

Safety begins with the ATV operator

The Central Region of OPP is reminding outdoor enthusiasts to make every ride a smart ride and a safe ride. This year, three deaths have occurred while operating an All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV), including two adults and one child in OPP patrolled areas of the region.

ATV's are prohibited from all roadways in Ontario unless the municipality has passed a bylaw to make exception to this rule.

ATV enthusiasts must remember that:

- ? the operator must drive the ATV on the far right hand side of the roadway;
- ? all riders must always wear an approved helmet;
- ? drivers must hold a G2 or greater drivers licence (if operated on an allowed roadway);
- ? 20 km/h is the maximum speed an ATV can travel on roads with a posted speed limit of 50km/h or less;
- ? ATV's are prohibited from travelling along or across 400 series highways;
- ? operators must be at least 12 years of age (when operating on trails unsupervised);
- ? drinking and driving, and impaired by drugs while operating an ATV is a criminal offence and carries the same penalties as operating a vehicle.
- ? the vehicle must have a properly displayed off-road licence plate;
- ? an ATV travelling along a road must have its headlights and tail lights on;
- ? the vehicle must be registered and proof of ownership must be produced at trailside; and
- ? the ATV owner must have liability insurance and surrender proof upon request.