

UTV and ATV SAFETY

BEFORE YOU GO:

- Know what roads are authorized for UTV travel in your area.
- Understand requirements for a vehicle to be street legal.
- Have insurance on your vehicle.
- Review all manufacturer's guidelines.
- Always inspect your UTV prior to operation.

HITTING THE ROAD:

- Remember all the rules of the road also apply to your UTV.
- Use the vehicle's lights and signals or hand signals.
- Have a horn, whistle, or other audible warning device ready.
- If you don't have a windshield, wear protective lenses.
- Never drive after drinking, using illegal drugs, or taking medications that warn against operating heavy machinery.

UTVs **do not** have airbags, head rests, or crumple zones to protect you in a crash.

Do not drive any vehicle while holding a child.

Do not allow anyone to hang on to your vehicle to be pulled along.

If driven on roadway, even to cross over, a valid licensed driver is required for operation.

In Kansas, UTVs and similar vehicles:

- Cannot be driven on highways or unauthorized city streets.
- Can cross over streets or highways.
- Can be operated for agricultural use by a licensed driver on highways where the speed limit is 65mph or less. The driver must drive as far to the right as possible.
- Must have lights for use between sunset and sunrise.

In Kansas, golf carts:

- Cannot be driven on streets with a speed limit of over 30mph
- May cross streets or highways.
- Must have lights for use between sunset and sunrise.
- Have a properly mounted slow-moving vehicle emblem.

ALL ABOUT ATVS

Even if an ATV is licensed in another state, the rider must follow Kansas laws and stay off the roadway.

ATV riders should wear protective gear, including an approved full-face helmet, eye protection, gloves, over-the-ankle low-heel boots, long-sleeve shirt, and long pants.

Never operate an ATV on streets, highways, paved roads or rights of way. It is extremely dangerous and illegal.

Remember that a child may be in an ATV's recommended age category, but they may not possess the strength, skills, and judgment necessary to operate it.

Riders under 16 should be supervised by an adult **at all times**.

ATVs handle differently from other vehicles, and do not travel well on pavement. Towing with an ATV will increase its stopping distance and affects its handling.

Read the owner's manual and take note of any warning labels.

Never exceed the manufacturer's designed passenger limit or allow passengers to ride anywhere except on designated places. Aftermarket seats do not increase passenger limits.

Buy and install an ATV safety flag for safety.

Never operate an ATV under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Avoid stunt riding and excessive speeds.

Keep your hands on the handlebars and feet on the footrests.

Be safe and stay focused. Make riding safely your #1 priority!

In 2018, Kansas ATV riders were in 78 crashes. **Those crashes killed 4 people.**

Vehicles of any type, including ATVs, are not toys and should not be treated as such.

These are guidelines and are not meant to cover all aspects of ATV safety.

For more information about transportation safety, visit ktsro.org.

KANSAS Traffic Safety
Resource OFFICE

