



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.

Always Wear Protective Gear – Especially a Helmet – When Riding ATVs

CPSC encourages all riders, of all ages, to “Gear Up!” every time they jump on an ATV.

CPSC and the ATV Safety Institute recommend that ATV riders use motorcycle helmets or other motorsports helmets that are certified by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and/or the Snell Memorial Foundation (Snell).

Other important protective equipment to wear while riding an ATV includes:

- **Over-the-ankle boots – to protect feet and ankles from injury.**
- **Goggles to protect eyes from rocks and dust thrown up by ATVs.**
- **Gloves – to protect fingers and hands.**
- **Long pants and long-sleeved shirt – to protect skin from rocks, trees, and other debris.**

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

