



# 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.

### Do Not Allow Passengers on Single-Rider ATVs

There have been thousands of serious incidents associated with passengers riding on single-rider ATVs. These incidents often result in injury or death to both the rider and passenger.

ATVs are designed for interactive riding. This means the driver's body movement plays an integral part of the handling. The driver must be able to shift his or her weight freely in *all* directions. Passengers can inhibit the driver's ability to safely control the ATV and it could roll over or crash.

Most ATVs sold today are single-rider ATVs, which are not equipped with handholds or footrests for passengers. Single-rider ATVs that have elongated seats are NOT designed to carry a passenger but to allow the driver to properly shift his or her weight and maintain control of the vehicle.

Passengers should only ride ATVs which are specifically designed for two people. The ATV should have a rear seat, footrests and handholds for the second person. After-market rear seats fitted onto single rider ATVs are not recommended because these ATVs are not designed to support two people and will be unstable.

**ATVSafety.gov**

Before you hit the trails,  
take knowledge to the extreme

