



# ***RAPID RESPONSE***

## **ATV Safety In The News**

**A Project of  
the U.S. Consumer  
Product Safety Commission**

# **Quick Facts For a Safer Ride**

Just this week there was a death or serious injury in your community involving an all-terrain vehicle (ATV). As you continue to report about this tragedy, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) encourages you to use this teachable moment to share critical safety information with your audience.

Each year since 2004, nearly 800 Americans have died in ATV-related incidents. Another 140,000 are injured on average each year. Many ATV-related deaths and injuries are preventable, and by providing safety information to riders in the aftermath of this incident, we can work to drive down the number of incidents in your community.

By incorporating safety tips into your story now, such as those to the right, your reporting could help save a life.

### **Important Facts:**

- ATVs are not toys! They are powerful and potentially dangerous vehicles.
- Adult ATVs can travel at more than 60 miles per hour and can weigh nearly a half ton; youth ATVs are made to travel at lower speeds that are more appropriate for children's ages and skills.
- ATVs can easily tip over and roll. The unpredictable nature of off-road conditions makes training and proper use essential.

**For more information about ATV safety, state legislation, and national and state data, please visit [www.ATVSafety.gov](http://www.ATVSafety.gov). To speak with a CPSC spokesperson, please call (301) 504-7800.**

### **Experience Counts – Get Trained**

**Many deaths and injuries occur when an inexperienced driver loses control of an ATV, is thrown from an ATV, overturns the vehicle, or collides with a fixed object or a motor vehicle. Good ATV training teaches new drivers how to handle multiple off-road riding situations.**

**ATV drivers with more than one year of experience have a much lower risk of injury than relatively new drivers. Training can bridge that gap.**

**All ATV drivers, adults and children, should take a hands-on ATV safety course from a certified instructor. These courses are offered by the ATV Safety Institute (ASI), the National 4-H Council, local ATV rider groups, and some state agencies.**

**Many manufacturers offer free training. Some offer cash awards and incentives to buyers who complete the ASI training course. Children under 16 must be on an age-appropriate ATV to take the course. A parent or legal guardian must accompany children younger than 12 at the training.**

