typically result in costlier fines and potentially jail time depending on the offense.

Illinois ATV Rules of the Road

- **Careless Operation** - ATVs may not be operated in a careless or headless manner which is grossly indifferent to persons or property.
- **Reckless Operation** - No person shall operate an ATV in a manner as to endanger the life, limb or property of any person.
- **Private Property** - It is illegal to operate an ATV on private property without the permission of the land owner.
- **Public Property not Permitted for ATV Use** - It is also illegal to operate an ATV on public property which has not been designated by a governing body.
- **Excessive Speed** - No person shall operate an ATV at a speed which is too fast for conditions.
- **Frozen Waters** - ATVs may not be operated within 100 feet of skaters, or people engaged in fishing, except at the minimum required speed to maintain forward movement.
- **Disturbing the Peace** - No person shall operate an ATV within 100 feet of a home between 12am and 6am, except at the minimum speed required to continue forward movement. This does not include private property in which you have been granted permission.
- **DUI/DWI** - It is illegal in every state to operate a motor vehicle on public roads or property while under the influence of alcohol. Most states also employ a zero tolerance approach to ATVs and more strict penalties for excessive blood alcohol concentrations (BAC).

What is the Minimum Age to Operate an ATV in Illinois?

NA - Illinois allows ATVs to be operated on private and public land with no age restriction. If the quad is operated lawfully on public roads, that rider must be at least 16 years old with a valid driver's license.

Can I Drive my ATV on Public Roads in Illinois?

No - § 11-1426.1 - Generally, it is illegal to operate an ATV on public roads in Illinois, unless authorized by a municipality. Township, county or other local government where the speed limit is less than 35 mph. If used on public roads, the ATV must also be covered under an automobile, atv, farm or other insurance policy.

ATVs may cross public roads, not including interstates or controlled access highway, at a 90 degree angle after the vehicle has come to a complete stop and yielded to all pedestrians and vehicles.

Required Equipment in Illinois

The following items are required by Illinois law to be installed upon an ATV or worn by an operator during use. If on-road use is permitted by local authorities, then ATVs must be in compliance with all requirements set forth by the Federal Safety Administration.

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| ■ Helmet | Not Required. |
| ■ Headlight(s) | Not Required. |
| ■ Tail Light | Not Required. |
| ■ Muffler | Not Required. |
| ■ Spark Arrestor | Not Required. |
| ■ Brakes | Required. |
| ■ Other | |

STATE OF INDIANA ATV OPERATION

The following laws establish how an ATV may be legally operated within the state of Indiana, on both private and public/state owned property. While ATVs do have 4 wheels, they are designed for off-road use and typically do not meet federal safety guidelines. As such, the state created laws to limit their use and protect the public from accidents. Failure to abide by these laws will typically result in costlier fines and potentially jail time depending on the offense.

Indiana ATV Rules of the Road

- **Reckless Operation** - No person shall operate an ATV in a manner as to endanger any property or person.
- **Private Property** - It is illegal to operate an ATV on private property without the permission of the land owner.
- **Excessive Speed** - No person shall operate an ATV at a speed which is too fast for conditions.
- **Slide, Ski, Skating Areas** - ATVs may not be operated within 100 feet of slides, and skiing/skating areas.
- **Disturbing the Peace** - No person shall operate an ATV in a manner as to endanger the life, limb or property of any person within 100 feet of a home between 12am and 6am, except at the minimum speed required to continue forward movement. This does not include private property in which you have been granted permission.
- **Railroad Tracks** - ATVs may not be operated on railroad tracks.
- **Cemetery** - It is illegal to operate an ATV on or across a cemetery or burial ground.
- **Nursery or Public Land** - ATVs may not be operated where growing plants or animals may be damaged.
- **Rivers, Streams and Creeks** - ATVs may not be operated in flowing water except to cross by the shortest possible route.
- **Loaded Firearms and Bows** - ATV operators may not carry a bow with an arrow nocked, or a firearm unless it is unloaded and securely encased or has a trigger lock.
- **DUI/DWI** - It is illegal in every state to operate a motor vehicle on public roads or property while under the influence of alcohol. Most states also employ a zero tolerance approach to ATVs and more strict penalties for excessive blood alcohol concentrations (BAC).

What is the Minimum Age to Operate an ATV in Indiana?

NA - § 14-16-1-20 - Indiana law allows ATVs to be operated by a person of any age while on private property owned or controlled by their parent or guardian. All other usage require riders 14 years or younger must be supervised by an adult 18 years or older. If an ATV is operated on a public road, the operator must have a valid driver's license.

Can I Drive my ATV on Public Roads in Indiana?

No - § 14-16-1-20 - Generally, it is illegal to operate an ATV on public roads in Indiana. State law however does allow ATVs to be operated on the right of way next to any roadway (other than limited use highways) when there is sufficient space to do so safely. ATVs may also cross roadways but only at a 90 degree angle and after yielding to all oncoming traffic. State law allows counties and cities to make their own laws related to ATV usage so its important you check with your local government body before riding.

Required Equipment in Indiana

The following items are required by Indiana law to be installed upon an ATV or worn by an operator during use. If on-road use is permitted by local authorities, then ATVs must be in compliance with all requirements set forth by the Federal Safety Administration.

- **Helmet** Required if operated by a rider under the age of 18 years old.
- **Headlight(s)** Required if operated between sunset and sunrise.
- **Tail Light** Required if operated between sunset and sunrise.
- **Muffler** Required.
- **Spark Arrestor** Not Required.
- **Brakes** Required and must slow the vehicle by 14 feet per second when driven on flat pavement from an initial speed of 20 mph.
- **Other**

STATE OF IOWA ATV OPERATION

The following laws establish how an ATV may be legally operated within the state of Iowa, on both private and public/state owned property. While ATVs do have 4 wheels, they are designed for off-road use and typically do not meet federal safety guidelines. As such, the state created laws to limit their use and protect the public from accidents. Failure to abide by these laws will typically result in costlier fines and potentially jail time depending on the offense.

Iowa ATV Rules of the Road

- **Reckless Operation** - No person shall operate an ATV in a manner as to endanger any property or person.
- **Private Property** - It is illegal to operate an ATV on private property without the permission of the land owner.
- **Excessive Speed** - No person shall operate an ATV at a speed which is too fast for conditions.
- **Slide, Ski, Skating Areas** - ATVs may not be operated within 100 feet of slides, and skiing/skating areas.
- **Railroad Tracks** - ATVs may not be operated on railroad tracks.
- **Nursery or Public Land** - ATVs may not be operated where growing plants or animals may be damaged.
- **Park, Wildlife area, or Streams** - ATVs may not be operated in any park, wildlife area, preserve, refuge, game management area, or any part of a stream.
- **Loaded Firearms** - Generally, ATV operators may not carry a loaded firearm unless it is holstered on the person and they have a carry permit.
- **DUI/DWI** - It is illegal in every state to operate a motor vehicle on public roads or property while under the influence of alcohol. Most states also employ a zero tolerance approach to ATVs and more strict penalties for excessive blood alcohol concentrations (BAC).

What is the Minimum Age to Operate an ATV in Iowa?

NA - § 321I.26 - ATVs operated on private or public property have no age requirements. However, operators under the age of 11 must have adult supervision while riding on state lands or roads. Operators between 12 and 17 years old may operate alone but only if they have completed an ATV education course approved by the state and have the certificate in their possession while riding.

Can I Drive my ATV on Public Roads in Iowa?

No - § 321.234A - ATVs shall not be operated on a roadway unless one or more of the following conditions apply:

- Between sunrise and sunset and the operation is incidental to the ATV's use for agriculture use.
- Operation by a licensed engineer or land surveyor while surveying.
- ATVs used to mow or maintain snowmobile and all-terrain trails.

State law does allow for counties or cities to create their own laws which can broaden or restrict ATV use on public roads. It is important you check with your local government before riding.

Required Equipment in Iowa

The following items are required by Iowa law to be installed upon an ATV or worn by an operator during use. If on-road use is permitted by local authorities, then ATVs must be in compliance with all requirements set forth by the Federal Safety Administration.

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| ■ Helmet | Not Required. |
| ■ Headlight(s) | Required if operated during hours of darkness. |
| ■ Tail Light | Required if operated during hours of darkness. |
| ■ Muffler | Required. |
| ■ Spark Arrestor | Not Required. |
| ■ Brakes | Required. |
| ■ Other | |

STATE OF KANSAS ATV OPERATION

The following laws establish how an ATV may be legally operated within the state of Kansas, on both private and public/state owned property. While ATVs do have 4 wheels, they are designed for off-road use and typically do not meet federal safety guidelines. As such, the state created laws to limit their use and protect the public from accidents. Failure to abide by these laws will typically result in costlier fines and potentially jail time depending on the offense.

Required Equipment in Kansas

The following items are required by Kansas law to be installed upon an ATV or worn by an operator during use. If on-road use is permitted by local authorities, then ATVs must be in compliance with all requirements set forth by the Federal Safety Administration.

- **Helmet** Not Required.
- **Headlight(s)** Not Required.
- **Tail Light** Not Required.
- **Muffler** Not Required.
- **Spark Arrestor** Not Required.
- **Brakes** Not Required.
- **Other** If the ATV is operated on any roadways the following equipment is needed – headlights, tail lights, brakes, muffler, turn signals, mirrors, and horn.

What is the Minimum Age to Operate an ATV in Kansas?

NA - There are no laws in Kansas which restricts the age at which an ATV may be operated.

Can I Drive my ATV on Public Roads in Kansas?

No - § 8-15,100 - It is illegal to operate an ATV on any inter-state highway, federal highway or state highway; or within any city limits, unless permitted by that city. Check with your local government before operating your ATV on any roadways.

Kansas ATV Rules of the Road

- **Excessive Speed** - No person shall operate an ATV at a speed which exceeds the posted limit on public or state lands.
- **Authorized Land** - ATVs may only be operated on marked trails or roads while within state parks or land.
- **DUI/DWI** - It is illegal in every state to operate a motor vehicle on public roads or property while under the influence of alcohol. Most states also employ a zero tolerance approach to ATVs and more strict penalties for excessive blood alcohol concentrations (BAC).

STATE OF KENTUCKY ATV OPERATION

The following laws establish how an ATV may be legally operated within the state of Kentucky, on both private and public/state owned property. While ATVs do have 4 wheels, they are designed for off-road use and typically do not meet federal safety guidelines. As such, the state created laws to limit their use and protect the public from accidents. Failure to abide by these laws will typically result in costlier fines and potentially jail time depending on the offense.

Required Equipment in Kentucky

The following items are required by Kentucky law to be installed upon an ATV or worn by an operator during use. If on-road use is permitted by local authorities, then ATVs must be in compliance with all requirements set forth by the Federal Safety Administration.

- **Helmet** Required for riders under 16 years old.
- **Headlight(s)** Required if operated on public roads.
- **Tail Light** Required if operated on public roads.
- **Muffler** Not Required.
- **Spark Arrestor** Not Required.
- **Brakes** Not Required.
- **Other**

What is the Minimum Age to Operate an ATV in Kentucky?

NA - § 189.515 - Kentucky lawmakers do not limit the age at which an ATV may be operated, but they do limit the engine displacement. Minors under the age of 12 may not operate an ATV with an engine displacement which exceeds 70cc, and minors under the age of 16 may not operate an ATV over 90cc. All minors under 16 must also have parental supervision while riding.

Can I Drive my ATV on Public Roads in Kentucky?

No - § 189.515 - Generally, Kentucky law prohibits the use of ATVs on public roads however they do allow for cities or townships to enact their own laws which allow the use of ATVs on certain roads. It is also legal to operate an ATV in Kentucky on public roads if the ATV is engaged in farm or agricultural related activities, construction, road maintenance, or snow removal. Compliance with all traffic laws applies to ATVs which can be legally operated on a public roadway, including the requirement of a driver's license. Any ATV may cross a roadway during daytime hours, at a 90 degree angle, and for no longer than 2/10s of a mile.

Kentucky ATV Rules of the Road

- **Private Property** - No person shall operate an ATV on private property without the express permission of the land owner.
- **Public Property** - A person shall not operate an all-terrain vehicle on public property unless the governmental agency responsible for the property has approved the use of all-terrain vehicles.
- **DUI/DWI** - It is illegal in every state to operate a motor vehicle on public roads or property while under the influence of alcohol. Most states also employ a zero tolerance approach to ATVs and more strict penalties for excessive blood alcohol concentrations (BAC).

STATE OF LOUISIANA ATV OPERATION

How does Louisiana define an ATV?

Louisiana defines an ATV or All-Terrain Vehicle as an off-road vehicle (not legal for highway use) with factory specifications not to exceed the following: weight – 750 lbs; length – 85 inches; width – 48 inches. ATV tires are restricted to those no larger than 26 x 12 with a maximum 1-inch lug height and a maximum allowable tire pressure of 12 psi as indicated on the tire by the manufacturer.

Age Requirements for ATVs?

NA - Louisiana state law does not list an age requirement to operate ATVs on private property. However, children under the age of 18 should be supervised by an adult when operating ATVs on public lands.

Where are you permitted to operate an ATV in Louisiana?

■ Public Roads

With the exception of road and highways located in Orleans Parish, you may ride an ATV on the shoulders of all public roads or highways, except interstate highways, during daylight hours starting thirty minutes after sunrise and ending thirty minutes before sunset. You may also cross public roads or highways as needed.

■ State Parks

You may only operate an ATV within a Louisiana State Park if it has been properly licensed by the appropriate regulatory agencies.

Within Louisiana State Parks, ATVs may only be operated on those roads, lanes, or byways designated for vehicular park traffic unless otherwise authorized by the site manager. Likewise, ATVs may only be parked in designated parking areas unless otherwise authorized by the site manager.

Unless otherwise posted, you may not exceed 15 miles per hour while riding an ATV in a State Park.

You are not permitted to clean, service or repair an ATV on state park property except in emergency situations and in designated areas.

STATE OF LOUISIANA ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

■ Louisiana Trail Markings

The following markings are used to mark ATV trails in Louisiana:

- Entrances to ATV trails will be marked with peach colored paint.
- Entrances to ATV trails will be marked with orange colored paint.
- Entrances to Physically Challenged Only trails will be marked with blue colored paint.
- Entrances to ATV trails that are open year-round will be marked with purple paint.
- The end of all trails will be marked with red paint.

■ Wildlife Management Areas

Every Wildlife Management Area in Louisiana is required to have at least one all-terrain vehicle trail open throughout the year, except when weather or other conditions render the use of the trail a public safety or an environmental hazard.

To be able to use the year-round all-terrain vehicle trails in Wildlife Management Areas, you must possess a WMA permit.

■ ATV Trails for Physically Challenged Persons

Louisiana has special ATV trails for physically challenged persons. The use of these trails is restricted to those holding ATV physically challenged permits, and to people 60 years of age or older may also, with proof of age. If you are under the age of 60 and wish to use these trails, you must apply for and obtain a Physically Challenged Hunter Program Permit from LDWF.

STATE OF MAINE ATV OPERATION

How does Maine define an ATV?

Maine defines an ATV or “All-terrain vehicle” as a motor- driven, off-road, recreational vehicle capable of cross-country travel on land, snow, ice, marsh, swampland or other natural terrain.

“All-terrain vehicle” or ATV includes, but is not limited to, a multi-track, multiwheel or low-pressure tire vehicle; a motorcycle or related 2-wheel, 3-wheel or belt-driven vehicle; an amphibious machine; or other means of transportation deriving motive power from a source other than muscle or wind.

Age Restrictions for Operating an ATV in Maine

Maine has the following restrictions regarding the age of ATV operators riding on any land that is not owned or leased by their parents or guardians.

- A person under 10 years of age may not operate an ATV in Maine.
- A person aged 10 years to 15 years of age may not operate an ATV unless that person has successfully completed an approved training course.
- Any person under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult when operating an ATV.
- It is unlawful for any person to permit an unaccompanied youth under the age of 16 to operate an ATV.
- Any operator or passenger of an ATV is required to wear a protective helmet.

Required Equipment

The following equipment is required on all ATVs in Maine:

- For any ATV operated between sunset and sunrise, there must be mounted on the front at least one headlight capable of casting a white beam for a distance of at least 100 feet directly ahead of the vehicle.
- For any ATV operated between sunset and sunrise, there must be mounted on the rear at least one taillight capable of displaying a light that must be visible at a distance of at least 100 feet behind the ATV.
- Your ATV must be equipped with an operable muffler that has not been modified, and reduces emitted noise to 96 db or lower.
- Your ATV must have a working spark arrester.

While you are required to have the above equipment, you are not permitted to have a snorkel on your ATV unless you are operating on private land.

STATE OF MAINE ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Where are you permitted to operate an ATV in Maine?

Before operating an ATV on private land in Maine, you must have the express permission of the landowner. While operating on private land, you are required to stop and identify yourselves at the request of the landowner.

You are not permitted to operate an ATV on a designated snowmobile trail unless an emergency exists. This does not apply to an ATV with tracks that has been registered as a snowmobile.

Likewise, you may not operate an ATV on railroad tracks, unless they have been abandoned.

Are you permitted to operate an ATV on public streets in Maine?

You may not operate an ATV upon a controlled access highway or within the right-of-way limits of a controlled access highway in Maine, except within the following exceptions:

- You may cross controlled access highways by use of bridges over or roads under those highways or by use of roads crossing controlled access highways at grade.
- You may cross a controlled access highway where the Commissioner of Transportation has issued a special permit to do so.

- You may operate a registered ATV within the right-of-way limits of a controlled access highway on a trail segment approved by the Commissioner of Transportation or the board of directors of the Maine Turnpike Authority, as applicable.

ATV operation is generally prohibited on any public street in Maine. Notwithstanding, you may ride an ATV a necessary distance, but in no case to exceed 500 yards, on the extreme right of the street for the purpose of crossing, as directly as possible, a public way, bridge, overpass, underpass, sidewalk or culvert as long as that operation can be made safely and does not interfere with traffic approaching from either direction.

An ATV may also be operated on a public way or street in the following circumstances.

- You may operate an ATV on a public way that is not maintained or used for the operation of conventional motor vehicles, except that operation on the left side of the street is prohibited during the hours from sunset to sunrise.
- You may operate an ATV on the streets and public ways during a declared period of emergency when travel by conventional motor vehicles is not practicable.
- An ATV may be operated on streets and public ways in special events of limited duration conducted according to a prearranged schedule under a permit from the governmental unit having jurisdiction.

STATE OF MAINE ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

- An ATV may be operated on a public way on the extreme right of the traveled way by a law enforcement officer for the sole purpose of traveling between the place where the ATV is usually stored and an area to be patrolled by the law enforcement officer.
- An ATV may be operated on the extreme right of a public way, or as directed by the appropriate governmental unit within the public way, of a municipality or an unorganized or unincorporated township if the appropriate governmental unit has designated the public way as an ATV-access route designated by highly visible signs at regular intervals.

Where operation of an ATV is permitted on a public street or right of way, the operator of such a vehicle must always bring the ATV to a complete stop before entering a public way. They must also yield the right-of-way to all other types of vehicular traffic while operating an ATV on a public way.

Other Regulations:

- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in such a way as to recklessly create a substantial risk of serious bodily injury to another person.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV as to endanger any person or property.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV except at a reasonable and prudent speed for the existing conditions.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV within 200 feet of a dwelling, hospital, nursing home, convalescent home, or church, unless you are legally operating on a public street, on private land, or on a frozen body of water.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV wherein you tear down or destroy another's fence, leave open a gate or bars on another's land, trample or destroy crops of another, or remove or destroy signs or posted notices.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV on a salt marsh, intertidal zone, marine sand beach, sand dune or any cemetery, burial place or burying ground.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV on alpine tundra, on a freshwater marsh or bog, river brook stream, pond, non-forested wetland or vernal pool, unless the ground is frozen or sufficiently covered with snow to prevent direct damage to the vegetation.
- A parent or guardian is responsible for any violations of Maine ATV laws by a minor under their care.

STATE OF MARYLAND ATV OPERATION

Where can you ride an ATV in Maryland?

ATV use is generally prohibited on any forest or park trail, unless they meet one of the following exceptions:

- Earth-moving, construction, or logging equipment;
- ATVs used for the development, maintenance, management, or protection of Department lands; or
- ATVs used by individuals and their guests with easements for rights-of-way through public land to provide access to private properties.

Notwithstanding the general prohibition on ATV operation on public land, several trails have been designated for the use of ATVs on public land in Maryland.

ATV Equipment Requirements in Maryland

ATVs being operated on public lands in Maryland, must be equipped with the following:

- At least one headlight and one red tail light that are operational between sundown and sunrise.
- A braking system adequate to control the movement and to stop and hold the vehicle under all operating conditions.

- A muffler or other effective noise suppression system in good working order that is:
 - In constant operation.
 - Maintained and operated in a manner to prevent excessive or unusual noise.
- The operator of an ATV is required to wear a helmet.
- The operator of an ATV is required to wear eye protection.

Youth Regulations for ATVs in Maryland

The following regulations apply to the operation of ATVs by youth on public land in Maryland.

- Youth aged 12 years old or older, that do not possess a driver's license, must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian who is the holder of and has in their possession a valid driver's license.

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS ATV OPERATION

The following abstract summarizes some important Massachusetts recreation vehicle laws.

Age Restrictions

- No person under 18 years of age shall operate a recreation vehicle unless he has successfully completed an approved recreation vehicle safety and responsibility course.
- No person under the age of 16½ shall operate a recreation vehicle across a public way unless directly supervised by an adult (18 years of age or older). The public way and the crossing must be marked and approved for recreation vehicle use.
- No person between 14 - 16 years of age shall operate an all-terrain vehicle or a recreation utility vehicle with an engine capacity greater than 90 cubic centimeters. When operating such vehicles 90 cubic centimeters or less, persons between 14 - 16 years of age must be directly supervised by an adult.
- No person between 10 - 14 years of age shall operate a recreation vehicle unless directly supervised by an adult while in preparation for, or while participating in, a sanctioned race, rally, or organized event which has been approved by a municipal permitting authority. If operating an all-terrain vehicle or a recreation utility vehicle, engine capacity must be equal to or less than 90 cubic centimeters.

Rules for Youth ATV Riders

Youth under the age of 14 are not permitted to operate an ATV in Massachusetts. The only exception is for those aged 10-14 who are under the direct supervision of an adult during participation in or preparation for a sanctioned race, rally or event. Additionally, there are some stringent requirements for those aged 14-17 who can operate an ATV.

For anyone operating an ATV in Massachusetts that is under the age of 18, they are required to complete an approved OHV safety course and carry the Massachusetts OHV Safety Certificate when riding on public lands. If the rider is under 16, the safety course includes one mandatory session to be attended by the rider's parent or guardian.

Even with the required OHV education and training requirements, all riders who are under 16 and a half are not permitted to operate an ATV across a public way unless directly supervised by an adult.

For riders aged 14 to 16, they must be directly supervised by an adult at all times, and they are not permitted to operate an ATV vehicle with an engine capacity greater than 90 cc (cubic centimeters).

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Prohibited Operation

The following are some examples of prohibited operation:

- Operating under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Operating on public ways or upon or across a controlled access highway.
- Failure to come to a complete stop when crossing an approved public way (must yield to motor vehicle traffic).
- Operating at an unreasonable, improper, or unsafe speed for existing conditions.
- Operating on land of another without written permission of the owner.
- Operating within 150 feet of a residence without permission of the owner.
- Operating a vehicle which emits noxious fumes or makes excessive noise.
- Operating in a manner that causes damage to public or private property.
- Operating on an ocean beach or sand dune in a manner so as to destroy, damage or break down any beach, dune or dune grass.
- Operating in a manner so as to harass or chase wildlife or domestic animals.
- Operating on any public property not designated for recreation vehicle use.

Required Equipment

All riders and passengers on an ATV in Massachusetts are required to wear a securely fastened DOT-approved helmet. Additionally, each ATV must be equipped with one or more headlights, a red rear light and a red rear reflector.

Additional safety equipment is not mandatory, but the Massachusetts Environmental Police Boat and Recreational Vehicle Safety Bureau strongly encourages all ATV operators to wear eye protection, gloves and over-the-ankle boots.

All ATVs in Massachusetts must also be equipped with an adequate braking system, a spark arrestor and a muffler designed to keep noise below 96dbA (101 dbA if vehicle manufactured before 1998).

Where can you ride ATVs in Massachusetts?

ATVs may only be operated on designated trails during daylight hours. The selected trails are marked by trailhead signage with orange or yellow trail blazes. ATVs that weigh over 1,000 pounds are not permitted on any trails at any time.

STATE OF MICHIGAN ATV OPERATION

How does Michigan define an ATV?

Michigan defines an ATV as “a 3- or 4-wheeled vehicle designed for off-road use that has low pressure tires, has a seat designed to be straddled by the rider, and is powered by a 50cc to 500cc gasoline engine or an engine of comparable size using other fuels.”

An ATV also fits the definition of ORV, which is the termination controlled by Michigan law. ORV is defined as a “motor driven off-road recreation vehicle capable of cross-country travel without benefit of a road or trail, on or immediately over land, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other natural terrain.

License and Permit

In addition to titling your ATV in Michigan, you must license the machine with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) if it will be used on public lands in Michigan. While non-residents are not required to title their ATV, they are required to license it if they are riding in Michigan.

Your ORV license must be displayed and visible at all times. You are required to place the ORV license on a flat metal surface, a bumper, or a plate permanently attached to the rear of your ATV.

Youth ATV Requirements in Michigan

- Youth riders under the age of 16 must complete a safety education requirement. The safety education certificate must be carried by the operator at all times he or she is operating an ATV.
- No one under the age of 16 may operate any 3 wheel ATV.
- No one under the age of 10 may operate an ATV unless they are on private land and performing farm-related work operations.
- Youth aged 10 and 11 years old may operate an ATV if they possess a valid ORV safety certificate and they are on land owned by the child’s parent or guardian under the direct visual supervision* of an adult.
- Youth aged 12 to 15 years old may operate an ATV only if they possess a valid ORV safety certificate and they are under the direct visual supervision* of an adult.
- Youth under the age of 12 may not cross any street, highway or county road while operating an ATV.

*Direct visual supervision means having direct observation with the unaided or normally corrected eye and being close enough to come to the immediate aid of an ATV operator.

STATE OF MICHIGAN ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Required ATV Equipment in Michigan

- In Michigan, all ATV operators and passengers are required to wear a helmet.
- If your helmet is not equipped with a face guard, you are required to wear goggles.
- A braking system in good working condition that operates by either hand or foot.
- A throttle system designed to return the engine speed to idle automatically and immediately when pressure is released.
- A U.S. Forest Service–approved spark arrestor.
- A muffler in good working condition.
- Every passenger must be seated in seating designed and manufactured for a passenger.
- If the ATV is operated during the hours of one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise, it must display a headlight, taillight and brake light.

Can you operate an ATV on paved streets in Michigan?

Michigan roads, streets, and highways that are maintained for year-round automobile travel are generally closed to ATV operation, including the shoulder and the right-of-way.

The exceptions to this are roadways governed by locally enacted ordinances that permit ORV use, or if you have registered your ATV as a motor vehicle with the Secretary of State.

Other Regulations:

- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in such a way as to create an erosive condition.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV under the influence of drugs or alcohol. If you are operating an ATV, you are legally considered to have consented to chemical tests of blood, breath or urine for blood alcohol levels.
- Open containers of alcoholic beverages may not be transported in or upon an ATV unless in a trunk or compartment separate from the passenger compartment of the vehicle.
- You may not operate an ATV if your driver's license has been suspended.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in a manner that damages trees or crops.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in a cemetery.

STATE OF MICHIGAN ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

- It is unlawful to operate an ATV at an airport.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV within 100 feet of a dwelling at a speed greater than the minimum speed necessary for controlled forward movement except when operating on private property or on designated routes, trails, areas, or access routes.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV on a railroad.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV at a rate of speed greater than is reasonable and proper based on existing conditions.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in a manner that leaves behind litter or debris.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV with an uncased strung bow or an uncased loaded firearm unless the firearm is a pistol, and you have a Concealed Pistol License.
- It is unlawful to carry passengers on an ATV that is not designed to carry said passengers.

STATE OF MINNESOTA ATV OPERATION

How does Minnesota classify ATVs?

Minnesota defines an ATV as a vehicle that has “at least three, but no more than six, low pressure or non pneumatic tires (not filled with or containing compressed air) with a total dry weight less than 2,000 pounds and a total width from outside of tire rim to outside of tire rim that is 65 inches or less.”

Minnesota further breaks ATVs into two categories. Class 1 ATVs are basically your standard ATV and Class 2 ATVs are UTVs, but the full definitions are below.

An ATV with a total width of 50 inches or less is classified as a Class 1 ATV.

An ATV with a total width greater than 50 inches (but not more than 65 inches) wide is classified as a Class 2 ATV.

Are you required to take a safety course to ride an ATV in Minnesota?

If you were born after July 1, 1987, Minnesota law requires you to complete an approved ATV safety course. After you have completed your safety course, you will receive a safety certificate, which you must carry whenever you are riding an ATV on Minnesota’s public lands.

Equipment Requirements for ATVs in Minnesota

The following equipment is required whenever your ATV is operated on public land or streets.

- Operable brakes.
- A throttle that returns the engine to idle when pressure is removed.
- A muffler, with spark arrester, that keeps noise below 96 db from 20 inches.

Youth Requirements for ATV Riders in Minnesota

The following restrictions apply to youth operators of ATVs in Minnesota.

- Children under the age of 10 are only permitted to operate an ATV on private property with the landowner’s consent. They are also limited to operating a Class 1 ATV.
- Children ages 10 and 11 can operate a Class 1 ATV on private property with the permission of the landowner. They can also operate on public lands and frozen water of Minnesota ONLY if the ATV has an engine of 110 cc or less AND they are accompanied by a parent or guardian. The same rule applies to an ATV with side by side seating up to 170 cc.
- Children under the age of 12 may not operate on or cross a public road.

STATE OF MINNESOTA ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

- Children aged 12-15 may only operate a Class 1 ATV.
- Children aged 12-15 can operate an ATV on public lands and frozen waters of Minnesota ONLY if accompanied by an adult on a separate ATV who holds a valid driver's license.
- Children under the age of 16 must have permission of a parent or guardian to operate an ATV.
- Children aged 16 and 17 must have a valid driver's license when operating on a road.
- Children under the age of 18 are required to wear a securely fastened helmet when riding.
- Children under the age of 18 are required to have adequate eye protection, which means a face shield on your helmet or goggles.
- Children aged 12 to 17 are not permitted to carry a passenger on a Class 1 ATV unless the passenger is the child's parent or legal guardian.
- Children under the age of 15 may not operate a Class 2 ATV on any lands.
- Children aged 15 must be accompanied by parent or guardian while operating a Class 2 ATV.
- Children aged 15 or older may operate a Class 2 ATV only on the right shoulder or extreme right side of a public road and they must be accompanied by a parent or guardian on a separate ATV.

- For a passenger under the age of 18, you must wear a helmet and, if applicable, a seat belt.

ATV Fit Requirements for Youth Riders

Minnesota has specific fit requirements that determine what size of an ATV a youth may operate. These requirements apply to riders under the age of 16 to ensure they can properly reach and control the handlebars and reach the foot pegs while sitting upright on the ATV.

Seat Clearance

When the rider is standing on the the foot rests, there must be a minimum of 3 inches between the the seat and the top inseam of the rider's pants.

Upper Legs

While the rider is seated on the ATV, their upper legs should be horizontal or parallel to the foot rests.

Arm Length

While the rider sits upright on the ATV and grips the handlebars, there should be a distinct bend at the rider's elbows.

Hand Size

While the rider is sitting on the ATV and gripping the handlebars, they should be able to extend their fingers to the brake lever such that the first joint on the index finger extends beyond the brake lever.

STATE OF MINNESOTA ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Riding an ATV on Public Streets in Minnesota

There are areas where operating an ATV on public streets is permitted. In those situations, a valid driver's license with a motorcycle endorsement is required. However, children aged 12-15 may operate an ATV on a roadway if they possess a safety certificate and are accompanied by a parent or guardian on a separate ATV.

When operating on a public road, your ATV must be equipped with a headlight, tail light, and brakes. You must also be wearing goggles or other eye protection.

Other than grant-in-aid trails, ATV operation is prohibited on public roads in the agricultural zone from April 1 to August 1 unless they are registered exclusively for agricultural use. The agricultural zone is the part of the state south and west of the following highways: starting at the North Dakota border, east along U.S. Highway 10 to State Highway 23, then Highway 23 east to State Highway 95 to the Wisconsin border.

Other ATV Regulations in Minnesota

- It is unlawful to operate an ATV while under the influence of drugs or alcohol. If you are convicted of a DWI in Minnesota, you will lose your ATV operating privileges for one year.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in a careless, reckless or negligent manner that endangers another person or property.
- It is unlawful to litter from an ATV.
- It is unlawful to enter or leave lands by cutting wire or tearing down a fence.
- It is unlawful to mutilate, destroy, damage or remove any property within a trail or on state land.
- It is unlawful to post, damage or remove any signs on any lands or waters unless you are the landowner, occupant or lessee of the property.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in a manner that will upset the natural and ecological balance of a wetland or public waters wetland.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in a manner that will impact a wetland or public waters wetland in excess of minimum amounts established by law.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV on forest lands in a manner that causes erosion or rutting unless you are on a designated trail.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV on or over lakes, rivers or streams unless the body of water is covered by ice or you cross at a bridge, culvert or designated low water crossing.
- It is unlawful in Minnesota to knowingly tamper with your ATVs odometer with the intent to defraud by reflecting a lower mileage than the true mileage.

STATE OF MINNESOTA ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

- Minnesota requires you to report to the DNR License Center within 15 days any registered off highway vehicle that is abandoned, stolen or destroyed.
- If your ATV is equipped with headlights and tail lights, and they must be turned on during operation.
- If you are riding on a frozen body of water within 100 feet of another person (does not include someone on an ATV) or a shelter, you are limited to 10 mph.
- Your ATV may not be equipped with a snorkel device that has a raised air intake 6 inches or more above the manufacturer's original air intake unless you are riding the Iron Range OHV State Recreation Area and other designated public OHV recreation areas.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI ATV OPERATION

How does Mississippi define an ATV?

Mississippi defines an “All-terrain vehicle” or “ATV” as “any motorized vehicle manufactured and designed exclusively for off-road use that is fifty (50) inches or less in width; has an unladen dry weight of one thousand (1,000) pounds or less; and travels on three (3), four (4) or more nonhighway tires.”

Are you required to have a driver’s license to operate an ATV in Mississippi?

To operate an ATV on any public land, you must have either a driver’s license or possess a certificate showing successful completion of an approved ATV safety course.

Youth Regulations for ATVs in Mississippi

- No person may operate any off-road vehicle upon any public property in this state unless each person under sixteen (16) years of age who is operating or riding on the off-road vehicle is wearing a crash helmet that complies with minimum guidelines established by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration pursuant to the federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 218 (49 CFR 571.218) for helmets designed for use by motorcyclists.
- Any youth under the age of 6 is not permitted to operate an ATV in a State park.

Can you make your ATV street legal in Mississippi?

Having a street legal ATV is going to depend on whether your county will let you register your ATV as a motor vehicle. As a starting point, you will want to get a certificate of title. You will also have to make some modifications to ensure you have seat belts, if possible, and head lights, taillights, turn signals, brake lights, a horn and DOT-approved tires.

STATE OF MISSOURI ATV OPERATION

How does Missouri define an ATV?

Missouri defines an ATV or all-terrain vehicle as “any motorized vehicle manufactured and used exclusively for off-highway use which is 50 inches or less in width, with an unladen dry weight of 1,500 pounds or less, traveling on 3, 4, or more non-highway tires.”

Where are you permitted to ride an ATV in Missouri?

It is generally unlawful to operate an ATV on public streets in Missouri except those used by the government or those used for agricultural use between sunrise and sunset. Local authorities can also enact ordinances or regulations permitting ATV use on public streets.

Those permitted to operate on public roads in Missouri must possess a valid operator’s license and refrain from exceeding 30 miles per hour.

If you are legally operating or driving an ATV upon the highways of Missouri, you are required to observe and comply with the rules of the road.

To operate an ATV on private property, you must first obtain permission from the owner of the property. When operating an ATV on someone else’s property, you must stop and identify yourself upon request of the landowner, and, if requested by the landowner, shall remove your ATV from the property.

ATV use is also prohibited in the following areas:

- In any stream or river unless the waterway is within the boundaries of land owned by the operator or permission has been granted by the property owner.
- On or across Railroad tracks and the property on which they lie.

Youth Regulations

There is no minimum age requirement to operate an ATV in Missouri, although there are some restrictions. No person under the age of 16 shall operate an ATV in Missouri unless he or she is accompanied by or under the direct supervision of a parent or guardian or an adult who is authorized by the parent or guardian. This age restriction does not apply on private land owned by the operator’s parent or guardian. No person under the age of 18 is permitted to operate an ATV unless they are wearing a securely fastened helmet.

STATE OF MISSOURI ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Required ATV Equipment

Every ATV in Missouri is required to be equipped with the following:

- A head lamp and tail lamp that must be illuminated whenever the ATV is operated on any street or highway.
- A slow-moving equipment emblem mounted on the rear of the ATV if it is being operated on any street or highway.
- A bicycle flag, extending at least seven feet above the ground, attached to the rear of the ATV when it is being operated on any street or highway.
- An adequate muffler system.
- A U.S. Forest Service-qualified spark arrester.
- A brake system in good operating condition.

Other Regulations

- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in a careless way as to endanger the person or property of another.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV while under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV with a passenger, except for agricultural purposes.

STATE OF MONTANA ATV OPERATION

What machines are covered by Montana OHV Laws?

Montana defines OHV (Off-Highway Vehicle) as a self-propelled vehicle used for recreation or cross-country travel on public lands, trails, easements, lakes, rivers or streams. This includes ATVs.

Youth ATV Regulations

For children aged 12-16, a Safety Certificate is required and must be accompanied by a licensed operator over the age of 18. To get a Safety Certificate, you must successfully complete an online or hands-on safety education course.

Required Safety Gear

For operators aged 18 and over, Montana does not require you to wear specific safety gear; however, it is recommended to always wear a helmet, goggles, gloves and boots.

Required Equipment

In Montana, you are required to have the following equipment:

- State-approved muffler that tests at 96 db or less.
- Spark arrester.

Where are you permitted to ride an ATV in Montana?

On public lands, you are limited to riding ATVs on trails designated for OHV use. You are not permitted to ride cross-country in Montana. For information about trail riding areas contact the local Forest Service or BLM office for a Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM).

Off-highway vehicle operation is permitted on the roadway or shoulder of any public road or highway, state highway, county road, or city street located within the boundaries of any municipality only if:

- The operator has received permission or is otherwise authorized for that travel by the municipality in the case of town or city streets, the board of county commissioners for county roads, or the state highway patrol for all other highways.
- Operation is authorized on municipal streets by municipal ordinance.

Operation of an ATV under the above conditions is only permissible if it is equipped with at least one headlight and one taillight, which must be illuminated at all times, and an operable braking system. The operator must also have a valid driver's license or, if the operator is 12-15 years old, possess a certificate showing successful completion of an off-highway vehicle safety education course approved by the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. Youth operators must also be in the physical presence of a person who possesses a driver's license at the time of operation.

STATE OF MONTANA ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Can you make your ATV street legal in Montana?

Public streets in Montana includes all city streets, county roads, and U.S. Forest Service system roads. BLM roads are not classified as public roads. ATV use is permitted on BLM Roads; the ATVs do not have to be street legal and the operator is not required to have a license.

You can operate an ATV on public streets in Montana if you have made your vehicle street legal. This process requires your ATV to be equipped with a mirror, horn, headlight, and brake lights.

To ride an ATV on the street, it must be registered as a motor vehicle and display a proper license plate. The operator must also have a valid driver's license.

You may not carry a passenger on the street unless it is designed to carry said passenger. Anyone under the age of 18 must also wear a helmet.

STATE OF NEBRASKA ATV OPERATION

How does Nebraska define an ATV?

Nebraska defines an ATV as “any motorized off-highway vehicle which is 50 inches or less in width; has a dry weight of 1200 pounds or less; travels on 3 or more non-highway tires; and is designed for operator use only with no passengers, or is specifically designed by the original manufacturer for the operator and one passenger.”

Youth ATV Age Restrictions

NA - State of Nebraska does not restrict the age at which a person can operate an ATV.

ATV Requirements in Nebraska

Every ATV in Nebraska must be equipped with the following:

- A headlight and taillight, which must be illuminated during the period of time from sunset to sunrise and at any time when visibility is reduced due to insufficient light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions.
- A brake system maintained in good operating condition.
- An adequate muffler system in good working condition.
- A United States Forest Service qualified spark arrester.

It is unlawful to operate an ATV in Nebraska with any of the following modifications:

- A cutout, bypass, or similar device on the exhaust system.
- An otherwise modified exhaust system.
- Spark arresters that have been modified or removed.

Where to ride ATVs in Nebraska?

ATV use is permitted only on public land where designated. ATV use has been designated in the following areas:

- Bessey Ranger District
- Pine Ridge Ranger District
- McKelvie National Forest
- Harlan County Reservoir OHV Area

Can you make your ATV street legal in Nebraska?

Nebraska considers ATVs as off-road vehicles. An ATV may not be operated on any controlled-access highway with more than two marked traffic lanes.

The crossing of a two-lane or larger highway may only be done on an ATV as follows:

- You must cross at an angle of approximately 90 degrees to the direction of the highway and at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing.

STATE OF NEBRASKA ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

- You must come to a complete stop before crossing the shoulder or roadway of the highway.
- You must yield the right-of-way to all oncoming traffic that constitutes an immediate potential hazard.
- If you are crossing a divided highway, you can only cross at an intersection of the highway with another highway.
- Your headlight and taillight must be on when the crossing is made.

ATVs may be operated on streets that don't include controlled-access highways with more than two marked traffic lanes in the following locations:

- Outside the corporate limits of a city, village, or unincorporated village if incidental to the vehicle's use for agricultural purposes.
- Within the corporate limits of a city or village if authorized by the city or village by ordinance adopted in accordance with this section.
- Within an unincorporated village if authorized by the county board of the county in which the unincorporated village is located by resolution in accordance with this section.

Where ATV use is permitted on public streets as identified above, the following conditions must be adhered to:

- ATVs may only be operated between the hours of sunrise and sunset.
- You must have a valid Class O operator's license or a farm permit.
- You must have liability insurance coverage for the ATV.
- You cannot operate the ATV at a speed in excess of 30 miles per hour.
- You must have an illuminated headlight and taillight on the ATV.
- Your ATV must be equipped with a bicycle safety flag which extends not less than five feet above ground and which is attached to the rear of such vehicle. The bicycle safety flag shall be triangular in shape with an area of not less than 30 square inches and shall be day-glow in color.

If you are uncertain where an ATV can be operated in your area, contact your local city Police Department or County Sheriff's Office.

ATVs which have been modified or retrofitted with after-market parts to include additional equipment other than headlights, taillights, brake systems, muffler systems, or a spark arrester shall not be registered, nor shall such modified or retrofitted vehicles be eligible for registration in any other category of vehicle.

STATE OF NEVADA ATV OPERATION

Is there a minimum age to operate an ATV in Nevada?

Yes. To operate a full-size ATV, you must be 16 years old. For children under 16, the age limits are based upon certain restricted speeds. Due to this, you have to look at the age restriction for your specific ATV.

Are you required to wear a helmet while operating an ATV?

In Nevada, the operator of an ATV is required to wear a helmet on the highway, which is defined as the entire width between the boundary lines of every public way maintained by a public agency. There is no legal requirement to wear a helmet if you are not the operator of the ATV.

Are you permitted to ride an ATV on public roads in Nevada?

You generally cannot operate an ATV on public streets in Nevada. There are some exceptions; however, in certain areas where the governing agency permits ATV use on roads by licensed drivers. You should check for details with your local agency or municipality to see where you are permitted to ride as well as the registration and licensing requirements.

Are you required to take a safety course to operate an ATV in Nevada?

No. You are not required to take any kind of safety course before you are permitted to operate an ATV in Nevada.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE ATV OPERATION

Do you need a driver's license to operate an ATV?

All operators 12 years of age or older must have in their possession while riding either an OHRV Safety Education Certificate or a valid driver's license. This requirement is not limited to just public land and extends to private rights of way as well. If your driver's license is under suspension or revocation in any state or Canadian Province, you are not permitted to operate an ATV in New Hampshire.

Are minors allowed to operate an ATV?

Yes, but all operators 12 years of age or older must have in their possession while riding either a valid driver's license or an OHRV Safety Education Certificate. If the operator is under the age of 12, they may not cross any roads. Any operator under the age of 14 must be accompanied by a licensed adult over the age of 18. There are also certain restrictions when it comes to minors. For example, an operator under the age of 18 cannot carry a passenger on an ATV.

Where are you permitted to ride your ATV?

You are permitted to ride an ATV on private land and designated trails on public land in New Hampshire. Operation of ATVs on public roads is prohibited unless specifically permitted and posted for OHRV use. Permitted uses of public roads included road crossings and trail connectors, but the speed limit is limited to 10 MPH in such areas and must be operated on the extreme right of the public road.

There are roughly 1,200 miles of trails in New Hampshire that are open for summertime riding. You are only permitted to ride on trails designated by sign for your type of vehicle. The New Hampshire Bureau of Trails prints statewide OHRV Trail maps. Local trail maps are printed and distributed by local clubs. Riding in wetlands is strictly prohibited, and violators can be fined up to \$10,000 in addition to the cost of restoring any damages that resulted from their riding.

To ride on private land, other than your own, written permission from the landowner is required. A tricky place people get confused sometimes is on dirt roads and paths used by the utility companies. Most of those paths are actually on private property, and the companies have obtained easements for their use only. As such, written landowner permission from each individual landowner still must be obtained if the trail is not specifically designated for OHRV use.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

What are the ATV speed limits?

Most ATV trails won't have speed limits posted, but there are applicable speed limits for everywhere you ride in New Hampshire that is not private property. There is also a general condition that you must ride your ATV at speeds which are reasonable and prudent for existing conditions. That means you may have to ride below an actual speed limit if the weather is bad or if the trail is overly crowded.

The speed limit for ATV use is 10 MPH in the following areas:

- Within 150 feet of a bobhouse or fishing hole.
- On sidewalks that are open to OHRVs.
- On bridges that are posted open to OHRVs.
- At trail junctions, in parking lots and when passing trail grooming equipment.

The speed limit for ATV use is 20 MPH in the following areas:

- On approved roads open to OHRV use.
- On plowed roads on Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources property.

The speed limit for ATV use is 25 MPH in the following areas:

- When posted on trails owned or leased by Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources.

The speed limit for ATV use is 35 MPH in the following areas:

- On all trail connectors.
- At night on Back Lake in Pittsburg.
- On all trails where no speed limit is posted.

The speed limit for ATV use is 55 MPH in the following areas:

- Turtletown Pond, Concord.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY ATV OPERATION

Youth ATV Requirements in New Jersey

The following restrictions and requirements are applicable to youth ATV riders in New Jersey:

- You must be at least 14 years old to operate an ATV in New Jersey.
- If you are under the age of 18, you must complete an approved safety course prior to operating an ATV in New Jersey.
- For riders aged 16 or under, the ATV must have an engine capacity of 90 cc or less.

Do you need a permit or license to operate an ATV in New Jersey?

A permit or driver's license is not required for the operation of an ATV in New Jersey.

Safety Regulations

Any operator or passenger on an ATV in New Jersey is required to wear a helmet. Helmets are the most basic safety tool you can use for an ATV and are absolutely necessary.

Can you ride an ATV on the road in New Jersey?

ATVs are not permitted on the public streets of New Jersey. They are only permitted for off-road use.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO ATV OPERATION

OHV Designation

Vehicles that are considered to be OHVs & must be registered:

- All-terrain vehicles (ATVs)
- Dirt bikes
- Off-road vehicles (ORVs, UTVs or Mule type vehicles)
- Snowmobiles

Safety Requirements

Riders under 6:

- May not operate an ATV on public land.

Riders under 18 MUST:

- Wear an approved, securely fastened helmet.
- Wear approved, protective eye wear.
- Never carry a passenger, even on OHVs designed for two persons.
- Be visually supervised when operating an OHV, unless:
 - Age 13 and above with a valid motorcycle license.
 - Age 15 and above with a valid driver's license.
- Complete a certified OHV course and obtain a safety permit.

Prohibited Uses

- It is illegal for any person to use an OHV to:
 - Destroy signs, windmills or other property.
 - Operate any OHV in a way that damages environment, plants, animals or creates excessive noise.
 - Harass, pursue or hunt wildlife or domestic animals.
 - Operate any OHV where prohibited or on private land without permission.
 - Operate an OHV on paved roads or highways except as allowed by local authority or the state transportation commission.
 - Negatively affect livestock and or agricultural practices.
 - No one, regardless of age, may drive under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Riding Responsibly on Designated Trails

Contact the local U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management or other appropriate agency office to find out about trails, roads or areas open to OHV use.

It is your responsibility to obtain permission to travel across private lands.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Local Ordinances & Resolutions for Paved Roads

Local ordinances and resolutions allowing certain OHV use on specific paved roads:

With the passing of NM Senate Bill 270 during the 2016 state legislative session, local authorities and the state transportation commission have the authority to pass resolutions or ordinances to designate certain paved roads as open to specific ATV or ROV travel within their respective communities. It is illegal to operate an ATV or ROV on a paved road unless a local authority or the state transportation commission has passed an ordinance allowing such use on specific roads in specific communities. If you intend to operate an ATV or ROV on a paved road, it is your responsibility to inquire with the local authority to which you wish to ride to see if such use is allowed in that specific area.

Please Remember State Law Requires that:

- Only ATVs and ROVs (side-by-sides, SxS, UTVs, etc.) can be operated on specific paved roads within specific communities only as authorized by passage of a local ordinance or State Transportation Commission resolution allowing such use.
- Any adult ATV or ROV operator driving on a paved road where a local ordinance allows such use shall wear eye protection, and have a drivers' license and proof of financial responsibility (liability insurance). All operators and passengers younger than 18 years of age must also wear helmets and eye protection, and have a safety permit as proof of safety training when operating any OHV.
- Any ATV or ROV operated on a paved street or highway must have an OHV registration AND special OHV paved road use plate or decal, have working brakes, mufflers, mirrors, a functioning headlight and a functioning tail light.
- Non-residents whose ATVs and/or ROVs that comply with the paved road vehicle requirements in New Mexico and displays a valid paved road use registration decal or plate from their home state, are not required to purchase a New Mexico non-resident paved road use decal or plate.

Please refer to the state OHV laws and rules for complete requirements. Local authorities can enact and enforce further restrictions as long as they are not in conflict with state law. It is the responsibility of any OHV operator to know the state and local laws and rules before riding.

STATE OF NEW YORK ATV OPERATION

An all-terrain vehicle (ATV) is any self-propelled vehicle with two or more wheels that is manufactured for sale to be used primarily off-highway or in off-road competitions, and that is no wider than 70 inches and weighs no more than 1,000 pounds. This does not include vehicles manufactured for off-highway use and designed exclusively for travel on snow or ice, and supported by one or more skis, belts or cleats that utilize an endless belt tread. Those vehicles, which include snowmobiles, are subject to other laws and regulations.

Who may operate an ATV?

You do not need a driver's license to operate an ATV in New York State, but certain restrictions apply to operators under the age of 16.

If you are age 10 through age 15, you may operate an ATV only:

- Under adult supervision.
- Without adult supervision on lands owned or leased by your parent or guardian.
- On any lands where ATV use is permitted, without adult supervision, if you have completed an ATV safety training course approved by the DMV. You should carry your course completion certificate when operating any ATV.

If you are under the age of 10, you may operate an ATV only:

- Under adult supervision.
- Without adult supervision on lands owned or leased by your parent or guardian.

Adult Supervision means being accompanied by a person at least 18 years of age, or a person 16 or 17 years of age who holds an ATV safety course completion certificate from an approved safety course provider.

Responsibility of Parents and Owners

A parent or guardian may not knowingly permit or authorize a child under the age of 16 to operate an ATV in violation of state or local laws. An ATV owner, or another person in possession of an ATV, may not knowingly permit or authorize any person under the age of 16 to operate an ATV in violation of any state or local law.

Both the owner and the operator of an ATV may be held liable for injury and/or damages resulting from an ATV accident.

STATE OF NEW YORK ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Where and when to drive across highways?

DMV recommends you avoid crossing a highway unless absolutely necessary. If you cross, you must follow these rules:

- You must cross at an angle of approximately 90 degrees, at a place where there are no obstructions to prevent a quick, safe crossing.
- You must come to a complete stop and yield the right-of-way to traffic on the highway before crossing.
- You may cross a divided highway only where it intersects with another street or highway.
- You may not cross an interstate highway or any controlled-access highway, such as the Thruway or a parkway at any time.

On Highways

You may not operate an ATV on a highway unless it has been designated and posted for ATV use by the state or local authority. Usually, only the part of a highway between two off-highway trails will be posted for ATV use. Check with local police to be sure. DMV recommends that you turn your headlight and taillight on and wear bright, reflective clothing whenever you ride on a highway. Always enter the highway with care, and yield to other traffic.

On Public Land

You may not operate an ATV on public land unless it is specifically designated for ATV use, and it is allowed by a posted sign.

On Private Land

To operate an ATV on private land, you must have permission of the land owner or lessee. If you receive permission, make sure you know the boundaries of the property, and respect any special restrictions or requests of the land owner. You could lose permission to ride on private land by littering, causing damage, or riding carelessly.

STATE OF NEW YORK ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Required Equipment

Whether you are the operator or passenger, you must wear a USDOT-approved helmet when riding an ATV. DMV recommends that you also wear a face shield or goggles, and protective clothes and footwear.

Your ATV must have the following equipment:

- Brakes in good condition.
- A muffler which is in good operating condition and meets federal standards.
- A spark arrester approved by the U.S. Forest Service.
- Tires with at least 2/32nds of an inch tread without visible breaks, cuts, exposed cords, bumps or bulges.
- A lighted white headlight and red taillight if the ATV is driven at night.

The law requires you to keep the ATV's headlight and taillight lighted when riding a half hour after sunset to a half hour before sunrise. For greater safety, DMV recommends you keep the lights on at all times.

You May Never Operate an ATV

- Other than while seated on the permanent, regular seat.
- With a passenger, unless the ATV is designed to carry a passenger.
- At a speed too fast for existing conditions or potential hazards.
- In a careless, reckless or negligent manner.
- While intoxicated or impaired by alcohol or drugs.
- On the tracks or right-of-way of a railroad.
- On a highway, if the ATV is equipped with studded tires other than automobile-type studs.
- In a tree nursery or planting in a manner which damages or destroys growing stock or creates a substantial risk of damage or destruction.
- Within 100 feet of a dwelling between midnight and 6 A.M. at a speed greater than necessary to keep the ATV moving.
- While pulling a person on skis, a toboggan, sleigh, sled or trailer, unless the device is attached to the ATV by a tow-bar or other rigid connection.
- On the ice or public water within 100 feet of a person, fishing shanty or shelter at a speed greater than necessary to keep the ATV moving.
- Over an area cleared of snow for skating, unless necessary for access to public waters.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA ATV OPERATION

How does North Carolina define an ATV?

North Carolina defines an ATV as “a motorized off-highway vehicle designed to travel on three or four low-pressure tires, having a seat designed to be straddled by the operator and handlebars for steering control.”

Youth Restrictions

The following restrictions apply to youth ATV riders in North Carolina:

- Children under the age of 8 are not permitted to operate an ATV in North Carolina.
- Children under the age of 13 are not permitted to operate an ATV with an engine larger than 70 cc (cubic centimeters).
- Children under the age of 16 are not permitted to operate an ATV with an engine larger than 90 cc.
- Children under the age of 16 must be supervised by an adult anytime the youth is operating an ATV.

Equipment

The following requirements apply to any ATV operated in North Carolina.

- If you intend to carry a passenger, you must have an ATV that was designed to carry said passenger.
- Your ATV must have an operable brake system.
- Your ATV must have an operable muffler system.
- Your ATV must be equipped with a working spark arrester approved by the United States Forest Service.
- If you are operating an ATV on public land, you must be wearing a helmet and eye protection.
- If you are riding after sunset or before sunrise or any other time visibility is significantly reduced, your ATV must be equipped with an illuminated headlamp and taillamp.

Where are you permitted to operate an ATV in North Carolina?

In North Carolina, you may not operate an ATV on any interstate or highway. You may also not ride on any public street, road, or highway except for purposes of crossing that street, road, or highway.

Also, unless otherwise posted, you cannot ride on forest roads, since the forest service enforces state vehicle laws, which do not permit ATV operation. Finally, you are required to stay on designated trails when riding in National Forests.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Other Regulations

- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in a careless or reckless manner as to endanger or cause injury or damage to any person or property.
- If you were born on or after January 1, 1990, you are required to have passed an approved safety training class and obtained a certificate of completion.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV under the influence of alcohol, any controlled substance, or a prescription or nonprescription drug that impairs vision or motor coordination.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in a manner that damages or destroys public or private property, damages any trees, crops, or lands belonging to another person.

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA ATV OPERATION

Youth ATV Requirements

North Dakota law requires youth ages 12-15 who do not have a valid driver's license or learner's permit to take a safety certification class. The certification is needed in order to legally operate OHVs on land other than their parent's, which includes designated OHV trails and ditches.

In order to become certified, the following guidelines must be met:

- Attend a scheduled classroom or hands-on class in your area, or take the online certification course from home.
- Be at least 12 years of age.
- Successfully complete the safety certification test.

NOTE: Children who are 11, but turn 12 within six months of a class date, may take the safety certification test, but will not receive their certification card until they turn 12.

OHV safety certification classroom and hands-on sessions are held February thru October. There is no fee for the course as registration fees are funded by the JakeStar foundation. While the classes are aimed at certifying young riders, anyone who wishes to learn more about OHV safety (such as parents or children under 12) is encouraged to attend; no fee is charged.

ATV Safety Gear Requirements

The North Dakota Department of Parks and Recreation strongly encourages ALL ATV riders to wear a proper helmet, eye protection, gloves and over-the-ankle boots when riding any ATV. A helmet is the single most important piece of safety equipment you can have and wearing one while riding can save your life!

It is mandatory that all operators and passengers under the age of 18 to wear a U.S. DOT-approved helmet.

STATE OF OHIO ATV OPERATION

How does Ohio define an ATV?

Ohio defines an “All-purpose vehicle” as “any self-propelled vehicle designed primarily for cross-country travel on land and water, or on more than one type of terrain, and steered by wheels or caterpillar treads, or any combination thereof, including vehicles that operate on a cushion of air, vehicles commonly known as all-terrain vehicles, all-season vehicles, mini-bikes, and trail bikes.”

Are youth permitted to operate an ATV in Ohio?

- Generally, you are not permitted to operate an ATV on any state land, street or highway unless you possess a valid driver’s license.
- On designated public land, youth under the age of 16 may operate an ATV when accompanied by an adult that possesses a valid driver’s license.
- Youth under the age of 16 may only operate an ATV without supervision on land owned by their parent or guardian.
- No person under the age of 12 is permitted to operate an ATV in Ohio, with or without supervision.
- No person under the age of 18 is permitted to purchase, sell, own an interest in or obtain title to an ATV in Ohio.

What equipment is required on an ATV in Ohio?

- At least one headlight having a minimum candlepower of sufficient intensity to reveal persons and objects at a distance of at least one hundred feet ahead under normal atmospheric conditions during hours of darkness.
- At least one red tail light having a minimum candlepower of sufficient intensity to be plainly visible from a distance of five hundred feet to the rear under normal atmospheric conditions during hours of darkness.
- Adequate brakes.
- A muffler system capable of precluding the emission of excessive smoke or exhaust fumes, and of limiting the engine noise of vehicles.

Where are you permitted to ride an ATV in Ohio?

You are not permitted to operate an ATV in Ohio on any state highway, including a limited access highway or freeway or the right-of-way thereof, except for emergency travel as designated by the Director of Public Safety.

You are not permitted to operate an ATV on any private property, or in any nursery or planting area, in Ohio without the permission of the owner or other person having the right to possession of the property; Unless permission is posted by sign, you are not permitted to operate an ATV on any land controlled by the state.

You are not permitted to operate an ATV on any operable railroad tracks in Ohio.

STATE OF OHIO ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Where are you able to ride an ATV in Ohio?

- To cross a highway where it can be done so safely. You must yield the right of way in such a crossing.
- On highways in the county or township road systems whenever the local authority having jurisdiction over such highways so permits.
- Alongside a street or highway for a limited distance to reach a legal riding area.
- On state highways located on an island in Lake Erie between the first day of November and the thirtieth day of April, provided that the operator have a valid driver's license, obeys all traffic rules and regulations and maintains proof of financial responsibility, i.e. insurance, on the ATV.
- On any state land where permission for All-Purpose Vehicles is specifically posted by sign.

Other Regulations:

- An ATV, including used machines, may not be sold by a dealer without a certificate of title. If a non-dealer is selling an ATV, they must include the title if they have one.
- You must wear both a helmet and goggles when operating an ATV on any state trails.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA ATV OPERATION

How does Oklahoma define an ATV?

Oklahoma defines an ATV or all-terrain vehicle as “a motorized vehicle manufactured and used exclusively for off-highway use which is forty-eight (48) inches or less in width, with an unladen dry weight of eight hundred (800) pounds or less, traveling on two or more low-pressure tires, having a seat designed to be straddled by the operator, and which is steered by the use of handlebars.”

Youth Regulations for ATVs in Oklahoma

The following regulations apply to youth ATV operators in Oklahoma:

- Any person under the age of 18 may not operate or be a passenger upon an ATV unless they are wearing a helmet.

Can you ride an ATV on the street in Oklahoma?

Generally, you may not operate an ATV on the public highways or streets of Oklahoma. However, you may operate an ATV to cross the public streets and highways of Oklahoma only under the following circumstances:

- You are upon a regularly traveled trail while riding from one area of the trail to another.
- Before crossing, you must come to a complete stop.
- You must yield the right-of-way to all oncoming traffic that constitutes an immediate hazard.
- You must cross the street or highway at an angle of approximately ninety (90) degrees to the direction of the street or highway.
- The highway or street may not be a divided highway or street with a posted speed limit of more than thirty-five (35) miles per hour in the area of the crossing.
- You must have a valid driver's license.
- It is during daylight hours.

STATE OF OREGON ATV OPERATION

What vehicles are considered by Oregon to be an ATV?

Oregon law considers all vehicles intended for off highway use to be all-terrain vehicles (ATVs). Oregon categorizes ATVs into four classes:

- **Class I ATV** - Class I ATVs are what is commonly referred to as ATVs. Oregon labels them as quads and 3-wheelers. Oregon further defines them as vehicles 50 inches wide or less, with a dry weight of 1,200 pounds or less. Class I ATVs use handlebars for steering, have a seat designed to be straddled, and travel on three or more pneumatic tires that are 6” or more in width and have wheels with a rim diameter 14” or less.
- **Class II ATV** - Class II ATVs are Jeeps, Sand Rails or SUVs. Oregon further defines a Class II ATV as a vehicle that weighs more than or is wider than a Class I ATV, is not a Class IV ATV (side by side), and is actually being driven off road. Basically, these are your cars and trucks that you take off roading.
- **Class III ATV** - Class III ATVs are dirt bikes. Oregon defines them as vehicles that travel on two tires.
- **Class IV ATV** - Class IV ATVs are more commonly called UTVs or side-by-sides. Oregon defines them as a vehicle that is 65” wide or less at its widest point, has a dry weight of 1,800 pounds or less, has nonstraddle seating, has a steering wheel for steering control, and travels on four or more pneumatic tires that are six inches or more in width and have wheels with a rim diameter 14” or less.

What requirements are there for youth ATV operators?

Any operator under the age of 16 must complete hands-on training. In addition to the training, any youth under the age of 16 must be supervised by an adult when they are operating an ATV. The supervisor must be at least 18 years of age, hold a valid ATV Safety Education Card, and be able to provide immediate direction and assistance to the youth operator.

Any ATV operator or passenger under the age of 18 is required to wear a DOT-approved motorcycle helmet with the chin strap fastened.

Oregon only permits a youth under the age of 16 to operate an ATV that is appropriate for their size. This is referred to as “rider fit,” which is a set of physical or visual measurements that a youth under the age of 16 must attain to legally operate an ATV. Rider Fit for a quad incorporates the following requirements:

STATE OF OREGON ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

- **Brake Reach:** With hands placed in the normal operating position and fingers straight out, the first joint (from the tip) of the middle finger will extend beyond the brake lever and clutch.
- **Leg Length:** While the operator is sitting and with feet on the pegs, the knee must be bent at least 45 degrees.
- **Grip Reach:** While the operator is sitting upright on the quad with hands on the handlebars and not leaning forward, there must be a distinct angle between the upper arm and the forearm. Also, the operator must be able to turn the handlebars from lock to lock while maintaining grip on the handlebars and maintaining throttle and brake control.

Disabled operators are allowed to use prosthetic devices or modified or adaptive equipment to achieve Rider Fit. There is also an exemption to the Rider Fit requirements for operators using ATVs exclusively for farming, agriculture, forestry, nursery, or Christmas tree growing operations and being used on lands owned or leased by the owner of the vehicle.

Do you need a permit or driver's license to operate an ATV in Oregon?

In Oregon, you must have an operating permit for the ATV and an Operator Permit for the individual driving the ATV. You do not have to have a driver's license to operate an ATV; however, anyone with a suspended or revoked driver's license may not operate any ATV in Oregon.

Operating permits are required for all ATVs riding off-road on public land. OPRD manages the ATV Permit Program. The operating permit is a sticker placed on an ATV that is required for accessing designated lands open to the public.

An Operator Permit is a card signifying successful completion of an OHV safety class and is mandatory for anyone driving an ATV in Oregon. It is also called an Oregon ATV Safety Education Card.

What ATV equipment is required in Oregon?

Oregon has a number of specific requirements for equipment that your ATV must be equipped with. While most are pretty standard, there are some specifications that are stricter than other states, so you will want to make sure you review everything listed below.

- **Operating Permit:** This was discussed above, but your ATV must have the sticker displayed showing that you have a permit for the ATV.
- **USFS Approved Spark Arrester:** The spark arrester is common on most ATVs, but you will want to make sure it hasn't been removed if you purchase a used ATV.
- **Muffler under 99db:** While your ATV should have a muffler, you need to have it tested to make sure it isn't too loud. You should also be aware that some of the sand dune areas in Oregon require the muffler be set between 93 and 97 db.

STATE OF OREGON ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

- **Flag:** A flag is required only when you are operating the ATV on sand at places such as Sand Lake, Oregon Dunes and Christmas Valley. The flag must be red or orange and be highly visible. It must be displayed at least nine feet above the ground, be at least 8 inches wide and 12 inches long.
- **Foot Pads or Floor Plans:** If you have an ATV, it must be equipped with foot pads or something equivalent in usage. They must be designed and mounted to keep the occupant's feet within the frame, or away from the undercarriage of the vehicle.
- **Headlights and Taillights:** Headlights and taillights are only required if you are going to be riding your quad after dark. Dark is further defined as the time between one half hour after sunset and one half hour after sunrise.
- **Brakes:** Oregon law specifies that your ATV must be equipped with disc or drum brakes that are operable and effective.
- **Chain Guard:** If you have an ATV equipped with a chain, you must have a guard designed to keep the chain under the vehicle if the chain fails.
- **Fuel Tank:** Your ATV's fuel tank must be securely mounted, be constructed of metal, plastic or other approved material, and be properly constructed for carrying fuel.
- **Seats:** Your ATV must have a securely mounted seat for the driver and any passengers.
- **Seat Belts:** You do not need a seat belt on a quad, but all side by sides must have securely mounted, quick-release seat belts for the driver and every passenger.
- **Windshield Wipers:** If your ATV has a windshield, it must also have a working windshield wiper.

Can you ride two-up (double) on an ATV?

You can ride with an ATV passenger in Oregon only if the ATV has a second seat and a floor pan or foot pegs for the passenger. Moreover, the Oregon statutes specify that a passenger cannot be in the operator's lap or embrace.

Can you get your ATV street legal in Oregon?

No. They do not meet federal highway emission standards, do not have the proper equipment and cannot be retrofitted with equipment to become street legal. License plates issued to ATVs from other states are not valid for street legal use in Oregon.

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA ATV OPERATION

Youth Restrictions

Children under the age of 16 are prohibited from:

- Operating an ATV anywhere other than land owned or leased by a parent or guardian unless the child has a valid safety certificate or is under the direct supervision of a certified instructor during a certified safety training course.
- Operating an ATV across highways or connecting streets or operate on state forest or park roads designated for joint use (use by both motor vehicles and snowmobiles or ATVs) unless the child has a valid safety certificate and is under the direct supervision of a person 18 years of age or older.
- Driving an ATV on state or local highways, roads, or streets designated for joint use.

A child under 8 is not eligible for a safety certificate and is prohibited from operating anywhere except on private property. Age 8 and 9 year-old operators are restricted to an engine size of 70cc or less.

Where can you ride your ATV in Pennsylvania?

It's important you know what lands you will be riding on and if they are open to ATV use. Contact the appropriate land management agency to find out what is open. Generally speaking, ATVs may be operated:

- On private property with the consent of the owner.

- On state-owned property on clearly marked and designated trails.
- On highways and streets when necessary to cross a bridge or culvert.
- On highways and streets during periods of emergency when so declared by a governmental agency having jurisdiction.
- On highways and streets for special events of limited duration that are conducted according to a prearranged schedule under permit from the governmental unit having jurisdiction.
- On streets and highways that have been designated as “ATV or Snowmobile Roads” by the governmental agency having jurisdiction.

An ATV may make a direct crossing of a street or two-lane highway provided:

- The crossing is made at an angle of approximately 90 degrees to the direction of the highway, and at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing.
- The ATV is brought to a complete stop before crossing the shoulder or highway.
- The driver yields the right-of-way to all oncoming traffic that constitutes an immediate hazard.

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

- In crossing a divided highway, the crossing is made only at an intersection of such highway with another public street or highway.
- Driver must be at least 16 years of age unless he has a safety certificate and is under the direct supervision of a person at least 18 years of age.

Designated ATV Roads

State and local highways and roads may be designated and posted for ATVs by the government authority with jurisdiction over the road. Township roads designated for ATVs are posted with a green sign containing the side view silhouette of an ATV and rider in white.

Some roads may be designated and posted as joint-use roads open to both ATVs and licensed motor vehicles. Joint use roads are posted with signs stating that both types of vehicles may use the road. ATV operators on joint-use roads must be at least 16 years of age.

Municipal ordinances may further regulate the use of ATVs on roads within their jurisdiction.

Private Property

ATVs may not be operated on private property without the consent of the owner. Use of ATVs on private property may be further restricted by municipal ordinance.

ATV Equipment Requirements

All ATVs operating in Pennsylvania must be equipped with:

- A brake system capable of producing deceleration of 14 feet per second at a speed of 20 miles per hour.
- A muffler in good working order. The sound intensity produced by an ATV may not exceed 99dbA (decibels), when measured at 20 inches.
- An operating headlight and tail light if operating at dark or when visibility is less than 500 feet. The headlight must produce a white light sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of 100 feet. The tail light must produce a red light plainly visible during darkness from a distance of 500 feet.

ATV Riding Rules

To make the use of ATV trails safe and enjoyable for yourself and others, please know and practice the following ATV operating rules:

- Do not disturb, drive, or pursue wildlife with your vehicle.
- Do not carry loaded firearms on your ATV.
- Abide by state park and forest rules and regulations and the Snowmobile/ATV law and regulations.
- Stay on designated trails and roadways.

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

- Operate your vehicle in a safe and responsible manner.
- Place all litter in waste containers, where provided; otherwise practice the “carry-in, carry-out” procedure.
- Wear a securely fastened helmet - it is illegal to operate an ATV without a securely fastened helmet on the head of the operator.

Any of the following activities while operating an ATV may result in a fine:

- Riding at a rate of speed that is unreasonable or improper under existing conditions or in excess of the maximum limits posted for vehicular traffic.
- Riding in a careless way as to endanger the person or property of another.
- Riding while under the influence of alcohol, narcotics or drugs.
- Riding in an area, trail, roadway that is not open to ATV use.
- Riding without a securely fastened helmet.

Enforcement of ATV Rules and Regulations

All law enforcement officers in the state, including local and state police, are authorized to enforce the Snowmobile/ATV Law. This includes:

- State Forest and State Park Lands - State Forest Officers and DCNR Rangers.
- State Game Lands - Wildlife Conservation Officers and Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officers.
- Municipal and State Roadways - Municipal and State Police.
- Private Property – Municipal and State Police.

You must stop when signaled by a law enforcement officer. Failure to do so could result in fines and loss of your registration.

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND ATV OPERATION

Is an ATV classified as a recreational vehicle in Rhode Island?

In Rhode Island, an ATV is defined and regulated as a “recreational vehicle.” Therefore, whenever you come across a reference to recreational vehicles in Rhode Island, that includes ATVs.

Youth ATV Regulations in Rhode Island

The following regulations apply to youth operating ATVs in Rhode Island:

- No person under the age of 12 may operate an ATV on public land in Rhode Island.
- Any person under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult when riding on public land in Rhode Island, and the adult must accept liability for any personal injury or property damage resulting from such operation.

Where are you permitted to operate your ATV in Rhode Island?

Rhode Island law prohibits you from riding on property owned by another person unless you have the owner’s written consent. If you are caught riding on private property without permission, you could face a fine of up to \$100.

Rhode Island specifically prohibits the operation of ATVs in the area known as the Blackstone Valley Flood Plains or Marshes.

Are you permitted to operate an ATV on paved roads in Rhode Island?

Generally, you may not operate an ATV on paved roads in Rhode Island, including within the right-of-way, on the road shoulder, or on the inside bank or slope of any highway

Crossing a public street:

You may cross a public street or highway on an ATV under the following circumstances:

- You cross at an angle of approximately 90 degrees to the direction of the street or highway.
- You cross at a location where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing.
- You come to a complete stop before crossing.
- You yield to all other traffic.
- If you are crossing a divided highway, you cross only where it intersects with another street or highway.
- If you cross at night or during reduced visibility, you have your headlights and rear lights illuminated.
- You are at least 18 years of age or have a valid motor vehicle operator’s license.

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Required ATV Equipment in Rhode Island

The following equipment is required to ride an ATV in Rhode Island:

- Your ATV must be equipped with a headlight that is white or amber in color and of sufficient intensity to reveal a person 100 feet ahead if the ATV is used to cross a public street or between sunset and sunrise.
- Your ATV must be equipped with a tail lamp if the ATV is used to cross a public street or between sunset and sunrise.
- Your ATV must be equipped 16 square inches of reflectorized material on each side of the vehicle forward of the handlebars, in such a manner as to reflect light directed upon it from either side.
- Your ATV must be equipped with a muffler that is in good working condition.
- Your ATV must be equipped with at least one hand or foot brake capable of controlling and stopping your ATV within a straight 12-foot wide path.
- If you cross a street on an ATV, it must be equipped with a red reflector on the rear of the vehicle of such size to be visible at night from 500 feet to 50 feet when directly in front of the upper beams of headlights. This requirement is waved if the tail light(s) is reflectorized.
- You are required to wear a securely fastened helmet and face guard while operating an ATV in Rhode Island.

Other ATV Regulations in Rhode Island

- It is prohibited to operate an ATV in Rhode Island at a speed that is not reasonable or proper for the surrounding circumstances.
- It is prohibited to operate an ATV in Rhode Island in a careless, negligent, or reckless manner so as to endanger or cause injury or damage to another person or property.
- It is prohibited to operate an ATV in Rhode Island under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- It is prohibited to operate an ATV in a tree nursery or planting in a manner that damages growing stock.
- It is prohibited to operate an ATV of another without the written permission of its owner.
- It is prohibited to operate an ATV while carrying a firearm, rifle or shotgun on your person or vehicle unless such firearm, rifle or shotgun is unloaded and stored in an enclosed case.
- It is prohibited to tow a sled or trailer behind an ATV by any means other than a standard solid hitch.
- It is prohibited to operate an ATV in such a manner as to harass, driver or pursue any wildlife.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA ATV OPERATION

How does South Carolina define an ATV?

South Carolina defines an ATV or all-terrain vehicle as “a motorized vehicle designed primarily for off-road travel on low-pressure tires which has three or more wheels and handle bars for steering, but does not include lawn tractors, battery-powered children’s toys, or a vehicle that is required to be licensed or titled for highway.” ATVs in South Carolina includes both type I-single passenger all-terrain vehicles (ATVs, quads or four wheelers) and type II-tandem passenger all-terrain vehicles (UTVs, side by sides or ROVs).

Youth Restrictions

The following regulations apply to youth operators of ATVs in South Carolina on both public and private lands:

- No youth under the age of 6 is permitted to operate an ATV in South Carolina.
- No youth under the age of 16, and without a driver’s license, may carry a passenger on an ATV, unless that passenger is an adult.
- It is unlawful to remove an ATV manufacturer Age Restriction Warning Label.
- No youth under the age of 16 may operate an ATV in violation of the manufacturer Age Restriction Warning Label.

- Any youth operator under the age of 16 must possess a safety certificate indicating successful completion of a “hands-on” all-terrain vehicle safety course.
- Any youth operator under the age of 16 may not operate an ATV without wearing a helmet.
- Any youth operator under the age of 16 may not operate an ATV without proper eye protection.

The following regulations apply to youth operating ATVs on public land only:

- A person under the age of 16 may not operate an ATV unless they are accompanied by an adult.

South Carolina ATV Equipment Requirements

The following equipment requirements apply to ATVs operated on public land in South Carolina:

- If you are riding one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise, your ATV must be equipped with illuminated headlights.
- Your ATV must have an effective muffler system in good working condition.
- Your ATV must have a USDA Forest Service approved spark arrester in good working condition.
- Your ATV must have a brake system in good operating condition.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Other Restrictions

The ATV regulations in South Carolina do not apply to the following exempt parties.

- **Farming:** An owner, operator, lessor, or renter of a farm or ranch, or that person's employees, immediate family, or household members, when operating an ATV while engaged in farming, wildlife habitat management, or ranching operations.
- **Hunting:** A person using an ATV for hunting or trapping purposes if the person otherwise is lawfully engaged in those activities.
- **Minors on Private Property:** A minor, between six years of age and sixteen years of age, who is operating an ATV on private property under the direct visual supervision of his parent or an individual with legal custody of the minor.

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA ATV OPERATION

How does South Dakota define an ATV?

ATVs are categorized in South Dakota as “off-road vehicles.” An off-road vehicle is defined as “any self-propelled, two or more wheeled vehicle designed primarily to be operated on land other than a highway and includes, but is not limited to, all-terrain vehicles, dune buggies and any vehicle whose manufacturer’s statement of origin (MSO) or manufacturer’s certificate of origin (MCO) states that the vehicle is not for highway use.”

Youth Requirements for ATV Operation in South Dakota

- When operating ATVs on private property, there are no minimum age requirements, and no license is required for operation.
- When operating ATVs in South Dakota State Parks:
 - The operator of an ATV must be 14 years of age or older and possess a valid driver’s license.
 - All operators must wear eye protection.
 - Any operators or passengers under 18 must wear a helmet.

Rules for Riding ATVs in State Parks in South Dakota

The following rules and regulations apply to the operation of ATVs in state parks:

- Your ATV must be licensed.
- A Park Entrance License is required.
- You must be able to provide proof of insurance coverage.
- Your ATV must be equipped with a horn, headlight, brake light and rear view mirror.
- The operator of an ATV must be 14 years of age or older and possess a valid driver’s license.
- ATVs may only be operated on designated park roads.
- You cannot ride on paved or unpaved trails or shorelines.
- The operator must wear eye protection.
- Any operators or passengers under 18 must wear a helmet.
- The operator must obey all traffic regulations.
- ATVs under 200cc may not be operated.
- Three-wheel ATVs may not be operated.

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Are you permitted to operate your ATV on paved roads in South Dakota?

If your ATV has four or more wheels and has a combustion engine having a piston or rotor displacement of 200 cubic centimeters (cc) or more, you may license it as a motorcycle to be used on a public highway. You must ensure your ATV meets the following requirements and abide by the following operating rules if you register your ATV as a motorcycle:

- Your ATV must be equipped with at least one and not more than two headlights.
- Your ATV must be equipped with at least one taillight, which when lighted shall emit a red light plainly visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear.
- Your ATVs registration plate must be lit by either the rear lamps or a separate lamp so as to illuminate with a white light the rear registration plate and render it clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear.
- Your ATV must carry at the rear, either as a part of the rear lamp or separately, a red reflector located at the extreme rear of the vehicle at a height not to exceed 60 inches above the ground upon which the vehicle stands, which reflector is so designed and maintained as to be visible at night from all distances within 300 feet to 50 feet.
- Your ATV must be equipped with operable brakes.
- Your ATV must be equipped with a rearview mirror that will reflect to the driver a view of the highway for a distance of at least 200 feet to the rear.
- Your ATV must be equipped with a horn in good working order capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of at least 200 feet.
- Your ATV must be equipped with directional turn signals.
- Your ATV must be equipped with an exhaust system and a muffler, both in good working condition and in constant operation to prevent excessive or unusual noise.
- Any operator or passenger under the age of 18 is required to wear a helmet.
- Any operator of an ATV must wear eye protection if the ATV doesn't have a windshield.
- Any passenger must be sitting in a regular and permanent seat, and must not interfere with the control of the ATV or the view of the operator.
- The operator of an ATV must be facing forward with at least one hand on the handlebars at all times.
- The operator of an ATV may not be carrying anything in his or her hands that prevent both hands from being on the handlebars.

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Exemptions from the Regulations

ATVs used for farming and ranching are excluded from the ATV regulations of South Dakota where they are used along a highway ditch or crossing a highway to get to and from a field or pasture or when they are being used in the course of farm or ranch labor.

STATE OF TENNESSEE ATV OPERATION

How does Tennessee define an ATV?

Tennessee defines an ATV as a motorized non-highway vehicle with 4-6 non-highway tires, that is limited in engine displacement to 1,000 cc, that is limited in dry weight to 1,500 pounds or less, that is steered by handlebars, and that has a seat or saddle designed to be saddled by the operator.

Youth Requirements for ATVs

NA - State of Tennessee does not restrict the age at which a person can operate an ATV.

ATV Equipment Requirements

The following gear and equipment requirements must be met by all ATVs in Tennessee:

- If and when you are riding an ATV on a public street in Tennessee, or if you are under 18, you are required to wear a helmet. This requirement applies to both operators and passengers.
- Your ATV must be equipped with operable headlights that illuminate 200 feet in front of the ATV under normal atmospheric conditions on a level surface.
- Your ATV must be equipped with operable tail lights.
- Your ATV must be equipped with a muffler in good working order if operated on state land.

Can you operate an ATV on public streets in Tennessee?

Generally, you may not operate an ATV on state roads or interstate highways in Tennessee unless you fit into one of the following exceptions:

- You are on a road, or portion thereof, that has been specifically designated as open to ATV use.
- You are safely and efficiently crossing a two-lane highway at an angle of approximately 90 degrees.
- You are safely and efficiently crossing a highway with more than two lanes at a designated ATV crossing.
- You are using the ATV for agricultural purposes.
- You are moving the ATV in non-mechanical fashion, meaning not operating it, along the side of the roadway to access or return from a designated riding area so long as there is not an alternative route available and you are not interfering with traffic.

Other Tennessee ATV Regulations:

- ATVs may only be driven in the time from one-half hour after sunrise to one-half hour before sunset.
- The headlight and taillight of your ATV must be illuminated while in operation.
- You may not ride an ATV upon the land of another without first obtaining approval of the landowner or the person in charge of the land.
- It is unlawful to damage any natural resource on any State Forest.

STATE OF TEXAS ATV OPERATION

How does Texas define an ATV?

In Texas, a vehicle classifies as an ATV or all-terrain vehicle if it meets the following:

- Is equipped with a seat (or seats if designed for a passenger) for use of the rider.
- Has three or more wheels.
- Is not more than 50 inches wide.
- Is designed for off-highway use.
- Is not designed by the manufacturer for farm or lawn care.

What is a Texas OHV Decal?

The OHV Decal is required to be obtained before riding an ATV on any public lands or private lands which have received TPWD OHV grant monies. The decal must be properly mounted on your ATV. The Texas OHV decal can be obtained through the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department.

What are the ATV laws for Youth Riders in Texas?

You may not operate an ATV in Texas if you are under the age of 14 unless you are accompanied by and under the direct supervision of a parent, guardian or another adult authorized by the parent or guardian.

Equipment Requirements

Texas has a standard list of equipment for ATVs operated on public lands. The required equipment includes the following:

- A working muffler.
- An operational brake system.
- A head and tail light (during the hours between 1/2 hour before sunrise and 1/2 hour after sunset or reduced visibility).
- A USFS-qualified spark arrester.
- The Off-Highway Vehicle decal issued by the State Parks and Wildlife Department.

Any person operating an ATV on public property in Texas must be wearing a Safety Helmet and Goggles or other eye protection.

Is a Safety Certificate required in Texas?

To operate an ATV on public property or a beach in Texas, you must hold a safety certificate issued by Texas or another state.

The only exceptions to this requirement are for those taking a safety training course under the direct supervision of a certified instructor or a youth operating under the direct supervision of an adult who holds a safety certificate.

STATE OF TEXAS ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Are you permitted to operate ATVs on Texas Roads?

Generally, ATV use is not permitted on the public roads of Texas. The exceptions are for (1) a farmer or rancher travelling less than 25 miles; (2) a public utility worker; or (3) a law enforcement officer.

If ATVs are permitted on the public roads of Texas, they must be equipped with a triangular orange flag atop an eight foot pole attached to the back of the ATV. Additionally, the headlights and taillights must be illuminated and the operator must hold a valid driver's license.

Other ATV Regulations in Texas

- You may not operate an ATV in a careless or reckless manner that endangers, injures or damages a person or property.
- You may not carry passengers on an ATV unless the ATV is designed by the manufacturer to transport a passenger.

STATE OF UTAH ATV OPERATION

How does Utah define an ATV?

Utah splits ATVs into two classes. Utah defines a Type I ATV as any motor vehicle capable of travel over unimproved terrain that is 52 inches or less in width that weighs 1500 pounds or less, and that has 3 or more low-pressure tires, and having a seat designed to be straddled by the operator.

Utah defines a Type II ATV as anything that is not a Type I ATV, snowmobile or motorcycle that is designed for travel over unimproved terrain.

ATV Youth Requirements

Youth, ages 8-15, are permitted to ride an ATV in Utah, but only if they are in possession of an OHV Education Certificate issued by the Utah State Parks and Recreation or the equivalent for a non-resident.

Youth riders aged 16 or older must have an Education Certificate unless they possess a valid driver's license.

Riders under 8 may only operate an ATV if they are participating in a sanctioned race or organized practice under the direct supervision* of an adult with emergency medical service personnel on site.

*Direct supervision, as required, means oversight at a distance of no more than 300 feet, with visual contact, and where advice and assistance can be given.

All youth riders under the age of 18 must wear a helmet.

Required Equipment

- If you are operating an ATV in sand dune areas, you are required to attach a red or orange whip flag. The whip flag must be at least 8 feet off the ground. Alternatively, you can attach a safety flag to your helmet at least 18 inches above your head.
- If you are operating an ATV between sunset and sunrise, it must be equipped with lights.
- An ATV must be equipped with operational brakes.
- An ATV must be equipped with a muffler.
- An ATV must be equipped with a spark arrestor.

Where can you operate an ATV in Utah?

Registered off-highway ATVs in Utah may be operated on public land, trails, streets or highways that are posted by sign or designated by map or description as open to off-highway vehicle use.

An off-highway ATV may not be operated on a street or highway except when:

- Crossing the street or highway after coming to a complete stop.
- Yielding the right-of-way to oncoming traffic.
- The street must be crossed at a 90 degree angle.

STATE OF UTAH ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Can you have a street-legal ATV in Utah?

A street-legal ATV must comply with motorcycle requirements for titling, odometer statement, vehicle identification, license plates, registration and emissions inspection. A street-legal ATV must also comply with motor vehicle requirements for driver licensing, insurance, safety inspections.

To become street legal, an ATV must be equipped with the following equipment:

- One or more headlamps.
 - A lamp that illuminates the registration plate with a white light.
 - A red rear reflector.
 - A rear stop lamp.
 - Amber or red electric turn signals on each side in the front and rear of the ATV.
 - A braking system.
 - A horn or other warning device.
 - A muffler.
 - Rearview mirrors on each side.
 - A windshield, unless the operator wears goggles.
 - An illuminated speedometer.
 - Reflective tape on front and rear.
- If the ATV is designed for a passenger, the passenger seat must have a footrest and handhold.
 - Tires that are not larger than the tires made available by the manufacturer and that have at least 2/32 inches of tire tread.

Even with a street-legal ATV, you may not ride on any of the following streets or highways:

- An interstate freeway.
- A highway in a first-class county.
- A highway that is near a grade-separated portion of the highway.
- A highway with a posted speed limit of 50 miles per hour or greater (on such a street, the ATV must be operated on the extreme right hand side of the street).
- A highway that has been closed to street-legal ATV use.

STATE OF UTAH ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

You may not operate a street-legal ATV above 50 mph or the posted speed limit, whichever is less. You must also operate the ATV on the extreme right of the roadway. Street-legal ATVs are governed by requirements for both motorcycles and/or motor vehicles as follow:

Street-legal ATVs must meet the requirements of motorcycles for the following:

- Traffic rules.
- Registration.
- Titling.
- Odometer statement.
- Vehicle identification.
- License plates.
- Emissions.

Street-legal ATVs must meet the requirements of motor vehicles for the following:

- Driver licensing.
- Insurance.

Other ATV Laws

- It is unlawful to operate an ATV under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in connection with any act of vandalism.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in connection with the harassment of wildlife or domestic animals.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in such a manner as to damage the environment by excessive pollution of air, land or water, or by causing damage to the watershed, plant or animal life.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in such a manner as to create excessive noise.

STATE OF VERMONT ATV OPERATION

How does Vermont define an ATV?

Vermont defines an ATV, or all-terrain vehicle, as a non-highway recreational vehicle with 2 or more low-pressure tires, that is not wider than 64 inches and not heavier than 1,700 pounds in dry weight.

Youth Restrictions for ATV Operation in Vermont

The following regulations apply to youth operators of ATVs in Vermont:

- Youth under the age of 18 may not operate an ATV in Vermont unless one of the following circumstances is met:
 - They are operating on land owned by their parents, family or guardian.
 - They are taking a safety education training course under the instruction of a certified instructor.
 - They possess a safety education certificate issued by a state or Canadian province.
- Youth under the age of 12 may not operate an ATV unless one of the following circumstances is met:
 - They are operating on land owned by their parents, family or guardian.
 - They are operating on private land with the permission of the landowner.
 - They are under the direct supervision of an adult.

Equipment Requirements

The following restrictions apply to operating an ATV in Vermont:

- If you are riding on the state's trail systems, you are required to wear a helmet at all times.
- Your ATV must be equipped with one or more headlights.
- Your ATV must be equipped with a red rear light.
- Your ATV must be equipped with brakes in good mechanical condition.
- Your ATV must be equipped with an operable muffler system that reduces operating noise to a level of not more than 82 decibels on the A scale at 50 feet, in a normal operating environment.
- If your ATV has a windshield, the windshield must be free from sharp or jagged edges.
- Your ATV must be equipped with a U.S. Forest Service approved spark arrester.

STATE OF VERMONT ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Are you able to ride an ATV on the street in Vermont?

In general, you are not permitted to operate an ATV along a public highway in Vermont, unless one of the following circumstances applies:

- The highway is not being maintained during the snow season.
- The highway is posted open for all-terrain vehicle travel.
- The ATV is being used for agricultural purposes within the confines of the farm and stays at least 3 feet away from the lane of traffic.
- The ATV is being operated for utility purposes by an employee or agent of an electric transmission or distribution company.

You may cross a public highway by ATV in Vermont under the following circumstances:

- You cross the highway at an angle of approximately 90 degrees to the direction of the highway.
- You cross at a place where you can make a quick and safe crossing.
- You come to a complete stop before entering the traveled portion of the highway.
- You yield the right-of-way to vehicles and pedestrians.
- You are over the age 15 or aged 12-15 and under the direct supervision of an adult.

Other Vermont ATV Regulations

- You must have your lights illuminated from 30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes before sunrise.
- You may not operate an ATV on privately owned land without written permission of the owner unless the owner has designated the land for use by all-terrain vehicles.
- You may not operate an ATV on public land unless it has been designated for use by all-terrain vehicles.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in any manner intended or reasonably expected to harass, drive or pursue wildlife.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in a careless or negligent manner or in a manner as to endanger a person or property.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in a cemetery.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV on a sidewalk unless it is posted open for all-terrain vehicles.
- It is unlawful to alter or tamper with the motor number or serial number of an ATV.

STATE OF VIRGINIA ATV OPERATION

How does Virginia define an ATV?

Virginia defines an ATV or all-terrain vehicle as a three-wheeled or four-wheeled motor vehicle, generally characterized by large, low-pressure tires, a seat designed to be straddled by the operator, and handlebars for steering, which is intended for off-road use by an individual rider on various types of non-paved terrain.

The rules and laws described herein do not apply if you are riding on your own private land, or if the ATV is used for farming activities.

Youth ATV Requirements in Virginia

A full size ATV may not be operated in Virginia by any person under the age of 16. Youth-sized ATVs 90cc and under may be operated by youth aged 12 and older. Children under 12 are limited to 70cc ATVs.

Where are you permitted to operate an ATV in Virginia?

Generally, you are not permitted to operate an ATV in Virginia on any public highway, or other public property, unless it has been authorized by the proper authorities.

You may not operate an ATV on the private land of another unless you have written permission from the owner.

Buchanan County has some exceptions to the normal restrictions in Virginia. You may operate an ATV on the highways in Buchanan County where the following conditions are met:

- The operation occurs along the Pocahontas Trail on Bill Young Mountain or across Virginia Route 635.
- There are posted signs warning motorists that ATVs may be operating on the highway.
- It is during daylight hours.
- You are on the highway for no more than one mile between two trails.
- You are following all the rules of the road applicable to other motor vehicles.
- Your maximum speed limit is 25 mph.

ATV Equipment Requirements in Virginia

- Any person operating an ATV in Virginia must wear a helmet.
- If you are riding with a passenger on an ATV, the ATV must be equipped and designed to be operated with more than one rider.

STATE OF WASHINGTON ATV OPERATION

How does Washington define an ATV?

Washington refers to ATVs as wheeled all-terrain vehicles, or WATV. A WATV is a motorized, non-highway vehicle with handle bars that meets the following criteria:

- Is 50 inches or less in width.
- Has a seat height of at least 20 inches.
- Weighs less than 1,500 pounds.
- Has 4 tires with diameters of 30 inches or less.

What are the Age Restrictions for ATV use in Washington?

ATV operation on public lands in Washington is restricted to those aged 13 or older. However, those aged under 13 may operate an ATV so long as they are under the direct supervision of someone aged 18 or older who possesses a valid driver's license.

Where are you permitted to ride your ATV in Washington?

Washington's ATV laws do not apply to riding on private lands, except to the extent they require you have permission from the landowner before riding on private land.

Off-road use is controlled differently in whichever area you are riding. In other words, you are permitted to ride on any non-highway road and in parking areas serving designated off-road vehicle areas if the state, federal, local, or private authority responsible for the management of the non-highway road authorizes the use of off-road vehicles.

Can you make your ATV street legal in Washington?

To operate on public streets, you must obtain both an on-road and off-road tag when you register your ATV. However, an on-road tag doesn't permit you to ride on any streets.

Typically, you are limited to roads where the speed limit is 35 mph or lower. Additionally, the actual roads where you are permitted to ride is governed by local cities and counties so you have to check with your local authority to ensure you know what roads you may ride on.

You must have a valid driver's license to operate an ATV on a public road.

To qualify for an on-road tag, there are three steps you have to follow:

- First, you have to ensure your ATV is equipped with the following:
 - Head lamp to be illuminated whenever you are driving on the road.
 - Tail lamp.
 - Stop lamps.
 - Reflectors.
 - Turn signals.
 - Brakes.
 - Mirror.
 - Horn or warning device.
 - Muffler and spark arrester.
 - Windshield (unless wearing face protection).

STATE OF WASHINGTON ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

- After making any necessary modifications, you must have your ATV inspected by a Washington licensed WATV dealer or repair shop. They will complete Part 1 and sign the Wheeled All-Terrain Vehicle Road Use Declaration form. You should be aware the maximum charge for such an inspection is \$50.00.
- Once you have the inspection completed, you need to take the following to a vehicle licensing office:
 - The WATV Road Use Declaration form.
 - A copy of the receipt showing you paid for the inspection - attached to form.
 - The vehicle's title.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV upon the shoulder or inside bank or slope of any non-highway road or highway, or upon the median of any divided highway.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in any area or in such a manner so as to unreasonably expose the underlying soil, or to create an erosion condition, or to injure, damage, or destroy trees, growing crops, or other vegetation.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV on any non-highway road or trail, when these are restricted to pedestrian or animal travel.
- It is a misdemeanor to operate an ATV while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or a controlled substance.

Other Restrictions on ATV Use in Washington

- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in such a way as to endanger the property of another.
- It is unlawful to ride from dusk until dawn without a headlight and taillight on any land not owned by the operator.
- It is unlawful to ride without operable brakes on any land not owned by the operator.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV without a spark arrester approved by the department of natural resources.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV without an adequate, and operating, muffling device which effectively limits vehicle noise to no more than 86 decibels on the "A" scale at 50 feet.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV without wearing a helmet fastened securely while in motion.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in such a way as to endanger human life.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in such a way as to run down or harass any wildlife or animal.
- It is unlawful to carry, transport, or convey any loaded weapon in or upon, nor hunt from, an ATV except by permit issued by the Director of Fish and Wildlife.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA ATV OPERATION

Are there any License Requirements to operate an ATV?

Riders over the age of 18 do not have to have a valid driver's license to operate an ATV.

However, any rider under 18 years of age must have a level 2 intermediate driver's license if they wish to carry a passenger.

Keep in mind that not all off-road vehicles are made for passengers and it is illegal to carry an extra rider on a single-rider ATV.

ATV Age Restrictions

West Virginia places no minimum age restrictions on riding ATVs. However, the following rules apply to riders under 18:

- Any riders under the age of 18 must complete a state-accredited free vehicle rider safety awareness course.
- ATV operators under the age of 18 must wear a protective helmet that is size-appropriate.
- If a rider under the age of 18 wants to carry a passenger, and the vehicle can legally hold a passenger, they must have a level 2 intermediate driver's license.

ATV Road Laws

Under Senate Bill 690, which was passed in March of 2020, operators can now ride their vehicles on some public streets with a few restrictions.

If you are only operating your vehicle on private land, the vehicle will only need to be titled and the following street-legal requirements will not apply.

Street-Legal Registration

First, in order to be legally driven, the vehicle must be registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles as a "street-legal special purpose vehicle". You must have valid insurance in order to register and receive a license plate.

ATV Required Equipment

Second, the vehicle must have the following:

- A spark arrester.
- One or more headlights.
- One or more taillights.
- One or more brake lights.
- A white light to illuminate your registration plate.
- One or more red reflectors on the rear.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

- Amber or red electric turn signals for each side on the front and back.
- Braking system, other than a parking brake.
- A horn or other warning device.
- A muffler in good working order and an emission control system if required by federal law.
- Rearview mirrors on both sides of the driver.
- A windshield, unless the driver wears eye protection.
- A speedometer, illuminated for operating in the dark.
- A passenger seat for vehicles designed to carry a passenger.
- Tires that have at least 2/32 inches or greater of tire tread.

STATE OF WISCONSIN ATV OPERATION

How does Wisconsin define an ATV?

Wisconsin defines an ATV or All-Terrain Vehicle as “a commercially designed and manufactured motor-driven device that has a weight, without fluids, of 900 pounds or less, has a width of 50 inches or less, is equipped with a seat designed to be straddled by the operator and on 3 or more low-pressure or non-pneumatic tires.” Wisconsin also defines a separate category of ATVs as “small all-terrain vehicles.” The definition of a small ATV is “an all-terrain vehicle that has 4 wheels and that has either an engine certified by the manufacturer at not more than 130 cubic centimeters or an equivalent power unit.”

Youth Regulations for ATV Operation in Wisconsin

The following regulations apply for youth operation of ATVs in Wisconsin:

- Anyone over the age of 11 operating an ATV must possess a valid ATV safety certificate issued by any state or province. Said operators must have the safety certificate in their possession while operating in areas open to the public such as trails, routes and frozen waterways.
- Youth that possess a safety certificate may carry a passenger on an ATV.
- Children under the age of 12 may not operate an ATV, on a roadway for any event, including crossing the road.

- All ATV operators aged 12-15 must be accompanied by a designated adult while operating on a designated ATV Route except while operating for agricultural purposes with adult supervision.
- Anyone operating or riding as a passenger on an ATV that is under the age of 18 is required to wear a DOT standard ATV or motorcycle helmet unless they are operating on private land owned by their immediate family, while operating for agricultural purposes or for the purpose of hunting or fishing.

Exceptions to Safety Certificate Requirements

There are a number of exceptions to the safety certificate requirements in Wisconsin. A safety certificate is not required in the following circumstances:

- While operating on private property owned by the operator’s immediate family.
- Children under the age of 12 operating on any private property with permission of the landowner and with the accompaniment of a designated adult.
- Children under the age of 12 operating a small ATV on a public ATV trail while accompanied by a designated adult.
- Operating during a demonstration even on a closed course while accompanied by a designated adult.

STATE OF WISCONSIN ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Are you permitted to ride an ATV on the public streets or highways in Wisconsin?

While ATV use is permitted on designated routes, it is otherwise prohibited on public streets and highways in Wisconsin that have not been designated as Routes. Despite this general prohibition, operation of ATVs is permitted on the streets in Wisconsin in the following circumstances:

- For agricultural purposes.
- On designated and signed ATV Routes.
- On roads not seasonally maintained for roadway use, during the time in which no maintenance occurs if the road hasn't been closed to ATV use.
- To cross a roadway, bridge, culvert or railroad right-of-way when operating on a designated and marked trail, route or private property so long as the location is safe to cross, you come to a complete stop and yield to all motor vehicles and pedestrians.
- On the roadway or shoulder of any highway to cross a bridge that is 1,000 feet in length or less if the operation is in compliance with a county, city, village, or town ordinance that applies to that bridge.

In situations where you are permitted to operate an ATV on the street in Wisconsin, you must abide by the following:

- You must operate at the extreme right side of the roadway surface.
- You can make left turns from any part of the roadway surface as long as it's safe.
- You may not ride side by side, but rather single file.
- You must ride with your head lamps and tail lamps on.
- Children 12-15 must be accompanied by an adult, regardless of a safety certificate, unless it is a crossing for agricultural use.
- Children under 12 may not operate an ATV on a roadway.

STATE OF WISCONSIN ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

Equipment Regulations

The following equipment regulations apply to ATVs in Wisconsin:

- Your ATV must be equipped with at least a single white headlamp and a red tail lamp that must be activated during the hours of darkness or while operating on or along a roadway.
- Your ATV may not have colored headlamp covers, lens covers or colored headlamp bulbs if you are riding during the hours of darkness or while operating on or along a roadway.
- Your headlamp(s) must be able to illuminate a person or object at a distance of at least 200 feet in front of your machine.
- You may have other auxiliary lighting on your ATV as long as it doesn't interfere with legal lighting requirements.
- The tail lamp on your ATV must make it visible from 500 feet to the rear during the hours of darkness.
- Your ATV must be equipped with at least one brake, operated either by hand or by foot.
- Your ATV must be equipped with a functioning muffler that prevents noise above 96 decibels when measured on the "A" scale.
- Your ATV must be equipped with a spark arrester.

Other Wisconsin ATV Regulations

- It is unlawful to operate an ATV on public lands while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- You must not exceed 10 mph on your ATV if you are within 100 feet of a person who is not in or on a motorized vehicle, unless you are on a designated ATV Road Route.
- You must not exceed 10 mph on your ATV if you are within 100 feet of an ice fishing shanty while on the ice, unless you are on a designated ATV Road Route.
- You must not exceed 10 mph on your ATV if you are within 150 feet of a home or dwelling, unless you are on a designated ATV Road Route.
- When operating on or along roadways you cannot exceed the posted roadway speed limits for motor vehicle traffic unless there is a specific speed limit posted for ATVs.
- You are required to obey all regulatory and traffic signs.
- Regardless of any posted speed, you may not operate at an unreasonable or improper speed.
- It is unlawful to operate an ATV in a careless manner that endangers a person or property.
- You must have permission of the land owner to ride on private property.

STATE OF WISCONSIN ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

- It is unlawful to permit another person to operate your ATV if they are incapable of operating because they are physically or mentally unable to exercise physical control over the speed or direction of the ATV.
- If you are requested to stop by a law enforcement officer, you must do so.

STATE OF WYOMING ATV OPERATION

Are ATVs defined as ORVs in Wyoming?

Much of the laws in Wyoming specifically deal with ORVs (Off-Road Vehicles). Wyoming's definition of ORVs includes three types of vehicles:

A Type 1 ORV is defined as “a recreational vehicle primarily designed for off-road use which is fifty (50) inches or less in width, and has an unladen weight of one thousand one hundred (1,100) pounds or less.”

A Type 2 ORV is defined as “any unlicensed motorcycle which has an unladen weight of six hundred (600) pounds or less and is designed to be ridden off road with the operator astride upon a seat or saddle and travels on two (2) tires.”

A Type 3 ORV is defined as “any multi-wheeled motorized vehicle not required by law to be licensed and is designed for cross-country travel on or over land, sand, snow, ice or other natural terrain and which has an unladen weight of more than nine hundred (900) pounds.”

Youth ATV Age Requirements

NA - State of Wyoming does not restrict the age at which a person can operate an ATV.

Equipment Requirements

The following equipment requirements are applicable to ATVs being operated in Wyoming:

- Your ATV must be equipped with a working muffler system.
- Your ATV must be equipped with a spark arrester.

Can you ride ATVs on public streets in Wyoming?

While you can't ride any ATV on public streets in Wyoming, it is possible to make your ATV street legal. To become street legal, you must obtain an MPV permit that is displayed on your ATV. With an MPV permit, you are able to operate your ATV on any public roads in Wyoming that are not interstates.

MPV Permit

To obtain an MPV permit and ride your ATV on public roads, your ATV must have a current license plate, you must have a valid driver's license with an M or MR endorsement or a permit, you must have proof of liability insurance, and your ATV must be equipped with the following:

- Headlight.
- Red rear reflector.
- Taillight.
- Horn.
- Brake light.
- Left hand rear view mirror.

If you are under the age of 18, you must also wear a helmet while operating an ATV on a public road.

STATE OF WYOMING ATV OPERATION CONTINUED

ORV Permit

If you do not have an MPV permit, you may obtain an ORV permit to operate your ATV on roads and trails that are part of the Wyoming ORV Program.

If you have an MPV permit, you do not need a separate ORV permit to operate on roads in the ORV Program, but you do need an ORV permit to operate on trails and open areas in the ORV Program.

Additional Rules for Riding on Roads and Trails

In addition to having an MPV or ORV permit, the operator of an ATV must have a valid driver's license and liability insurance to operate on a public road, whether or not the road is part of the ORV Program.

The following rules and regulations are applicable to operating an ATV on roads and trails in Wyoming:

- If you cannot maintain the maximum posted speed while operating your ATV, you must ride on the extreme right side of the road. In this situation, your ATV must also be equipped with a reflectorized flag or slow moving vehicle emblem.
- When operating after sunset and before sunrise on roads that are part of the Wyoming ORV Program, your ATV must be equipped with operational brake lights, taillights and headlights.

- You may only operate off the roads and trails if the area is specifically identified as “open” for motorized travel.
- Some designated trails in Wyoming have size and weight restrictions. If you are operating a machine over 50 inches wide, you should check with the local area land manager for trail restrictions.
- If you are operating on designated ORV roads or trails, and you are under the age of 18, you are required to wear an appropriate helmet.
- Your ATV must have an operational muffler and spark arrest-er when operating on ORV roads or trails.

Other ATV Regulations in Wyoming

- It is unlawful in Wyoming to operate an ATV off roads or trails in a manner that damages or unreasonably disturbs the land, wildlife, or vegetative resources.