

Dept. of Natural Resources: ATV/UTV riders: Think smart before you start

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MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reminds ATV/UTV riders to ride safe and always wear a helmet and seatbelt while out on trails and ATV routes.

So far this year, [there have been 11 fatalities due to ATV/UTV crashes](#). Most of the people involved were not wearing seat belts or helmets.

Make the safety of you and your passengers a top priority by:

- Riding sober – alcohol is a top contributing factor in fatal and non-fatal crashes
- Riding at a speed that allows you to be aware of what's around you and ahead of you at all times
- Wearing your helmet, seat belt and protective clothing
- Using extra caution when operating on pavement

One of the best things ATV and UTV operators can do to operate safely is to take an online safety course. [A list of approved safety education classes is available on the DNR Safety Education webpage](#). Remember, all operators born after Jan. 1, 1988 are legally required to take the course.

Wisconsin law requires every operator involved in a crash incident to report the incident without delay to law enforcement officials. In addition, within 10 days of the incident, the operator must submit a [written report to the DNR](#).

For more information on ATV and UTV recreation in Wisconsin, [visit the DNR's ATV/UTV riding in Wisconsin webpage](#).