

Injury Control Strategies

What Can Child Safety Advocates Do?

July 1999



Promote safe practices for ATV operation.

Child safety advocates who use ATVs or are responsible for their use by others should be vigilant about promoting the following practices:

- Participate in an approved ATV safety education training program
- Always provide responsible adult supervision for ATV operators younger than 18 years of age
- Follow all safety recommendations of the ATV manufacturer
- Operate ATVs only during daylight
- Wear a helmet with face protection at all times
- Never ride three-wheeled ATVs
- Do not drink and drive--ATVs are "rider-active" needing the full attention of the operator
- Travel together in groups, always use the buddy system
- Avoid riding in areas where contact with automobiles might be possible
- Drive ATVs on surfaces as recommended by the manufacturer
- Travel at speeds conducive to conditions and operator abilities
- Check on the conditions of the trails you will be traveling
- Know and understand local and state laws governing the use of ATVs
- Never allow passengers on an ATV
- Insist on a "perfect fit" between the ATV and the physical, mental, and emotional maturity of the operator
- Carry equipment to handle medical and mechanical emergencies.

Take the opportunity as a child safety advocate to offer the facts on childhood ATV-related injuries to local clubs, media representatives or state organizations.

Respond effectively to media coverage of ATV-related injuries with applicable safety facts,

Promote developmentally appropriate and responsible use of ATVs.

Encourage collection of injury data based on Ecoding (external cause) in your state, region, or facility (E820.1-E821.9).

Promote collection of additional statewide injury data that includes helmet use, time of day, surface type, ATV make/model, environmental conditions, alcohol and other drug involvement, and injury severity.

Advocate that maternal and child health agency staff cooperate with staff of state agencies responsible for ATV training and enforcement in order to discuss methods to:

- Encourage interventions that are culturally-sensitive, community-based, on-going, and incorporate a variety of strategies
- Evaluate efficacy of current safety training programs
- Establish and maintain a trauma system that is responsive to the off-road nature of the sport
- Promote regulations which encourage safe participation by youth
- Work with manufacturers to increase safety aspects of ATVs
- Develop and promote safe ATV riding opportunities
- Collaborate with private sector interests
- Monitor ATV-related injury data

Consider the promotion of legislation in your state based on the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) model ATV legislation (<http://www.aap.org/policy/m951.html>).

Provide injury prevention counseling as a component of routine health care.

Health care providers should encourage parents to choose other recreational options that are more developmentally appropriate for children under the age of 14 years than the operation of motor vehicles.

For more information:

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STATE ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS



SEPTEMBER 1994

STATE	REGISTRATION	TITLE	MV OPERATOR'S LICENSE	MINIMUM AGE	SAFETY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE	EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS					ON-ROAD USE	CLASSIFIED AS:
						LIGHTING	BRAKES	MUFFLER	SPARK ARRESTER	OTHER		
Alabama				14DS								OHV
Alaska												OHV
Arizona		*						*C				OHV
Arkansas	+A	*		12D				*C	*C		X, Z	ATV
California	+A	*		14EM, 18En or a	*Ein			*C		*KE	Z	OHHM/ATV
Colorado	+BCE						*CHE	*CE	*CE		X, Z	OHV
Connecticut	+A		*F	12E, 16Ea & n	*vE						Z	ATV
Delaware	+AC			12D				*C		*K*	J	OHV
Dist. of Col.												
Florida	+BE									*hd		ORV/ATV
Georgia											9*	ORV/ATV
Hawaii												
Idaho	+B	*									X	ATV
Illinois											Z	ATV
Indiana	+BCE		*F	14			+H				Z	ORV
Iowa	+BE			12E, 18a	*IE						Z, (ge)	ATV
Kansas											gV	ATV
Kentucky				12R, 16u & D						*Ks	J	ATV
Louisiana	+A	*										ORV
Maine	+AC			10, 15D, 18a								ATV
Maryland	+BS		*PS	12S						*K	Z	ORV
Massachusetts	+B			12, 14D, 16½F						*K	Z	RV
Michigan	+B	*		12s, 16t & D & a	*d					*h	Z	ORV/ATV
Minnesota	+BC			12E, 16Ea & D	*bE					*KE	Q	ATV
Mississippi												
Missouri	+A	*		16D						*K	o	ATV
Montana	+A	+E								*S	Z	OHV
Nebraska											Z, (ge)	ATV
Nevada												
New Hampshire	+B		*D or a	18D, m or g	*D or m					*hi	Z	OHRV/ATV
New Jersey	+ACE			x, 14E, 16uE	*sCE						Z	ATV
New Mexico	+A	*									Z	OHMV
New York	+AC			10D, 16D or a	*cD					*K	Z	ATV
North Carolina												
North Dakota	+AC		*a	12, 16D or a	*b						Z	ATV
Ohio	+A		*E	16D, 12U						*hS	Z	APV
Oklahoma												
Oregon	+A	*	*E, a or D	12FD	*D or m					*S	Z	ORV
Pennsylvania	+B	*		10E, 16a	*c					*S	Z	ATV
Rhode Island	+B	*	*T	12S, 16SD & F, w						*S	Z	ATV
South Carolina												
South Dakota											N	ATV/ORV
Tennessee											Z	OHMV
Texas	+AE	*		14D	*nE					*S	Z	ATV
Utah	+BE	*k	*aE	8E, 16a	*mE					*EC	Z	ATV/OHV
Vermont	+AE			12D, 16FD, 18a	*i						Z	ATV
Virginia				16, 12j							X, Z	ATV
Washington	+AC											NH/VORV
West Virginia												ATV
Wisconsin	+BC	*		12s & D(y), 16D or a	*bD					*Kis	X, Z	ATV
Wyoming											X	ORRV

- Required by law or regulation
- Applies to 3-wheel ATVs only
- A - By motor vehicle registration agency
- B - By recreation management agency
- C - Except in authorized events
- D - Unless supervised
- E - Applies only on public lands
- F - To cross highway
- G - For night operation only
- H - Specific performance requirements
- I - Decibel limit specified
- J - Prohibited
- K - Approved helmet
- L - 16 sq. in. reflective material on each side of ATV
- M - Unless supervised by parent or his designee and either has safety certificate or is supervised by adult with certificate
- N - Prohibited except to cross highway & by registered ATVs with 4 or more wheels & 200cc or more
- O - Helmet (for 3-wheelers); Bag on whip, as specified (on all ATVs)
- P - Must have license, learner's permit or be accompanied by licensee
- Q - Allowed as specified in law
- R - For ATV over 70cc

- S - Applies only on specified public lands
- T - For ages 16-18 to cross highway
- U - On DNR lands if accompanied by parent
- V - Lights required at night
- W - Red flag (on sand), chain guard (if equipped with chain)
- X - Prohibited except for agricultural purposes
- Y - Helmet in competitive events & under age 16, flag on sand dunes
- Z - Prohibited except to cross highway
- a - Unless safety certificate is possessed
- b - For ages 12-15
- c - For ages 10-15
- d - Under age 16
- e - During daylight hours only
- f - If issued to persons age 12-15, not valid for ATVs over 90cc
- g - Allowed for agricultural purposes
- h - Helmet and eye protection
- i - For persons under age 16
- j - For ATVs 70-90cc
- k - For 1988 models and newer
- l - Unless motor vehicle operator's license possessed
- m - Unless supervised by adult with safety certificate
- n - Prohibited except for agriculture/industrial purposes or with special permit

- p - Except ATVs of 90cc or less
- q - Unless at least age 12 & have safety certificate
- r - For ages 12-17
- s - Except if engaged in agricultural activities
- t - For 3-wheel ATVs
- u - For ATVs over 90cc
- v - For all ages; under age 18 must complete safety course
- w - Sale to under age 16 prohibited
- x - Sale of ATV over 90cc for use under age 16 prohibited
- y - Additional provisions apply; law too complex to summarize completely

Classification Abbreviations

- APV - All-purpose vehicle
- ATV - All-terrain vehicle
- NHV - Non-highway vehicle
- OHV - Off-highway vehicle
- OHRV - Off-highway motor vehicle
- OHRV - Off-highway recreation vehicle
- ORV - Off-road vehicle
- ORRV - Off-road recreational vehicle
- RV - Recreation vehicle

This chart is compiled by SVIA's Government Relations Office. Although it represents information from the most authoritative sources available, SVIA is not responsible for accuracy or completeness. Many of the provisions summarized herein have exceptions and may require further explanation. It is necessary to refer to the actual laws and regulations for specific details. This chart will be updated annually as state legislatures enact or amend ATV requirements. Please contact SVIA for additional information concerning ATVs or for additional copies of this chart.

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