



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.

More than 800 Americans die each year in ATV-related incidents and more than 145,000 are injured. Many ATV-related deaths and injuries are preventable, and by providing safety information to riders in the aftermath of this incident, we can work together to help drive down the number of incidents in your community.

By incorporating safety tips into your story now, such as those to the right, you 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 weigh up to 850 pounds; 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.

Do Not Drive ATVs With a Passenger or Ride as a Passenger

There have been thousands of serious incidents associated with passengers riding on single-rider ATVs. These incidents often result in multiple victims.

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.

If passengers get in the way or shift their weight improperly, the driver might not be able 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. Even single-rider ATVs that have elongated seats are still not designed to carry a passenger.

A few manufacturers have introduced "2-Up" ATVs which are specifically designed with a seat, footrests and handholds for one passenger to sit behind the driver.

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

