

3.5 Class IV ATV (side-by-side)

SAFETY TRAINING

Side-by-Sides are relatively new and an increasingly popular form of off-road recreation. Because they have restraint systems as well as rollover protection systems, they may also be safer than quads or motorcycles. Like Class II ATVs there are no Oregon training requirements for side-by-sides unless the operator is under the age of 16 (see section 2.2).

Online (Required for youth now)

The online ATV Safety Education Course is the only way to receive Oregon's ATV Safety Education Card (or "Operator Permit"). The course provides safety tips for riding in Oregon's dunes, desert and forests, as well as training on trail etiquette, riding ethics and environmental concerns. For riders with no internet services or access to a public library, call 877-7SAFELY (877-772-3359) to request a Hardship Request Form. The ATV Safety Education Card is a phased-in requirement for everyone riding a Class III ATV on Oregon's public lands. (See page 7 for phases.)

Hands-On (Required for youth beginning July 1, 2012)

The Recreation Off-Highway Vehicle Association and other organizations are currently developing both training and evaluation for side-by-sides. OPRD is working with these providers to assure that Oregonians will receive adequate instruction and assessment.

4. ATVs and Hunting

ATVs are becoming popular vehicles for hunting. Hunters must follow the same rules as other ATV operators. This includes displaying an ATV Operating permit, carrying an ATV Safety Education Card, observing the same training and equipment requirements, adhering to sound level regulations and riding only on designated routes.

Scouting and retrieving game must be done on designated trails and roads. Harvested game can be carried by hand to a road or trail and then taken by vehicle. Game shouldn't be shot if it can't be packed out. Leaving a new set of crosscountry tracks invites others to follow and creates a dead end trail for future riders.

Rules to follow while hunting and using an ATV:

- No hunting or harassing animals from a snowmobile, ATV or passenger vehicle.
- Do not shoot from an ATV.
- Do not shoot from or across a public right-of-way or railroad right-of-way.
- Do not carry loaded firearms on an ATV.

Note: A loaded firearm is one having live ammunition in the chamber or arrows out of a quiver (ORS 821.240) A person who has a license to carry a concealed weapon is allowed to carry a loaded firearm on an ATV.

- Do not cast artificial light from a motor vehicle while in possession of a weapon; or cast an artificial light upon a game mammal, predatory animal or livestock from within 500 feet of a motor vehicle while in possession of a weapon.
- Always carry your ATV Safety Education Card.

Tips to follow while hunting and using an ATV:

- Stay on designated trails and roads. Respect closed roads and trails.
- Know and understand the meaning of trail signs and markings.
- Remember that other hunters may be in the area on foot. Respect other hunters' rights.
- Do not drink while riding ATVs and hunting. Laws concerning driving under the influence of intoxicants also apply to ATVs.
- Limit ATV use in and around campgrounds. Be respectful of other campers' desires for quiet and minimal disruption.
- Avoid driving an ATV in wet conditions, wetlands, streams and shorelines.



This user is operating their dirt bike by the rules in Central Oregon.

5. ATV Riding Opportunities

Oregon has a wide variety of designated ATV riding opportunities including sand, desert and forest areas. These areas provide a variety of experiences for all skill levels of riders. Riding areas are managed by the United States Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF), counties and non-profit clubs. Federal land managers are currently designating trails and open areas for OHV riding. Once the planning process is complete the managing agency will print maps (MVUMs) showing the designated (open/closed) roads, trails and open areas. These maps will be available from their offices.

It is the responsibility of everyone who operates an OHV to know the rules and regulations for their chosen riding area before hitting the trail. Contact the land manager for specific regulations.