



ATV SAFETY TIPS

Facts

- In 2011, there was an estimated 107,500 ATV related emergency room treated injuries in the U.S. Approximately 29,000 of these or 27% were youth under the age of 16.
- Between 1982 and 2011, there were 11,688 ATV-related fatalities and approximate 25 percent of those were under the age of 16 in the U.S.
- Illinois males accounted for 76 percent of the 892 ATV-related injuries and fatalities.
- Each year, approximately 27.6 people were injured in the state of Illinois from ATV's.
- At least 37 percent of those killed on ATVs were between the ages of 9 and 19 in Illinois.

Prevention

- The rider should be able to reach controls without stretching.
- The rider must be able to lean in all direction to control the ATV.
- The rider should be tall enough to stand on the pedals while straddling the seat and be able to move from front to back while remaining in control of the vehicle.
- The ATV should have the appropriate power.
- The ATV Safety Institute recommends the following engine sizes for each group:
 - 6 years and older – under 70cc
 - 12 years and older – 70-90cc
 - 16 years and older – over 90cc
- Every rider should wear protective equipment regardless of age or skill level. In order to reduce the risk of injury, riders should always wear the following
 1. Department of Transportation (DOT) approved helmet
 2. Plastic goggles that cover all sides of the eyes
 3. Long sleeve shirt and pants
 4. Gloves
 5. Over-the-ankle boots
- When starting the ATV the "BONE-C" procedure should be followed at all times. This will prevent damage to the vehicle, and more importantly, protect the rider from possible injury.
 - (B) BRAKE / Set the parking brake
 - (O) ON / Ignition and fuel on
 - (N) NEUTRAL / ATV in neutral
 - (E) ENGINE / Stop switch in run/on start position
 - (C) CHOKE / On

ATV Do's

- Do wear protection (helmet, goggles, long sleeve shirt and pants, gloves, over-ankle boots).
- Do follow the local laws for ATV use. Contact the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Division of Education at (217) 782.6302 or order the brochure, *ATV and Off Highway Motorcycle Regulations*.
- Do get permission to ride on private property.
- Do be responsible and careful.
- Do have fun!

ATV Don'ts

- Don't ride alone; always have someone with you on a separate ATV. IF there is an emergency the person with you can send for help.
- Don't ride with more than one person on the ATV. ATVs are designed for one person. An additional rider makes it difficult for the driver to control the vehicle.
- Know your terrain. Paved road can cause the soft tires to bounce uncontrollably.

References

- Ref. 1 - 2011 Annual Report of ATV-Related Deaths and Injuries. U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. February 2013.
<http://cpsc.gov/Global/Research-and-Statistics/Injury-Statistics/atv2011.pdf>
- Ref. 2 - SC Department of Health and Environment Control, Injury and Violence Prevention, All-Terrain Vehicle Safety,
http://www.scdhec.gov/health/chcdp/injury/atv_safety.htm
- Ref. 3 - Injury Free Coalition for Kids, ATV Safety, <http://www.injuryfree.org/resources/ATV%20Safety.pdf>
- Ref. 4 - UWHealth, Emergency Medicine, ATV Injuries and Prevention,
<http://www.uwhealth.org/emergency-room/atv-injuries-and-prevention/12252>
- Ref. 5 - ATV Safety Institute, Safety Is Priority One for ATV Safety Institute,
<http://www.atvsafety.org/asi.cfm?pagename=Media%20Information&content=3873E275-02BD-BFE5-A195C5E4DA616722&referer=Second%20Page>
- Ref. 6 - Illinois ATV Related Injury/Fatality Statistics through 2011; Power Point.
<http://my.extension.uiuc.edu/documents/1722111409110911/ATV2010.pdf> U of I Extension.

ATV Safety Tips,
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