Safe OHV Operation

Our goal is to encourage safe and responsible OHV operation. Through education and compliance of state and local OHV laws, we hope to prevent injuries and preserve OHV riding areas.

OHV’s are not toys. Serious injury can result from improper use of OHV’s, but with preparation and practice, OHV’s can be an enjoyable form of outdoor recreation. **Children under the age of 16 are required by law to wear a helmet and eye protection. They must also complete a state approved ATV safety course when riding on public land.**

For more safety information, visit the **ATV Safety Institute website**: [www.atvsafety.org](http://www.atvsafety.org)

Areas to Avoid When Operating an OHV

- Public Roadways, dirt and paved, including the sides of the roadway.
- Sidewalks
- Natural Areas / Farm Land
- Property Posted with “No Trespassing” signs.
- Private property without the owner’s permission.
- Canal Right-of-Ways
- Fenced / Gated Property
- Property bordered by water / canal.
- Construction Sites
Off-Highway Vehicles in Palm Beach County

The purpose of this brochure is to provide information about the use of Off Highway Vehicles (OHV) in Palm Beach County.

OHV’s include, but are not limited to, Motorized All-Terrain-Vehicles (ATV), Off-Road/Motocross style Motorcycles, Non-Street Legal Golf Carts and Wheel Buggies.

Florida State Statutes prohibit the operation of OHV’s on public roadways. A new law enacted on October 1, 2006, FSS 316.2123(1) allows ATV’s on unpaved roadways in participating counties. Palm Beach County voted to opt out of this law on February 27, 2007.

Palm Beach County Ordinance 2007-002, ATV Operation On Unpaved Roadways, was enacted on March 6, 2007. This ordinance prohibits the operation of ATV’s during anytime of the day or night on an unpaved roadway within the county. Violations are punishable by a fine of $500.00 dollars.

Currently in Palm Beach County, OHV’s can only be operated on private property you own or have permission to be on. They can also be operated in certain Wildlife Management areas.

Visit the FWC website, www.myfwc.com for more information about seasonal and vehicle restrictions.

Public Resources
Websites like floridatrailriders.org and atvflorida.com promote safe, responsible riding, group rides and provide locations for legal riding areas throughout the state.

Florida Statutes
Regarding OHV use, please visit: www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/

Look for Motor Vehicles, Ch. 316 & 322
ATV Statute ......................................... 316.2074
Golf Cart Statute ................................... 316.212
Drivers Must Be Licensed ...................... 322.03
Permitting Unauthorized Minor to Drive .................................................. 322.35
Trespass on Property............................. 810.09

Fence Damage in the Loxahatchee Slough Natural Area

Serious injury crash in The Acreage

Frequently Asked Questions

Where can I legally ride?
On Private Property you own or have permission to be on.

Consult the FWC website www.myfwc.com for information regarding management areas that allow ATV activities.

Do I need to wear a helmet?

Riders under the age of 16 are required to wear a helmet and eye protection by law. It is strongly recommended riders of all ages wear a helmet and eye protection.

Will receiving a traffic citation effect me when applying for my driver’s license?
Yes, the one year period you are required to hold a learner’s license will be extended for one year from the date of the conviction, or until you are 18 years old, whichever happens first.

What happens if I am stopped on a public roadway and I’m not a licensed driver?
It is a misdemeanor offense when an unlicensed driver operates a motor vehicle on a public roadway. A court appearance is required, which carries up to a $500.00 fine.

If I’m an unlicensed minor, will my parents get in trouble?
Yes, it is a misdemeanor offense when a parent or guardian causes or knowingly permits their child or ward under the age of 18 years to operate a motor vehicle on a public roadway. A court appearance is required, which carries up to a $500.00 fine.