All-terrain Vehicles Class 1 and 2
Off-highway Motorcycles
Off-road Vehicles

OHV REGULATIONS

mndnr.gov/ohv

Effective July 2023 through June 30, 2024
Off-highway vehicle (OHV)
The term off-highway vehicle (OHV) includes all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), off-highway motorcycles (OHMs), and off-road vehicles (ORVs).

All-terrain vehicle (ATV)
ATVs have at least three, but no more than six, low-pressure or nonpneumatic tires (not filled with or containing compressed air) with a total dry weight less than 2,000 pounds and a total width from outside of tire rim to outside of tire rim that is 65 inches or less. ATVs include Class 1 and Class 2. Dry weight is normally the weight of the vehicle without fluids. Vehicles not considered ATVs includes electric-assisted bicycles, golf carts, mini-trucks, dune buggies, go carts, or a vehicle designed and used specifically for lawn maintenance, agriculture, logging, or mining purposes.

Approved helmet
An approved helmet is required to meet DOT specifications. DOT is the manufacturer’s certification that the helmet conforms to the applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards. Bicycle and hockey helmets are not legal helmets.
INVASIVE SPECIES

If you ride ATVs, OHMs, or ORVs, start the day with clean shoes, gear, and vehicles by using a handheld brush to ensure there were no missed seeds or plant parts from your last adventure.

Stay on marked and/or designated trails to keep invasive species populations localized for easier management and prevent spreading to new areas.

When your adventure is done and before leaving a location, Clean your clothes and gear by picking off seeds and burrs and brushing off extra soil.

Spray down your OHV with water or compressed air to remove mud and plant parts from tires and fenders.

Follow these simple steps to Stop Invasive Species in Your Tracks

- **Remove** plants, animals and mud from boots, gear, pets, and vehicle.
- **Clean** your gear before entering and leaving the recreation site.
- **Stay** on designated roads and trails.
WHAT’S NEW: TRAIL SIGN UPDATE

Visitors entering Off-Highway Vehicle trails will encounter new signs indicating vehicle type with a brown color background and white lettering. You may see either version of the signs on the trail until all are replaced.

New temporary road and trail closure signs will be displayed during spring closures.

Regulations in this booklet are effective from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Cover photo: Photo by Deborah Rose, Minnesota DNR

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2022 ATV SAFETY INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has named Mike Halvorson of Rushford as the 2022 ATV Safety Instructor of the year.

Halvorson has been an ATV instructor since 2011 and has assisted with safety training as a valuable member of the Bluff Country ATV club. Annually, the club hosts three ATV safety training sessions.

Halvorson has been an active member in good standing with the Bluff Country ATV Club for over 20 years. Halvorson currently serves as the vice president of the club and is an active regional Director for the all-terrain vehicle association of Minnesota. When he is not training area youth, Halvorson is involved as a Trail Ambassador. He has served as a Trail Ambassador for over 10 years.

“Mike has been instrumental in planning, setting up and overseeing safety training courses, as well as actively interacting with community leaders to promote ATV safety. He is responsible to make sure the props and extra ATV’s are where they need to be. Without his support, hard work, dedication, knowledge of ATV safety over the years, the bluff country ATV safety program would not be as good as it is now”, says Allen Kirchhof, regional director with All-Terrain Vehicle of Minnesota.

Halvorson is among the nearly 1,000 volunteer ATV safety instructors who work with DNR conservation officers to deliver ATV safety training certification. Details about safety courses and training are available at mndnr.gov/safety/instructors

Regional Training Officer Phil George and volunteer instructor Mike Halvorson
It’s been increasingly common to see youth riders — whether they’re passengers or operators — not wearing helmets. It’s not only illegal but it also dramatically increases the risk of severe injury — or worse — life changing brain injury or death. As an experienced rider, remember:

The next generation of riders is watching you. Please model safe riding behavior and wear your helmet.

All riders under the age of 18 must wear a DOT-certified helmet, but we highly recommend all riders wear a helmet, regardless of age.

- A helmet should fit snugly and fasten securely.
- A helmet may be a designed as a full-face or an open-face helmet.
- A Full-face helmet is designed to protect both your head and face. It is the best protection during a collision, to avoid tree branches and soften loud noises.
- Open-face helmets are lighter and cooler but should be worn with eye protection.

For current trail conditions, map downloads, nearby services, and more, check out www.mndnr.gov/ohv
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHERE TO RIDE

Q: Can I drive my ATV on the side of a road or city street?
A: It depends on the type of ATV and age of operator. Check with local county and city officials or road authority.

Q: Can I operate an OHM in the ditches?
A: No, OHMs cannot be operated in ditches unless on a designated trail that includes OHMs.

Q: Do I need a valid driver’s license to operate an ATV?
A: It depends on where you operate your ATV. A driver, age 16 and older, will need a valid driver’s license to make a direct crossing of a roadway or operate within the road right-of-way. A valid driver’s license is not needed for operation on state ATV trails.

Q: Can I ride my ATV or OHM on a snowmobile trail?
A: No, several thousand miles of snowmobile trails cross private land open only to snowmobiles from Dec 1st to March 31st. Regardless the time of year, any other motor vehicle use is considered trespassing.

Q: Where can I ride my ATV on Public lands?
A: For a list of trails for ATVs, see the riding opportunities at mndnr.gov/ohv.

EQUIPMENT

Q: Where can I ride my ATV if I put tracks on it?
A: Once you put tracks on a Class 1 or Class 2 ATV it is considered an ORV. You may operate:
• on frozen waters
• on state forest roads in state forests classified as “limited” or “managed”
• in ORV special use area
• on private property with permission of landowner

Q: Can I have an infant or toddler ride with me?
A: Under Minnesota law, anyone under age 18 is required to wear a DOT approved helmet. Off-highway vehicle dealerships sell Youth size helmets. It is not recommended that adult or teen size helmets be used on toddlers as they don’t have sufficient neck muscle strength to hold up and wear the helmet a comfortable length of time. Riding without a helmet has a great potential for injury or death. The following are not legal helmets:
• Bicycle Helmet
• Skateboard helmet
• Downhill Skis Helmet
• Hockey Helmet

Continued...
OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE REGISTRATION

Q: How and where do I register an OHV?
A: You must be at least 18 years old to register. Go in person to any deputy registrar office (where automobile license tabs are purchased) or at the DNR License Center in St. Paul. You will be provided a registration card and decal for your off-highway vehicle. You may renew your OHV registration online at mndnr.gov/licenses/ohv.

Q: What information do I need to register an OHV?
A: Need to have the make, model, year, serial number, and sales receipt or bill of sale. For OHM registration, the engine size is required. For ATV registration, along with engine size, the dry weight and width from outside rim to outside rim is required.

Q: I purchased at a dealership, how do I apply for registration?
A: ATVs and OHMs purchased from a retail dealer must be registered with the DNR on behalf of the customer. The dealer will issue a temporary 21-day registration, a registration card, and an expiration decal.

Q: What if I sell my OHV?
A: If you sell your OHV, give the new owner a signed bill of sale that includes the serial number of the vehicle along with make and model. The serial number can be found on the registration card.

Q: What if I buy a OHM or ATV from another owner?
A: The new owner must report the transfer of ownership within 15 days of the sale at a deputy registrar office or at the DNR License Center in St. Paul. A new owner can be charged with a misdemeanor for failure to file and transfer ownership within 15 days of the sale.

Q: Does my ATV need to have registration to operate on frozen waters?
A: Yes, ATV public use registration is needed if it will be driven on public trails, public land, frozen water or the roadway.

Q: If my ATV is titled as a Motorcycle or Motor Vehicle in another state, is it considered the same in Minnesota?
A: No, under Minnesota law Chapter 168, All-Terrain Vehicles are not originally manufactured to operate on highways or roads. Under Minnesota traffic law 169.467 subdivision 2 an ATV does not meet Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards.

Q: I have a Private/Agricultural Use registration on my ATV, now I want to go use it on a state ATV trail. Can I operate on the trail?
A: No, you will need to purchase a Public Use Registration (3 year registration) before operating on state or grant-in-aid ATV trails.

Q: What is a Grant-in-Aid Trail?
A: Grant in Aid trails are provided by volunteer clubs and local government sponsors to provide public riding opportunities throughout Minnesota. Funds are collected from Off-highway vehicle registration purchases.
OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE REGISTRATION

All off-highway vehicles must be registered to operate in Minnesota. Fees for off-highway vehicle registrations go into specific vehicle fund accounts that pay for trail maintenance, safety training and enforcement.

ATV REGISTRATION (MINNESOTA STATUTE 84.922)

All-terrain vehicles can be registered as either a Class 1 ATV or a Class 2 ATV (see page 3 for definitions). All ATVs operated in Minnesota must be registered with the DNR, including those used exclusively on private property. See exceptions page 11. Class 1 or Class 2 will be indicated on the owner’s ATV registration card and decal.

Display of numbers and decals for ATVs

ATVs must display the current registration decal along with applicable numbers and letters as indicated below. The plate and decal must be maintained in a clear and legible condition. A registration plate is not provided by the DNR or Deputy registrar. Owners must provide their own registration plate using the information below.

Registration plate must be:
- at least 4 inches high and 7½ inches long;
- clearly visible on the back of the vehicle; and
- at least 12 inches from the ground.

Registration letters and numbers must be:
- at least 1½ inches high with a ¾ inch stroke;
- in English and placed from left to right; and
- in a color that contrasts with the background of the plate.

What type of registration is needed?

Public use
- If you will ride this ATV on public ATV trails, public land, frozen water and roadways.
- The decal must be displayed in the upper left section of the plate. This registration is valid for three years. Registration expires on December 31 of the third year.

Private/agricultural use
- If you will use your ATV (Class 1 or Class 2) exclusively for private or agricultural activities, harvesting wood, or on private property.
- The decal must be displayed in the upper right section of the plate. This registration does not expire and is valid until the ownership of the ATV is transferred.

Example of Registration Plate

Continued...
Both public and private use registration

- The public use decal and private use decal must be displayed in the appropriate section of the plate.
- Public use decal on the upper left and private use in the upper right and a series of letters and number along the bottom.

Optional — Collector use

- ATVs 25 years and older are exempt from registration if they were originally produced as a separate, identifiable make by a manufacturer. This registration is nontransferable.

Exemptions

There are exemptions provided by law. If your answer is “YES” to any of the statements below, registration is not required.

If you are operating an:

- ATV, OHM or ORV registered in another state or country and not in Minnesota for more than 30 consecutive days.
- ATV, OHM or ORV owned by federal, local and tribal governments.
- ATV that is used exclusively in organized track racing events.
- ATV owned by a resident of another state or country that does not require registration of the ATV, not in Minnesota for more than 30 consecutive days, and is operated on state and grant-in-aid trails by a nonresident possessing a nonresident state trail pass.
- ATV that is registered by an Indian tribal government to a tribal member and has not been outside the tribal reservation boundary for more than 30 consecutive days.
- OHM operated by a person participating in an event for which the Minnesota DNR has issued a special use permit exempting the registration or nonresident trail pass requirements.
- OHMs not in Minnesota for more than 30 consecutive days and are operated on state and grant-in-aid trails by a nonresident possessing a nonresident state trail pass.
- OHM or ORV licensed for highway use when operated on forest roads.
- ORV operated on frozen waters or private property (not a designated ORV trail).

FREE RIDING WEEKEND

ATV registration and nonresident ATV trail passes will not be required to ride on state and grant-in-aid trails on June 8-9, 2024.
DUAL REGISTRATION (Minnesota Statute 84.788 Subd 12)

An off-highway motorcycle registered under this section may also be registered as a motorcycle under chapter 168 for use on public roads and highways.

If the off-highway motorcycle was not originally constructed primarily for use on public roads and highways, the off-highway motorcycle must be equipped with mirrors and a headlight, taillight, and horn.

See Minnesota chapter 169, the safety standards of the National Traffic and Motor Safety Act, Code of Federal Regulations, title 49, part 571, and the regulations adopted under that federal act, for motorcycles regarding safety and acceptability to operate on public roads and highways.

Contact the Department of Public Safety at 651-201-7000 for further details and application procedures.
ORV REGISTRATION (MINNESOTA STATUTE 84.798)

ORVs are only required to be registered if operated on ORV designated trails or areas on lands administered by the DNR or grant-in-aid ORV trails. Registration is valid for 3 years. Registration is not required if a valid trail pass is displayed.

**ORV registered only for off-road use**

If the vehicle is not licensed as a motor vehicle, the owner shall provide a plate not less than four inches high and 7-1/2 inches wide. The plate must be attached to the rear of the vehicle at least 12 inches from the ground. The registration sticker must be affixed on the upper left corner of the plate.

**ORVs licensed in Minnesota for roadway use and registered for off-road use**

If the vehicle is licensed as a motor vehicle, the registration decal must be affixed on the upper left corner of the rear license plate.

Plates and registration stickers must be maintained in a clean and legible condition.

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**ORV REGISTRATION-FREE DAY AT THE IRON RANGE OHV STATE RECREATION AREA**

On May 18, 2024, the Iron Range Off-highway Vehicle State Recreation Area will not require registration from any ORV riders that visit the site. The ORV registration-free day falls on the third Saturday in May each year.
DEALER AND MANUFACTURER REGISTRATION

Registration is required by OHV dealers and manufacturers to operate OHVs for testing or demonstration purposes. OHV dealerships and manufacturers may make application for registration at local deputy registrar office and directly with the DNR License bureau in St. Paul. Registration plates will be sent out from the license bureau.

The registration certificate documents must be prominently displayed in the place of business.

A dealer or manufacturer may not operate or permit to be operated within this state any vehicle owned by or under the control of a dealer or manufacturer unless a valid registration plate is clearly displayed on the vehicle.

REGISTRATION FEES

All-terrain vehicle registration fees - effective 07/01/2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE OF TRANSACTION</th>
<th>FEE</th>
<th>ISSUING FEE</th>
<th>DURATION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New (unregistered)</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$8.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renewal only</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfer only</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renewal and transfer</td>
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<td>Duplicate registration card</td>
<td>$4</td>
<td>$6</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duplicate registration decal only</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dealer’s registration</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$8.50</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dealer’s registration renewal</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturer’s registration</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$8.50</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturer’s registration renewal</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident trail pass</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>$1</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duplicate nonresident trail pass</td>
<td>$2</td>
<td>50 cents</td>
<td>1 year</td>
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<tr>
<td>New collector ATV</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>$8.50</td>
<td>Nonexpiring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duplicate collector ATV</td>
<td>$4</td>
<td>$6</td>
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Private/agricultural registration fees - effective 07/01/2017

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>ISSUING FEE</th>
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<tr>
<td>New (unregistered)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duplicate registration card</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Duplicate registration decal only</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>$6</td>
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### Off-road vehicle registration fees - effective 07/01/2017

<table>
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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New (unregistered)</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>$8.50</td>
<td>3 calendar years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renewal only</td>
<td>$30</td>
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<td>3 calendar years</td>
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<tr>
<td>30-day resident trail pass</td>
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<td>Transfer only</td>
<td>$4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renewal and transfer</td>
<td>$34</td>
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<td>Duplicate registration card</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duplicate registration decal only</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>$6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dealer’s registration</td>
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<td>$8.50</td>
<td>1 year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dealer’s registration renewal</td>
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<td>$6</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1 year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manufacturer’s registration renewal</td>
<td>$150</td>
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<td>1 year</td>
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<tr>
<td>One-year nonresident trail pass</td>
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<td>1 year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three-year nonresident trail pass</td>
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<td>Duplicate nonresident trail pass</td>
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### Off-highway motorcycle registration fees - effective 07/01/2017

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<td>Transfer only</td>
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<td>$8.50</td>
<td>3 calendar years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renewal and transfer</td>
<td>$34</td>
<td>$8.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duplicate registration card</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duplicate registration decal only</td>
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<td>Dealer’s registration</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$8.50</td>
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<td>Dealer’s registration renewal</td>
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<td>1 year</td>
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<td>Manufacturer’s registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manufacturer’s registration renewal</td>
<td>$150</td>
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<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One-year nonresident trail pass</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>$1</td>
<td>1 year</td>
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### REPLACEMENT REGISTRATION CARDS AND DECALS

You may obtain a ATV and OHM replacement registration card for $10.00 or a replacement decal for $6.00 from the DNR License Center or a deputy registrar office (where automobile license tabs are purchased). Replacement decals and numbers must be affixed in the same manner as the original. You are not required to carry the registration card, but when a law enforcement officer requests to see it, it must be provided within a reasonable time period.
ATV SAFETY TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

These requirements are for residents and nonresidents.

An individual who was born after July 1, 1987, and who is 12 years of age or older, must successfully complete the independent study course component of all-terrain vehicle safety training before operating an all-terrain vehicle on public lands or waters, public road rights-of-way, or state or grant-in-aid trails.

Exception: A person at least 10 years of age but under 12 years of age may operate an all-terrain vehicle with an engine capacity up to 110cc if the vehicle is a Class 1 all-terrain vehicle with straddle-style seating or up to 170cc if the vehicle is a Class 1 all-terrain vehicle with side-by-side-style seating on public lands or waters if accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

The Minnesota DNR ATV Safety class includes information on: basic operation, common parts and controls, operating safely and responsibly, trail riding, laws, riding skills, and protecting the environment.

Ages 10 to 15

Youth will complete the two-step process to ATV Safety Certification:

1. Complete the ATV safety online training course.
2. Attend a hands-on ATV course.

Online training course: atvcourse.com Fee: $29.95

Hands-on ATV course: Find a schedule of hands-on courses at mndnr.gov/safety/vehicle/atv. Go to Education and Safety tab, and then under recreational vehicle safety classes, click on ATV Safety to find the hands-on ATV course calendar.

• Additional fees may apply when attending the hands-on ATV course.
• Student is required to fit their ATV in order to participate in the ATV course. See page 21.
• Contact the lead ATV instructor for additional information.

Ages 16 and older

Anyone who is 16 years or older must successfully complete the online ATV Safety Training before operating an ATV on public lands, frozen waters, public road rights-of-way, or state or grant-in-aid trails. Not required to attend the hands-on ATV course.

Alternate ATV safety training certification

Proof of completing an ATV safety course that includes a riding component offered by the ATV Safety Institute (ASI) or another state is adequate to meet the ATV safety certification requirements of Minnesota.
Safety first—helmets

Operators and passengers under age 18 are required to wear a helmet when operating on public lands, frozen waters, and road rights-of-way. See page 3 for the definition of an Approved Helmet.

Safety first—seat belts

The U.S. Product Safety Commission and the Minnesota DNR recommends all riders use seat belts if equipped by the manufacturer. Potential for severe injury and death are greatly reduced with wearing seat belts.

Under Minnesota Law: A person less than 18 years of age shall not ride as a passenger or as an operator of an all-terrain vehicle without wearing a seat belt when provided by the manufacturer.

A person may not drive or operate an all-terrain vehicle:

- at a rate of speed greater than reasonable or proper under the surrounding circumstances;
- in a careless, reckless, or negligent manner so as to endanger or to cause injury or damage to the person or property of another;
- without headlight and taillight lighted at all times if the vehicle is equipped with headlight and taillight, if not equipped, may not operate in hours of darkness or reduced visibility;
- without a functioning stoplight if so equipped;
- without a brake operational by either hand or foot;
- with more than one person on the vehicle, see Passenger sections under Class 1 and Class 2 ATV;
- at a speed exceeding 10-miles per hour on the frozen surface of public waters within 100 feet of a person not on an all-terrain vehicle or within 100 feet of a fishing shelter;
- across a bridge that is part of the traveled lanes of an interstate highway; or
- on grant-in-aid snowmobile and non-motorized trails closed to ATVs unless specifically allowed.
- between 30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes before sunrise, except on the right-hand side of the right-of-way and in the same direction as the highway traffic.
CLASS 1 ATV OPERATIONS
The owner or adult in control of an ATV is legally responsible to ensure it is operated according to the following requirements.

Under age 10
• May operate only on private property with permission of the owner.

Ages 10 and 11
• May operate only on private property with permission of the owner, except an ATV with a straddle seat up to 110cc or up to 170cc with side-by-side seating on public lands and frozen waters if accompanied by parent or legal guardian.

Ages 12 to 15
• Must have permission from their parent or guardian to operate an ATV.
• May not operate an ATV on public lands or water, or on state or grant-in-aid trails, if the person cannot properly reach and control the handlebars and reach the foot pegs while sitting upright on the seat.
• May make a direct crossing of a public road right-of-way of a trunk, county state-aid, or county highway or operate on public lands and waters or state or grant-in-aid trails, only if that person possesses a valid all-terrain vehicle safety certificate issued by the commissioner and is accompanied on another ATV by a person 18 years of age or older who holds a valid driver’s license.
• May operate on the bank, slope, ditch of a public road right-of-way or roadway open by local ordinance with a valid ATV Safety Certificate when accompanied by a parent or legal guardian on a separate ATV.

Ages 16 and 17
• Must have a valid driver’s license and ATV Safety Certificate to make a direct crossing of a roadway or operate on road rights-of-way or roadway open by local ordinance.

A person shall not operate an all-terrain vehicle at any time within the right-of-way of an interstate highway or freeway within this state. Operation on the surface of a Trunk Highway (a.k.a state highway) is not permitted.

For additional information for operation on roads and rights-of-way, see www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/84.928

Continued...
Passengers on a Class 1 ATV (MN Statute 84.9257 Passengers)

- A person 12 to 17 years of age may operate a Class 1 all-terrain vehicle carrying only one passenger and the passenger must be the person’s parent or legal guardian.

- A person 18 years of age or older may operate a Class 1 all-terrain vehicle carrying only one passenger.

A person with a valid driver’s license may operate a Class 1 ATV:

- In the ditch or the outside bank or slope of a trunk, county state-aid, or county highway unless prohibited under local road authority.

- Registered for private use and being used for agricultural purposes on a public right-of-way of a trunk or county highway, if the ATV is on the extreme right side of the road. A left turn may be made if it is safe to do so.

- On the far right side of a township road, unless prohibited by local regulations.

- On a bridge, a roadway shoulder, or the inside bank of a public road right-of-way if necessary to avoid obstructions to travel or environmentally sensitive areas. You must remain in the farthest right lane, enter the roadway within 100 feet of the bridge, obstacle, or area, and make the crossing without delay.

Class 1 ATV with steering wheel

A person may operate a Class 1 all-terrain vehicle designed by the manufacturer for off-road use to be driven by a steering wheel and equipped with operator and passenger seat belts and a roll-over protective structure within the public road right-of-way of a county state-aid or county highway on the right shoulder or the extreme right-hand side of the road and left turns may be made from any part of the road if it is safe to do so under the prevailing conditions, unless prohibited by local ordinance.

CLASS 2 ATV OPERATIONS

In addition to the information found on page 17 and 18, a class 2 all-terrain vehicle may be operated:

- within the public road right-of-way of a county state-aid or county highway on the right shoulder or the extreme right-hand side of the road and left turns may be made from any part of the road if it is safe to do so under the prevailing conditions;

- on the bank, slope, or ditch of a public road right-of-way of a trunk, county state-aid, or county highway but only to access businesses or make trail connections, and left turns may be made from any part of the road if it is safe to do so under the prevailing conditions;

- on the bank or ditch of a public road right-of-way on a designated class 2 all-terrain vehicle trail.

A road authority as defined under Minnesota statute 160.02, subdivision 25, may after a public hearing restrict the use of all-terrain vehicles in the public road right-of-way under its jurisdiction.

Continued...
Ages 16 to 17
• Must have a valid driver’s license and a ATV safety certificate to make a direct crossing of a roadway or operate on road rights-of-way.
• Must wear a DOT rated helmet and seat belt (if equipped).

Youth under age 15 cannot operate a Class 2
• A person under 15 years of age shall not operate a class 2 all-terrain vehicle. Minnesota Statute 84.9256 Subd. 1 (g).

A person with a valid drivers license may operate a Class 2 ATV:
• on frozen lake surfaces;
• on state forest roads; or
• within the public road right-of-way of a county state-aid or county highway on the right shoulder or the extreme right-hand side of the road and left turns may be made from any part of the road if it is safe to do so under the prevailing conditions, unless prohibited by the road authority or other local laws.

Passengers on Class 2 ATVs
A person 18 years of age or older may operate a Class 2 all-terrain vehicle while carrying only one passenger, or up to the number of passengers for which the vehicle was designed, whichever is greater. Minnesota Statute 84.9257 Passengers.
Note: Passengers must occupy the designated seating area that was installed by the original manufacturer.

A person shall not operate an all-terrain vehicle at any time within the right-of-way of an interstate highway or freeway within this state. Operation on the surface of a Trunk Highway (a.k.a state highway) is not permitted.

For additional information for operation on roads and rights-of-way, see www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/84.928

SPECIAL VEHICLE USE ON ROADWAY (Minnesota Statute 169.045)
The governing body of any county, home rule charter or statutory city, or town may by ordinance authorize the operation of motorized golf carts, all-terrain vehicles, utility task vehicles, or mini trucks, on designated roadways or portions thereof under its jurisdiction.

See the Minnesota Office of the Revisor of Statutes website for the full text of law.
ATV FIT LAW: ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL!
To operate an ATV on public lands or frozen waters, or on state or grant-in-aid trails, operators under age 16 must:

- Be able to properly reach and control the handlebars and reach the foot pegs while sitting upright on an ATV with straddle-style seating.
- Be able to properly reach the steering wheel and foot controls of a Class 1 ATV with side-by-side seating while sitting upright with the seat belt fully engaged.

**Seat clearance:** There should be a minimum of 3 inches between operator and the ATV seat. Proper clearance enables the operator to maintain balance on the foot rests when riding over rough terrain. Maintaining balance prevents the operator from falling off or being thrown from the machine.

**Upper legs:** While seated, the operator’s upper legs should be horizontal (parallel to the ground).

**Arm length:** While seated on the machine and gripping the handle bar, there should be a distinct bend in the arm at the elbow. Without it, there will not be sufficient reach to properly grip the handlebars when turning and riding.

**Hand size:** With the hand gripping the handle bar, extend the fingers to the brake lever. The first joint of the index finger should extend beyond the brake lever. If it doesn’t, then the hand is too small to safely operate the brake. Also, check to see that the arm length is sufficient to properly operate the brake lever and throttle while the handlebars are turned to the far left and right.
OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE OPERATIONS

PUBLIC ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY
Public road right-of-way means the entire right-of-way of a roadway that is not privately owned, including the traveled portions, banks, ditches, shoulders, and medians.

OHV riding may be permitted on grant-in-aid trails that include portions of the public road right-of-way when signed for that vehicle type.

Explanation on Highways

County State Aid Highway:
A highway that is maintained by the county road authority which receives state funds for maintenance and development. The highway may be constructed with an aggregate material or asphalt surface. A county ordinance may regulate off-highway vehicle operation.

Trunk Highway:
A trunk system is a network of interstates and state highways that connects communities throughout Minnesota. The highway may be constructed with an asphalt or concrete surface. All-Terrain Vehicle operation is restricted - see graphics on page 18 and 20 for road surface use summary.

Crossing a public road right-of-way
An all-terrain vehicle may make a direct crossing of a public road right-of-way provided:
• the crossing is made at an angle of approximately 90 degrees to the direction of the road and at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing;
• the vehicle is brought to a complete stop before crossing the shoulder or main-traveled way of the road;
• the driver yields the right-of-way to all on-coming traffic that constitutes an immediate hazard;
• in crossing a divided road, the crossing is made only at an intersection of the road with another public road; and
• if the crossing is made between the hours of ½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise or in conditions of reduced visibility, only if both front and rear lights are on.
OPERATION RESTRICTIONS

You may not operate OHVs:

• in a careless, reckless or negligent manner that endangers another person or property;
• on restricted areas within public lands that are posted or where gates or other clearly visible structures are placed to prevent unauthorized motorized vehicle access;
• on the median of a four-lane highway;
• within the right-of-way of any interstate highway or freeway;
• on the right-of-way between opposing lanes of traffic;
• on grant-in-aid snowmobile trails;
• on designated non-motorized trails;
• at airports;
• on any frozen public waters where you don’t have legal access or where it is prohibited;
• in any area restricted by local ordinances;
• in a tree nursery or planting area;
• on state forest lands that are posted or designated “closed” to motorized uses.
• on agricultural land without permission; or
• in most state parks, state recreation areas, state historic sites, wildlife management areas (WMAs), state scientific and natural areas (SNAs) with the exception of posted trails and areas. Exception: OHVs that are licensed highway motor vehicles may be operated on established roads at speeds up to 20 miles per hour in the following WMAs: Carlos Avery, Hubbel Pond, Mille Lacs, Red Lake, Roseau River, and Thief Lake.
OTHER PROHIBITIONS

You may not:

• litter;
• enter or leave lands by cutting wire or tearing down a fence;
• mutilate, destroy, damage or remove any property within a trail or on state land; or
• post, damage or remove any signs on any lands or waters unless you are the landowner, occupant or lessee of the property.

OHVS AND WETLAND DISTURBANCE

You may not operate an OHV in a manner to:

• Carelessly upset the natural and ecological balance of a wetland.
• Impact a wetland in excess of minimum amounts established by law.
• Ride below the ordinary high-water level of an unfrozen public waters that are lakes, streams, rivers and public water wetlands or calcareous fens.
• There are increased penalties for OHV wetland disturbance. Conviction may be a Gross Misdemeanor and the OHV (ATV, OHM and ORV) may be forfeited.
• Wetland restrictions apply both to private land as well as public land. Wetland regulations vary by the area of the state and other criteria.

If uncertain an area is a wetland, please contact the areas County Soil and Water Conservation District or local zoning office. For additional Wetland definitions, see MN Statute 103g.005 and 103g.223

In addition to the training requirements listed here, operating privileges are automatically suspended for one year for:

• Conviction for carelessly and recklessly upsetting the natural and ecological balance of a wetland (gross misdemeanor violation).
• Operation on unfrozen public water, or in a state park, SNA, or WMA.
• Willful, wanton or reckless disregard for the safety of persons or property.
• Carelessly upsetting the natural and ecological balance of a wetland or public waters wetland.

WHEN TRAIL RIDING

• Obey all trail signs.

- Directional Marker Sign
- Intersection Ahead Sign
- Stop Sign
- Caution Sign

• Orange trail markers are snowmobile routes and do not permit operation of other OHVs.

Continued…
CAN I RIDE AN OHV IN THE METRO AREA?

In the seven-county metro area

For the counties of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott and Washington, you may ride on:

- Your own land.
- Land posted with signs specifically permitting the use of OHVs.

You may not ride OHVs on land you do not own unless given written or verbal permission by the owner, occupant or lessee.

Land uses vary. Be sure to check federal, state and local regulations for specific restrictions.

Outside of the seven-county metro area

No person shall enter on any land not owned by the person for the purpose of operating a recreational motor vehicle after being notified, either orally or by written or posted notice, by the owner, occupant or lessee not to do so.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS OR ORDINANCES

A county, city or town may by ordinance allow operation of an all-terrain vehicle on a public road or street under its jurisdiction to access businesses and residences and to make trail connections. Check with the appropriate unit of government for additional regulations or restrictions.

Unless otherwise prohibited, a county board by ordinance may allow the operation of all-terrain vehicles on the road right-of-way shoulder, or inside bank or slope of a county highway or county state-aid highway, if:
1) the highway is in the agricultural zone; or
2) safe operation in the ditch or outside slope is impossible, and the county posts the appropriate notice.
OFF-HIGHWAY MOTORCYCLES (OHM)

OHM SAFETY TRAINING REQUIREMENT

Ages 6 to 15
A person six years or older but less than 16 years of age operating an off-highway motorcycle on public lands or waters must possess a valid off-highway motorcycle safety certificate issued by the commissioner.

The Minnesota DNR OHM Safety course includes information on: basic operation, common parts and controls, operating safely and responsibly, trail riding, rules and laws, riding skills and protecting the environment.

Website: atvcourse.com/usa/minnesota Search for OHM Course

After completing all the online course requirements, you will be able to print a certificate of completion. To obtain your permanent safety certificate, mail the certificate of completion along with a $5.00 (check/money order) fee written out to the “Minnesota DNR.” Mail to DNR Safety Training and Education, Camp Ripley, 15011 HWY 115, Little Falls, MN 56345. To contact the Safety Training office, see page 39.

OHM YOUTH OPERATORS

Helmets
Operators under age 18 are required to wear a helmet when operating on public lands, frozen waters, and road rights-of-way. See page 3 for the definition of an approved helmet.

Under age 12
- Must wear eye protection and an approved DOT rated helmet.
- Must have in possession a valid OHM safety certificate when operating on public lands and frozen waters.
- May not make a direct crossing of a public road right-of-way.
- May not operate OHM on a public road or public road right-of-way.
- May not operate OHM on public lands or frozen public waters unless accompanied by a person age 18 or older who holds a valid driver’s license. Exception: an operator participating in a DNR permitted event is not required to be accompanied by an adult.

Under age 16
- Must wear eye protection and an approved DOT rated helmet.
- Must have in possession a valid OHM safety certificate when operating on public lands, frozen waters, and public road rights-of-way.

Continued...
• May make a direct crossing of a public road (except an interstate highway) if accompanied by a person age 18 or older with a valid driver’s license.

**Ages 16 and 17**

• Must wear eye protection and an approved DOT rated helmet when operating on public lands, frozen waters, and public road rights-of-way.

• Must have a valid driver’s license to operate an OHM on a public roadway, and the motorcycle must be licensed for highway use. (A driver’s license is not required on designated trails when the trail specifically includes the road right-of-way).

**NONRESIDENT YOUTH OHM OPERATORS**

Nonresidents under age 16 may operate an OHM on public lands or frozen waters if they have in possession proof of completing an OHM safety course offered by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) Dirt bike School, or another state and are accompanied by a person age 18 or older who has a valid driver’s license.

**OHM GENERAL OPERATIONS**

• You may not operate an OHM in ditches, unless it is a trail designated for OHM use.

• OHMs registered for highway use may operate on roadways.

• A valid driver’s license with a motorcycle endorsement is required to operate anywhere on road rights-of-way, including crossing roads. The only exception would be on portions of a designated trail that specifically include a road right-of-way.

• Your OHM must have a headlight, taillight and brakes to be operated on a public road. The lights must be on while operating on a trunk, county, state aid, or county highway; or when crossing a public road right-of-way, ½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise; or in conditions of reduced visibility.

• You must wear eye protection when operating an OHM.

• You may not exceed 10 mph on the frozen surface of public waters within 100 feet of a person fishing or a fish house or other shelter.

• Sound levels for OHMs manufactured after 1986 may not exceed 96 decibels when operated on public lands.
CROSSING PUBLIC ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY
A person operating an off-highway motorcycle may make a direct crossing of a public road right-of-way provided:

- the crossing is made at an angle of approximately 90 degrees;
- the off-highway motorcycle is brought to a complete stop before crossing the shoulder or main-traveled way of the road;
- the driver yields the right-of-way to all oncoming traffic that constitutes an immediate hazard;
- in crossing a divided road, the crossing is made only at an intersection of the road with another public road; and
- if the crossing is made between the hours of ½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise or in conditions of reduced visibility, only if both front and rear lights are on.

THINGS TO KNOW

Reporting stolen, abandoned or destroyed vehicles
A registered off-highway vehicle that is abandoned, stolen or destroyed must be reported to the DNR License Center within 15 days. There is no fee.

Accident reports
A recreational accident report must be submitted to the DNR within 10 days. An OHV accident resulting in injury requiring medical attention or hospitalization to or death of a person; or total damage of $300 or more for ORVs, $500 or more for ATVs and OHMs.

Odometer tampering
It is unlawful to knowingly tamper with an OHV odometer with the intent to defraud by reflecting a lower mileage than the true mileage, the same as other motor vehicles. For additional information on OHV odometer tampering, see Minnesota Statute 325E.14
**OFF-ROAD VEHICLES (ORV)**

**ORV EDUCATION AND SAFETY TRAINING**

**Age 16 and older**

An ORV environmental and safety training course is available for persons age 16 or older. The course, available on a flash drive, covers ORV familiarization, operating procedures, law, towing procedures, ethics, safety hazards, and environmental considerations. It is not required by law to take the course, but it is highly recommended. The cost is $15.00. To contact the Safety Training office, see page 39.

**ORV YOUTH OPERATORS**

**Under age 16**

A person under 16 years of age may not operate an ORV. The owner of an ORV may not allow it to be operated by a person under age 16.

**ORV GENERAL OPERATIONS**

- All ORV passengers and operators must wear seat belts.
- A valid driver’s license is required to cross roads. The only exception is portions of a designated trail that specifically include a road right-of-way.
- ORVs are required to have lights on while crossing public roads ½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise, and during periods of reduced visibility.
- You may operate on state forest roads, trails and lands as described on page 34. You may not operate an ORV within the right-of-way of an interstate highway, or within a public road right-of-way, except on a designated trail.
TRAIL PASSES

RESIDENT
A person may not operate an off-road vehicle on a state or grant-in-aid off-road vehicle trail or use area unless the vehicle displays an off-road vehicle state trail pass sticker. A resident trail pass is valid for 30 days. Trail pass is not required if ORV is registered in the state.

NONRESIDENT
A nonresident operating an ATV, OHM, or ORV on state and grant-in-aid trails is required to have a nonresident trail pass, unless specified below:

- The pass is not required if the nonresident operator is driving an ATV that is registered in Minnesota.
- Nonresidents do not need a pass if operating on a portion of an ATV, OHM or ORV trail that is owned by the person or the person’s spouse, child, or parent, or if the ATV, OHM or ORV is registered in Minnesota.

Trail passes required (examples not to scale):
- The ORV trail pass must be displayed on the vehicle where it is readily visible.
- The ATV or OHM trail pass must be available for inspection when requested by a law enforcement officer.
- Duplicate nonresident ATV, OHM and ORV trail passes are available.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
NONRESIDENT OHM TRAIL PASS
MDNR#: 898190806
SAMPLE NAME
500 LAFAYETTE RD
ST PAUL, MN 55155

23
Height: 0’ 0”
Weight: 0 lbs
Gender: UNK
Eyes: OTHER
Nonresident OHM Trail Pass, Code 031
Effective Dates: 01/01/2023 - 12/31/2023
Required for nonresidents to operate an Off-Highway Motorcycle, OHM or OHM Trail.
Pass must be in immediate possession and available for inspection.
031 - Nonresident OHM Trail Pass $21.00
Total $21.00
This license is NON-REFUNDABLE
License Signature: __________________________________________
I hereby certify that my license privileges have not been revoked prior to this date:

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
NONRESIDENT ATV TRAIL PASS
MDNR#: 898190806
SAMPLE NAME
500 LAFAYETTE RD
ST PAUL, MN 55155

23
Height: 0’ 0”
Weight: 0 lbs
Gender: UNK
Eyes: OTHER
Nonresident ATV Trail Pass, Code 022
Effective Dates: 01/01/2023 - 12/31/2023
Required for nonresidents to operate an All-Terrain Vehicle on a state or grant-in-aid trail.
Pass must be in immediate possession and available for inspection.
022 - Nonresident ATV Trail Pass $31.00
Total $31.00
This license is NON-REFUNDABLE
License Signature: __________________________________________
I hereby certify that my license privileges have not been revoked prior to this date:
REQUIRED EQUIPMENT FOR OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES

The following are required for all off-highway vehicles operated on public lands, waters, trails, and public streets and roads open to vehicle use.

**Brakes**
Brakes must control movement and stop and hold the vehicle.

**Throttle**
Throttle must return the engine to idle when pressure to advance the throttle is removed.

**Mufflers**
- No person shall operate a vehicle unless it is equipped with a muffler having a spark arrestor approved by the United States Forest Service. Minnesota Rule 6102.0040 subpart 4 A.
- Overall noise emission from ATVs and ORVs may not exceed 99 decibels at a distance of 20 inches.
- OHMs that are not competition cycles, and were manufactured in or after 1986, may not exceed noise emissions of 96 decibels at a distance of 20 inches.
- Mufflers may not be altered to increase motor noise, or have a cutout, bypass, or similar device except if used at organized events.

**Towing**
- A straight-arm bar must be used to tow a trailer or other device containing passengers.
- A disabled vehicle being towed may contain a person to steer.
- At least 16 square inches of reflective material that is unobstructed and visible must be mounted on each side and at the rear of a trailer or other device.
- Recommend passengers wear approved DOT helmets for their safety.

**Lights**
- The headlight and taillight must be lighted at all times if the vehicle is equipped with headlight and taillight.
- If not equipped, may not operate in hours of darkness or reduced visibility.
ENFORCEMENT

Conservation officers, deputy sheriffs, police officers, and state troopers all enforce off-highway vehicle rules. You must stop when signaled by a law enforcement officer.

Penalties

- Fleeing a law enforcement officer on an OHV is a felony and the OHV used may be forfeited.
- A Off-highway vehicle violation can be a petty misdemeanor or a misdemeanor; it depends on severity of the violation.
- Most operation, registration and trespass violations also can be enforced by issuing a civil citation and can include restitution.

Operating while intoxicated

Operating any motor vehicle (including off-highway vehicles) while under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance, or other hazardous substance is unlawful.

Operators who are impaired may be required to submit to tests by a law enforcement officer. Refusal to submit to the test is a crime and the person’s ATV, snowmobile, and motorboat operating privileges will be suspended during the same time period as their driver’s license privileges.

Persons who test .08 or more—regardless of what vehicle type they are operating—will lose their ATV, snowmobile, and motorboat operating privileges for the same duration as their driver’s license privilege. The suspension applies regardless of location of operation (ie. Private property, trails, public roads, public lands or frozen waters)

Off-highway vehicle DWI convictions and refusals are recorded on the violator’s driver’s license record and may affect their driver’s license privileges.

An operator, who is found to be impaired or has an alcohol concentration of .08 or more, can be charged with a misdemeanor, gross misdemeanor, or felony level DWI.

Persons convicted of a DWI may be subject to one or more of the following: Fines; jail time; loss of OHV ATV, snowmobile, and motorboat operating privileges; forfeiture of the OHV; loss of motor vehicle driver’s license privileges and motor vehicle plate impoundment.

The underage not-a-drop provisions in the DWI laws apply to ATVs and other off-road recreational vehicles, including loss of driver’s license and OHV and motorboat operating privileges.

Continued...
Open bottle law
It is unlawful for a person to drink, consume, or possess an open alcoholic beverage when an OHV is operated on a road or within the road right of way. (except on designated trail)

Ignition Interlock
If the person operating or in physical control of an off-road recreational vehicle is a program participant in the ignition interlock device program described in section 171.306, the off-road recreational vehicle may be operated only if it is equipped with an approved ignition interlock device. (Includes ATV, ORV, OHM, Snowmobile and motorboats)

Trespass
Agricultural land is broadly defined. You must have permission to ride on legally posted land or agricultural land. All planted grassland, hay land and short-rotation woody cropland also meet the definition of agricultural land. These lands do not need to be posted. Entering without permission is trespassing.

Further information on trespass laws can be found in the Minnesota Hunting and Trapping Regulations Handbook at mndnr.gov/regulations.

You may not: wound or kill another person’s domestic animal; destroy private property; pass through a closed gate without returning it to the original position; travel off a marked OHV grant in aid and state marked trails.

Violator training and suspension
An individual who is convicted of violating a law related to the operation of an ATV must successfully complete the ATV safety online training course before continuing operation of an ATV.

An individual who is convicted for a second or subsequent excess speed, trespass, or wetland violation in an all-terrain vehicle season, or any conviction for careless or reckless operation of an ATV, must successfully complete the ATV safety online training course and the testing and operating course components of ATV safety training before continuing operation of an ATV.

An individual who receives three or more citations and convictions for violating a law related to the operation of an ATV in a two-year period must successfully complete the ATV safety online training course and the testing and operating course components of all-terrain vehicle safety training before continuing operation of an ATV.
PUBLIC LANDS AND TRAILS

STATE FOREST LANDS

Minnesota state forests have been classified into three groupings for off-highway and motor vehicle use: managed, limited and closed. For a complete listing of state forest classifications see page 37. You can ride your OHV on state forest roads and trails in accordance with state forest motor vehicle use classifications and regulations.

- In managed state forests north of U.S. Highway 2, OHVs may operate on mapped trails and other existing routes that are not gated or posted “closed.”
- In both managed and limited state forests, forest roads are open to OHV use unless posted “closed.”
- In limited state forests, OHV operation is allowed only on signed and mapped routes that are open for that type of OHV use. For example, trails can be designated for ATV, OHM, and/or ORV use.

Seasonal or temporary road and trail closures

Closures may take place at any time due to trail repairs, spring thaw, after heavy rains, logging operations, or other natural resource protection or public safety concerns. Check trail status at on mndnr.gov/ohv. Closures updated every Thursday after 2 pm.

Examples of a temporary road or trail closure signs:

Events on state forest lands

The DNR may provide temporary exceptions to the general rules for a specific state park, forest campground, forest day-use area, or state forest lands for emergencies or authorized special events. Notice of the exception will be plainly posted at the site. To hold a special event on state forest lands, a permit is required. Contact the Minnesota DNR Information Center.

Continued…
Where you can ride:

- **In a managed forest** on all state forest roads, trails and nondesignated routes unless posted “closed.”

- **In a limited forest** on forest roads and on trails designated and signed to permit specific motor vehicle use and on trails specifically designated and signed for a vehicle type. For example, trails can be designated for ATV, OHM, and/or ORV use.

- **In a closed forest** on frozen public waters.

You may not ride:

- In a state forest classified as “closed.”
- Within the boundaries of an area that is posted and designated as “closed.”
- On designated non-motorized trails unless also posted open for a specific motorized use.
- Off of routes, roads and designated trails except when hunter/trapper exception applies. (See the *Minnesota Hunting and Trapping Regulations Handbook* at [mndnr.gov/regulations](http://mndnr.gov/regulations) for more information).
- On forest lands in a manner that causes erosion or rutting or that damages or destroys trees or growing crops (the rutting provision does not apply on designated motorized trails).
- On or over lakes, rivers or streams except:
  - when the water body is ice-covered, or
  - at a bridge, culvert or designated low-water crossing.
- During deer hunting season, you may not ride on state forest trails in areas of the state where deer may be taken by rifle, unless you possess a deer hunting license. State forest roads remain open.

**Off-road or off-trail travel**

Traveling off roads and trails is prohibited on state lands. See *Minnesota’s Hunting and Trapping Regulations Handbook* at [mndnr.gov/regulations](http://mndnr.gov/regulations) for more information.

*Continued...*
**Big game hunting/trapping exceptions**

Persons with a valid hunting, trapping, or commercial license in possession may travel off-road and off-trail on Class 1 ATVs to:

- retrieve big game (September to December);
- hunt for big game and construct stands (October to December);
- trap during the open season for protected furbearers; or
- trap for minnows under certain conditions.

Persons with a valid hunting, trapping or commercial license in possession may use Class 2 ATVs, ORVs and highway-licensed vehicles (HLVs) to travel on:

- forest trails designated for ORV use; or
- a route not designated for other uses or posted “closed” in managed forests. See [Minnesota’s Hunting and Trapping Regulations Handbook](https://mndnr.gov/regulations) for more information.

**OHV riding restrictions during deer hunting season**

OHV trails on state forest lands are closed to off-highway vehicle riding (ATV and OHM) during firearms deer season where deer may be taken by rifle in Hunting Zone A, Series 100 and portions of Series 200. See the [Minnesota Hunting and Trapping Regulations Handbook](https://mndnr.gov/regulations) for dates and zones annually. Persons possessing a valid deer license may use an ATV in these areas only:

- before legal shooting hours (½ hour before sunrise).
- from 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.
- after legal shooting hours (½ hour after sunset).

Forest roads remain open to OHV use.

**Areas with limitations**

The big game hunter/trapper exceptions do not apply in areas signed and mapped as “No Motorized Travel.” It also does not apply within the Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood State Forest.

**Other restrictions and prohibitions under Minnesota Rule 6100.1950 Subpart 7**

- Unauthorized trail construction is not allowed on state forest lands.
- Motor vehicles must be operated in a manner that does not cause damage to the road, land or other natural resources. Motor vehicle use causing erosion, rutting or damage to trees is prohibited.
- In Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood State Forest, motor vehicles may operate only on forest roads that are not posted “closed” and on forest trails that are designated for motorized use.

*Continued...*
State forest classifications

Some state forests have more than one motor vehicle use classification and are listed below more than once.

Managed state forests
Beltrami Island
Big Fork
Blackduck
Cloquet Valley (portions)
Finland (portions)
George Washington (portions)
Grand Portage (portions)
Kabetogama

Koochiching
Lake of the Woods
Lost River
Northwest Angle
Pine Island
Red Lake
Smokey Bear
Sturgeon River (portions)

Limited state forests
Badoura
Bear Island
Bowstring
Buena Vista (portions)
Burntside (portions)
Centennial
Chengwatana
Cloquet Valley (portions)
Crow Wing
Daughters of the American Revolution
Emily
Finland (portions)
Fond Du Lac
Foothills
General C.C. Andrews
George Washington (portions)
Golden Anniversary
Grand Portage (portions)
Hill River
Huntersville

Lake Jeanette (portions)
Land O’ Lakes
Lyons
Mississippi Headwaters
Nemadji
Pat Bayle
Paul Bunyan
Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood
Remer
Rum River
St. Croix
Savanna
Smoky Hills
Snake River (portions)
Solana
Sturgeon River (portions)
Two Inlets
Wealthwood
White Earth
Waukenabo

Closed state forests
Battleground
Birch Lakes
Buena Vista (portions)
Burntside (portions)
Cloquet Valley (portions)
Finland (portions)
George Washington (portions)
Insula Lake

Lake Isabella
Lake Jeanette (portions)
Pillsbury
Sand Dunes
Snake River (portions)
Sturgeon River (portions)
Welsh Lake
Whiteface River
NATIONAL FOREST LANDS
The U.S. Forest Service, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regulate motor vehicle use on federal lands. Check with the managing agency before riding on these lands.

The Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) is the legal guide for motor vehicle use on the national forests. The MVUM is updated annually and available at no charge at the forest supervisor or ranger district offices.

You may ride an OHV and highway-licensed vehicles (HLV) on national forest roads or trails designated open to these uses on the MVUM map.

You may not ride on national forest roads that are signed, gated, bermed with dirt, rocks, trees, etc., or not designated “Open” on the MVUM map.

For information about national forests, contact:
Chippewa National Forest
218-335-8600
www.fs.usda.gov/chippewa

Superior National Forest
218-626-4300
www.fs.usda.gov/superior

COUNTY FOREST LANDS AND TRAILS
Counties may have adopted different off-highway vehicle regulations, which includes county administered land within state forest boundaries. For information on regulations, roads and trails on county land, please contact that county directly.

GeoPDF MAPS FOR YOUR DEVICE
Don't get lost in the woods, navigate large remote areas using DNR Geospatial PDFs “GeoPDFs” on your mobile device. Display your current location like Google Maps™, but you don’t have to be connected to the internet or have cell service while using the maps.

mndnr.gov/mobile/geopdf/index.html
Where to ride your off-highway vehicle
dnr.state.mn.us/ohv/az.html

Safety training
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Safety Training Program—Camp Ripley
15011 HWY 115, Little Falls, MN 56345
800-366-8917
mndnr.gov/safety/vehicle
For information about safety training classes, call the DNR Safety Training Program at 800-366-8917 or go to mndnr.gov/safety/vehicle/atv.

State trails
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources—Information Center
500 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
651-296-6157 or 888-MINNDNR
mndnr.gov/ohv

Off-highway vehicle registration
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources—License Center
500 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55155-4026
651-296-2316 or 800-285-2000
mndnr.gov/rlp
CALL US
Interpreters are available to answer all of your questions
License, titling and registration: M-F 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
General information: M-F 8 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sat. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
888-MINNDNR or 651-296-6157
info.dnr@state.mn.us
For more information on OHV trails, maps, trip planning, safety training, rules and regulations, trail closures and more, visit mndnr.gov/ohv.
To contact a conservation officer call 888-MINNDNR or 651-296-6157.

MinnesotaDepartment of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
888-MINNDNR or 651-296-6157
mndnr.gov

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