

# Operation

## Operation on streets and highways

ATVs may be operated only on streets and highways designated and posted as an ATV road by the government agency having jurisdiction over that road.

An ATV may make a direct crossing of a street or two-lane highway if:

- The crossing is made at an angle of approximately 90 degrees to the direction of the highway and at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing;
- The ATV is brought to a complete stop before crossing the highway;
- The driver yields the right-of-way to all oncoming traffic that constitutes an immediate hazard;
- The crossing of a divided highway is made at an intersection of that highway with another street or highway.

ATVs may be operated on streets or highways during periods of emergency, if declared by the jurisdiction, or when necessary to cross a bridge or culvert.

## Operation during special events

ATVs may be operated on highways and streets for special events of limited duration approved by the local authority having jurisdiction over those roadways.

## Operation on private property

It is illegal to ride your ATV on private property without permission from the landowner.

## Operation on state-owned property

Designated ATV trails on State Forest lands are open from the Friday before Memorial Day through the last full weekend in September. Some ATV trails reopen for winter use in conjunction with the snowmobile season from the day following the last day of the regular or extended deer season through April 1, conditions permitting. Check with the District Forester to be sure that winter use is permitted. The trail also may be open to snowmobiles.

Only Class I ATVs may be operated on State Forest trails designated for ATV use. Class II ATVs may be operated on State Forest land ONLY if the trail is specifically posted open to Class II ATVs of a particular width and weight.

State Forest roads are NOT open to ATVs.

State Parks and State Game Lands are NOT open to ATVs.

## Riding rules

To make the use of the trails safe and enjoyable for yourself and others, please:

- Do not disturb, drive, or pursue wildlife with your vehicle
- Do not carry loaded firearms on your ATV
- Abide by State Park and Forest Rules and Regulations and the Snowmobile/ATV law and regulations
- Stay on designated trails and roadways
- Operate your vehicle in a safe and responsible manner
- Place all litter in waste containers, where provided; otherwise practice the "carry-in, carry-out" procedure · Wear a securely fastened helmet

### Illegal operation

Any of these activities may result in a fine:

- Riding at a rate of speed that is unreasonable or improper under existing conditions or in excess of the maximum limits posted for vehicular traffic;
- Riding in a careless way so as to endanger the person or property of another;
- Riding while under the influence of alcohol, narcotics or drugs;
- Riding in an area, or on a trail or roadway that is not open to ATV use;
- Riding without a securely fastened helmet.

### Equipment

All ATVs operating in Pennsylvania must be equipped with:

- A brake system capable of producing deceleration of 14 feet per second at a speed of 20 miles per hour;
- A muffler in good working order. The sound intensity produced by an ATV may not exceed 99dbA (decibels), when measured at 20 inches;
- An operating headlight and tail light if operating at dark or when visibility is less than 500 feet. The headlight must produce a white light sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of 100 feet. The tail light must produce a red light plainly visible during darkness from a distance of 500 feet.

### Plate/Sticker display

The registration plate for an ATV is provided by the Snowmobile/ATV Section. Pictures below are examples of the Class I and Class II plates. This registration plate shall be securely attached to the upper half of the rear of the ATV. No part of the plate shall be in line with a tire. The information on the plate must be clearly visible from behind the ATV. It is important to clean mud and dirt off your ATV registration plate at frequent intervals so the information on the plate is clearly visible. The registration sticker must be placed in a bottom corner of the plate.