

# All-Terrain Vehicles

May through September is “Crunch Time” for ATV riders – a critical period when riding season and ATV-related incidents are at their peak.

Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) reported there were 385 ATV related fatalities nationwide in 2014.

## Make safety a part of the plan for every ride and follow these rules of the trail:

In 2014, the CPSC about 26 % of injuries involved children younger than 16 years of age.

- Do not drive ATVs on paved roads. They are designed to be driven on off-road terrain. They are at risk of overturning or colliding with vehicles on the roads.
- Do not allow a child under 16 to drive or ride an adult sized ATV. CPSC guidelines the they should be on one of the age appropriate youth models which are required to travel at slower speeds than adult ATVs and have an adjustable speed limiter. Children younger than 6 years of age should never be on any ATV either as driver or passenger.

33% of all ATV related deaths occurred on paved roads and 19% on unpaved roads.

- The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that no one under the age of 14 operate an ATV. Boys are twice as likely to be injured as girls.

In 2014, there were an estimated 93,700 ATV-related, emergency department-treated injuries

- Do not drive ATVs with a passenger or ride as a passenger. Most ATVs sold today are single-rider ATVs, which are not equipped with handholds or footrests for passengers.
- Always wear a helmet and other protective gear such as eye protection, boots, gloves, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt.
- Take a hands-on safety training course from a qualified instructor.

In North Dakota from 2011-2015, 43 fatalities occurred. 26% were children under the age of 20.

