



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. To speak with a CPSC spokesperson, please call (301) 504-7800.

Do Not Drive ATVs on Paved Roads

ATVs are designed to be driven only on off-road terrain; they should not be driven on paved surfaces. ATVs have solid rear axles and no rear differential, which makes turning on pavement difficult and dangerous; one tire will actually skid when making a turn.

ATVs on paved roads are at risk of hitting or being hit by cars and other vehicles. While passenger vehicles contain safety features designed to protect occupants from collisions, ATVs do not.

If struck by other vehicles, ATV riders can be killed or severely injured.

For these reasons, CPSC recommends never driving on public roads. In addition, some states and local areas prohibit ATVs and other off-road vehicles on public streets and highways.

