



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 Permit Children To Drive Or Ride Adult ATVs

Children younger than 16 years old lack the developmental skills to safely drive adult ATVs. Hundreds of children have tragically died or been seriously injured from driving or riding on an adult size ATV.

Current industry and CPSC recommendations are for children and young teens to be restricted to ATVs with engine sizes of 90 cc or below. These recommendations are under review and revision by CPSC and the industry.

Children under 6 should never be on an ATV – either as a driver or passenger. Young children lack the physical ability and mental skills to safely maneuver a motorized vehicle with multiple speeds and controls.

Even many older, more experienced adolescents cannot make quick, accurate judgments while driving ATVs.

Most ATVs are equipped with a label detailing the manufacturer's and CPSC's recommended age for that particular model.

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.

