

## Areas to Avoid When Operating an OHV

- Public Roadways, dirt and paved, including the sides of the roadway.
- Swales
- Canal Right-of-Ways
- Natural Areas
- Property Posted with "No Trespassing" signs
- Private property without the owner's permission
- Property bordered by water/canal
- Construction Sites
- Sidewalks
- Fenced /Gated Property
- Farm Land

## Palm Beach County Natural Areas



## Palm Beach Sheriff's Office Wildlands Task Force

The **Wildlands Task Force** is a specialized unit within Contract Services that provides law enforcement services for the county's 60,000 acres of natural areas.

As a task force, the unit works with: Palm Beach County's Environmental Resource Management, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, South Florida Water Management District, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Forestry, Palm Beach County Fire and Rescue and other state and local Law Enforcement agencies with the common goal of protecting Florida's natural resources.



As a mobility asset, the Wildlands Task Force responds to emergencies, such as lost persons, downed aircraft, brush fires and natural disasters. Specific enforcement issues includes wildlife poaching, unlawful off-road vehicle activity, improper equestrian use, illegal dumping, vandalism, arson, and theft of trees and aquatic plants.



**RIC L. BRADSHAW, SHERIFF**  
**PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**3228 GUN CLUB ROAD**  
**WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33406**  
**(561) 784-1207 • CONTRACTSDL@PBSO.ORG**

## PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

# Off-Highway Vehicle Guide



**RIC L. BRADSHAW, SHERIFF**  
**PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**3228 GUN CLUB ROAD**  
**WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33406**  
**(561) 784-1207**  
**CONTRACTSDL@PBSO.ORG**

# Off-Highway Vehicle Operation in Palm Beach County

This brochure provides information about the safe and legal use of **Off Highway Vehicles** (OHV) in Palm Beach County. OHVs include, but are not limited to:

- motorized all-terrain-vehicles (ATV)
- off-road/motorcross-style motorcycles
- non-street legal golf carts
- off-road utility vehicles
- go-carts
- wheel buggies.

**Florida State Statutes prohibit the operation of OHVs on public roadways\*.**

Palm Beach County Ordinance 2007-002, *ATV Operation on Unpaved Roadways*, was enacted on March 6, 2007 **prohibiting** the operation of ATVs at anytime of the day or night on an unpaved roadway within the county. Violations are punishable by a fine of \$500.

In Palm Beach County, OHVs may only be operated on private property you own or have permission to be on. They can also be operated in **certain** Wildlife Management areas. For more information about seasonal and vehicle restrictions, visit [www.myfwc.com](http://www.myfwc.com).



\*On February 27, 2007, Palm Beach County voted to opt out of Florida State Statute 316.2123(1) which allows ATV operation on unpaved roadways.

## Florida Statutes

[www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/](http://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 on public Roads .....	322.03
Permitting Unauthorized Minor to Drive on Public Roads .....	322.35
Trespass on Property .....	810.09
OHV Use by Law Enforcement Agencies .....	316.21265

# Safe OHV Operation

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

OHVs are not toys. Serious injury can result from improper use, but with preparation and practice, OHVs 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 lands and have the certificate in their possession.**

For more safety course information, visit the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services website at [www.floridaohv.org](http://www.floridaohv.org)



## Public Website Resource

To find out more about OHV riding in Florida, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has implemented a webpage at [www.floridaohv.org](http://www.floridaohv.org) where you may find updated information on where to legally ride in Florida and how youths can register to take the required OHV training.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Where can I legally ride in Palm Beach County?

On Private Property you own or have permission to be on, and certain Wildlife Management Areas. Visit [www.myfwc.com](http://www.myfwc.com) for vehicle and seasonal restrictions. For state riding areas, visit [www.floridaohv.org](http://www.floridaohv.org).

## 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 that riders of all ages wear a helmet and eye protection.

## Will receiving a traffic citation affect 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 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 fine.

