

Youth Safety Requirements

Riders younger than 6 shall not operate an ATV on public land.

Riders younger than 18 must:

- Complete an approved OHV safety course.
- Carry a safety permit issued to prove course completion.
- Wear an approved, securely fastened helmet and eye protection.
- Never carry a passenger, even on or in an OHV designed for passengers.
- Be visually supervised by an adult unless they have a valid drivers' license.
- Operate an ATV or recreational off-highway vehicle (ROV) meeting age appropriate size-fit requirements as established by rule of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF).

Approved OHV safety courses

include hands-on courses offered by:

- New Mexico Department of Game and Fish.
- ATV Safety Institute (ASI)
- Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) Dirt Bike School, and
- New Mexico specific online safety courses with links available at www.B4URide.com.

ATV dealers include ASI safety training with each new ATV purchase.

For more information about OHV safety training in New Mexico, contact: (505) 222-4712 or visit online: www.B4URide.com.

Protective Gear Requirements

Safety helmets

All off-highway motor vehicle operators and passengers younger than 18 shall wear safety helmets that comply with federal (DOT) or European Union (ECE) safety standards. A DOT or ECE sticker permanently affixed to a safety helmet is prima facie evidence of compliance.

Eye protection

All off-highway motor vehicle operators and passengers younger than 18 and all occupants of an OHV operated on a paved road shall wear eye protection that meets or exceeds Vehicle Equipment Safety Commission Standard VESC-8 and more generally known as goggles, safety glasses or a faceshield attached to the helmet. Additionally, the protective eyewear must be free of scratches, give a clear view to both sides and be fastened securely as per the manufacturer's requirements.

For more information on standards for protective gear visit:
www.B4URide.com.



Prohibited on Public Lands

It is illegal for any person to operate an OHV:

- Carelessly, recklessly or in a negligent manner that endangers the person or property of another.
- While under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs.
- In pursuit of and with intent to hunt or take a species of animal or bird protected by law.
- In pursuit of or to harass livestock in any manner that negatively effects the condition of the livestock.
- Upon or within an earthen tank or other structure intended to water livestock or wildlife—except if the off-highway motor vehicle is on an off-highway motor vehicle route designated by the landowner or land management agency.
- In a manner that directly negatively effects or interferes with persons engaged in agricultural practices.
- In excess of 10 mph within 200 feet of a business, animal shelter, horseback rider, bicyclist, pedestrian, livestock or occupied dwelling.
- Unless in possession of the person's registration certificate or nonresident permit.
- Unless the vehicle is equipped with a spark arrester approved by the Forest Service, provided that a snowmobile is exempt from this provision.

To report an OHV violation, visit online:
www.B4uRide.com or contact: 800-366-4868.

Respect the Land

Much of New Mexico's public land is managed for multiple uses, including off-highway vehicle recreation. When done safely, responsibly and in the right place(s), OHVs can be an appropriate way to enjoy our beautiful backcountry. Thanks to the Off-Highway Vehicle Act, the state has the resources to manage OHV use.

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish encourages responsible recreational use of our public lands to:

- Leave the land healthy and unspoiled.
- Protect our traditions, customs and culture.
- Preserve wildlife and habitat
- Allow the continued enjoyment of these lands by our families and for future generations.

Please be considerate and respect other users of our lands, including ranchers and livestock, private landowners, wildlife, equestrians, hikers and mountain bikers.

For more information about treating public lands respectfully, visit Tread Lightly! online:
www.treadlightly.org.

tread lightly![®]
ON LAND AND WATER

