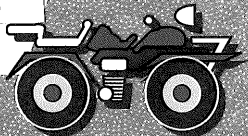


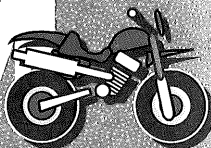


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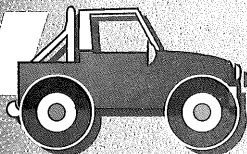
ATV



OHV



ORV



# RECREATIONAL MOTOR VEHICLES REGULATIONS

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MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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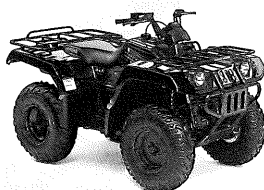
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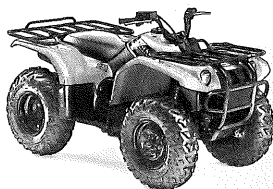
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ATVs with engine sizes of 90cc or greater are recommended for use only by those age 16 and older. • Yamaha recommends that all ATV riders take an approved training course. For safety and training information, see your dealer or call the ATV Safety Institute at 1-800-887-2887. • ATVs can be hazardous to operate. For your safety: Always avoid paved surfaces. Never ride on public roads. Always wear a helmet, eye protection and protective clothing; never carry passengers; never engage in stunt riding; riding and alcohol/drugs don't mix; avoid excessive speed; and be particularly careful on difficult terrain.

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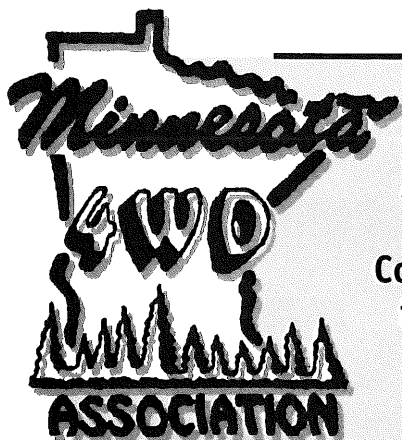
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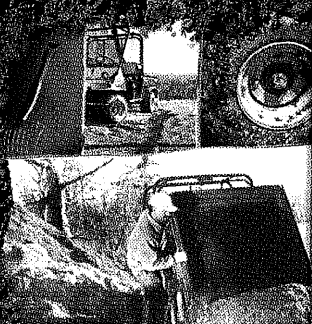
Association of Organized  
People and Groups  
Concerned with Off-Roadng  
in the State of Minnesota

## MN 4WDA Association

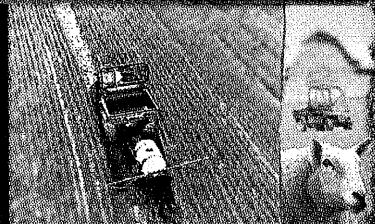
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riding harder longer and unequaled reliability you can count on day in and day out. And the Mule utility vehicle is now available with a rugged diesel powerplant. So call 1-800-661-RIDE or visit [www.kawasaki.com](http://www.kawasaki.com). And relax. Sleep in. You've got time.



©2000 Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A. Kawasaki ATVs are recommended for use only by persons 16 years of age or older. Kawasaki also recommends that all ATV riders take a training course. For more information, see your dealer or call the ATV Safety Institute at 1-800-887-2867. **Warning:** ATVs can be hazardous to operate. For your safety, Always wear a helmet, eye protection and protective clothing. Never carry a passenger. Never ride under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Never ride on public roads or pavement. Avoid excessive speeds and stunt driving. **Be extra careful on difficult terrain.** Always wear protective equipment appropriate for the use of this vehicle. See the owner's manual for more information. Protect the environment. Obey laws and regulations that control the use of your vehicle. Kawasaki ATVs and MULE<sup>™</sup> utility vehicles are off-highway vehicles only, and are not designed, equipped, or manufactured for use on public streets, roads or highways. Specifications subject to change without notice. Availability may be limited.



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## **New Regulations**

- ◆ **Rules Relating to Motor Vehicle Operations on State Forest Lands (see page 18).**

**This is a summary of Minnesota's safety laws, rules and regulations for recreational motor vehicles.**

**For the purposes of this guide, recreational motor vehicles include all-terrain vehicles, off-highway motorcycles and off-road vehicles.**

**For complete regulations, consult state statutes and rules.**

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This information is available in an alternative format upon request.

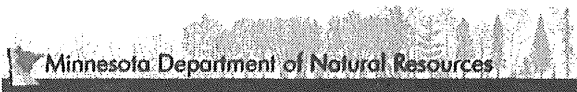
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## Welcome

People enjoy using recreational motor vehicles for trail-riding, off-road transportation, competition and other activities. Your attitude toward your surroundings and your behavior as a rider affect the attitudes of other outdoor users, landowners and lawmakers. Ride responsibly!

If you tread lightly on the environment, are courteous to others, respect private property and obey the law, you are contributing to the positive image of recreational motor vehicle activities. Responsible riders are also safe riders. Be sure to wear appropriate protective gear and maintain your machine. Don't take chances that endanger yourself or others.

Remember, the future of recreational motor vehicles in Minnesota depends on your responsible behavior today.



[www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us)

*Information about Minnesota's natural resources,  
DNR facilities, services, and programs*

## Turn In Poachers

Don't let poachers steal your fish and wildlife. If you see someone violate a hunting or angling law or hear about a violation, call the toll-free TIP hotline at 1-800-652-9093.

TIP (Turn In Poachers), Inc. is a nonprofit organization founded to stop poaching in Minnesota's outdoors. Cash rewards are given for tips leading to arrests. You may remain anonymous.



## A Message

### From Your DNR Conservation Officers:

Despite manufacturer's warnings and restrictive laws, children continue to sustain severe injuries operating all-terrain vehicles. Conservation officers believe that most ATV users do not understand the short wheel base design and power of the ATV that may cause the machine to flip over forwards or backwards. This is the number one cause of death and injury in ATV accidents.



Read carefully the ATV Safety Section starting on page 24. Talk to your children about the dangers and risks associated with riding an ATV. The result could be the prevention of serious injury or death.

## DEFINITIONS

The term Recreational Motor Vehicle (RMV) is used to describe all-terrain vehicles, off-highway motorcycles and off-road vehicles.

All-terrain vehicles (ATVs) are motorized, flotation-tired



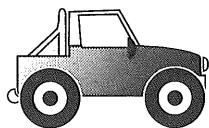
vehicles with at least three, but no more than six low pressure tires, with an engine displacement of less than 800 cubic centimeters and total dry weight of less than 800 pounds. ATVs with a total dry weight of more than 800 pounds are classified as ORVs.

Off-highway motorcycles (OHMs) are motorized, off-highway vehicles traveling on two wheels. OHMs have a seat or saddle designed to be straddled by the operator and have handlebars for steering control. Motorcycles may be legal for highway use and still considered to be OHMs if used for off-highway operation on trails or natural terrain.



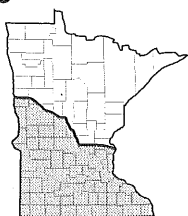


**Off-road vehicles (ORVs)** are motorized, recreational vehicles capable of cross-country travel on natural terrain, such as four-wheel-drive trucks and ATVs that have an engine displacement of more than 800 cubic centimeters and total dry weight of more than 800 pounds. Vehicles



NOT considered ORVs include snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles, watercraft or aircraft. Farm, logging, military, emergency, law enforcement, utility, trail-grooming and construction vehicles are not considered to be ORVs when used for their intended purpose.

**Agricultural zone** means the areas in Minnesota lying south and west of a line along the following highway right-of-ways. Starting at the North Dakota border, the line goes east along State Highway 10 to State Highway 23, then follows Highway 23 east to State Highway 95, which it follows to the Wisconsin border. The agricultural zone referred to in this guide applies only to ATV use.



**Public road right-of-way** means the entire right-of-way of a roadway that is not privately owned, including the traveled portions, banks, ditches, shoulders and medians.

**Recreational motor vehicle staging area** means a parking lot, trail head, campground or other location to which a recreational motor vehicle is transported by truck, trailer or another motor vehicle for use on public lands.

**Recreational motor vehicle use areas** are areas posted or designated for recreational motor vehicle use.



Reassuring  
Blazer



ATV Trail  
Indicator



OHM Trail  
Indicator



ORV Trail  
Indicator

# RECREATIONAL MOTOR VEHICLES

## REGISTRATION

### ATVs

All ATVs operated in Minnesota must be registered with the DNR, even if used exclusively on private property.

### OHMs

All OHMs operated on public lands or waters must be registered with the DNR.

### ORVs

All ORVs operated off-road must be registered with the DNR. In addition, individuals may not have ORVs which are not licensed for highway use in possession at an RMV staging area, designated trail or other designated area unless the vehicle has been registered with the DNR for off-road use.

An individual must be at least 18 years old to register a recreational motor vehicle. Registration is valid for up to three years.

Anyone who sells a recreational motor vehicle must provide a bill of sale to the buyer.

### **Minnesota registration is NOT required for:**

Recreational motor vehicles that are government owned.

Recreational motor vehicles registered in another state or country and not in Minnesota for more than 30 days.

ATVs and OHMs that are used exclusively in organized track racing events.

OHMs used on private land with the landowner's permission.

OHMs registered for highway use when operated on forest roads.



## REGISTRATION FEES

### ATV Registration Fees

	Fee	Filing Fee	Duration
Public Use Registration	18.00	2.00	3 calendar years
Transfer	4.00	2.00	
Duplicate	4.00	2.00	
Private/Agricultural	6.00	2.00	As long as machine is held by same party
Private/Agricultural Duplicate	4.00	2.00	
Dealer	50.00	2.00	1 year
Manufacturer	150.00	2.00	1 year

### OHM Registration Fees

	Fee	Filing Fee	Duration
New Registration	30.00	2.00	3 calendar years
Transfer	4.00	2.00	
Duplicate	4.00	2.00	
Dealer	50.00	2.00	1 year
Manufacturer	150.00	2.00	1 year

### ORV Registration Fees

	Fee	Filing Fee	Duration
New Registration	30.00	2.00	3 calendar years
Transfer	4.00	2.00	
Duplicate	4.00	2.00	
Dealer	50.00	2.00	1 year
Manufacturer	150.00	2.00	1 year

## How To Register A Recreational Motor Vehicle

Recreational motor vehicles can be registered at a deputy registrar of motor vehicles office (where automobile licenses are handled) or at the DNR License Bureau in St. Paul.

The information required for registration of a recreational motor vehicle includes the make, model, year, serial number, and sales receipt. For ATV and OHM registration the engine size is also required.

- ◆ ATVs purchased from a retail dealer **must be registered by the dealer**. Transfers and registration renewals are the responsibility of the owner.
- ◆ OHMs purchased from a retail dealer and will be used on public lands or waters **must be registered by the dealer**. Transfers and registration renewals are the responsibility of the owner.
- ◆ A registration number and a decal are issued when an ATV or OHM is registered. The registration card is mailed to the owner.
- ◆ Because ORVs are sold primarily for highway use, owners must register their own ORVs for designated trail and staging area use. The owner is given a registration card and decals at the time of registration.

Individuals are not required to carry the registration card, but it must be provided within a reasonable time period when an enforcement officer requests to see it.

## Alternative and Multiple Registrations

### ATV

**Private Use Registration:** ATVs may be registered for private use when used exclusively for agricultural activities or harvesting wood, or used exclusively on private property. A private use registration is valid until the ownership of the ATV is transferred and is not transferable.

**Dual Registration:** Some circumstances require ATVs to be registered for both public and private use. Public use registration covers most situation where the private use registration



is required, but it does not cover certain situations where ATVs must be operated on roadways. Public use registration allows for operation of ATVs on the outer slope of roadside ditches along state and county roads, and, if local laws do not prohibit, on the extreme right side of township roads. It does not, however, allow for operation on the road surface. If an ATV is used for agricultural purposes which require operation on the road surface, a private use registration is required. If the same ATV is also used on public land or water, both public and private use registrations are required.

## **OHM**

**Dual Registration:** Some OHMs are equipped in such a manner that they may be legally licensed for highway use. An OHM licensed for highway use, which is also used on public lands or waters must have both the regular motorcycle license and the DNR OHM registration.

## **ORV**

**Dual Registration:** Most ORVs are licensed for highway use. An ORV licensed for highway use, which is also operated in designated public ORV use areas or trails must have both the regular vehicle license and the DNR ORV registration.

## **Dealer and Manufacturer Registration**

All recreational motor vehicles owned by dealers or manufacturers and operated for testing or demonstration purposes must be registered with the DNR License Bureau. A registration certificate and a registration plate will be issued. The registration certificate must be prominently displayed in the place of business.

The registration plate must be displayed on the vehicle in the manner described below, before dealers or manufacturers may operate or permit operation of any recreational motor vehicle they own or control.

Dealer and manufacturer license applications and plates are ONLY available at the DNR License Bureau, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4026. Phone 1(800) 285-2000 or (651) 296-2316.

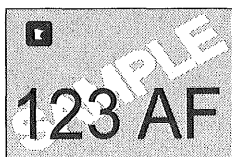
## Display of Numbers and Decals

### ATV

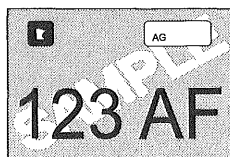
ATVs registered for public use or with a dual registration must display current public use registration number and decal(s) on a plate at least 4 inches high and 7½ inches long. The plate must be clearly visible on the back of the vehicle and at least 12 inches from the ground. For a public use registration, the decal must be displayed in the upper left section of the plate. For a dual registration, the private use decal must also be displayed on the plate, in the upper right corner. The plate and decal must be maintained in a clear and legible condition.

#### Registration letters and numbers must be:

- ◆ at least 1½ inches high with a ⅜-inch stroke
- ◆ in English and placed from left to right
- ◆ in a color that contrasts with the background of the plate.

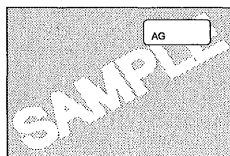


ATV Public Use



ATV Dual Registration

ATVs registered for private use only must display the private use decal in the upper right section of the plate. No numbers are needed for this type of registration.



ATV Private Use

### OHM

OHMs registered only for off-road use must display current registration number and decal on a plate at least 4 inches high and 7½ inches long. The plate must be clearly visible on the back of the vehicle and at least 12 inches from the ground. The decal must be displayed in the upper left section of the plate.





The plate and decal must be maintained in a clear and legible condition.

**Registration letters and numbers must be:**

- ◆ at least 1½ inches high with a ⅜-inch stroke
- ◆ in English and placed from left to right
- ◆ in a color that contrasts with the background of the plate.



OHM  
Off-Road Use Only

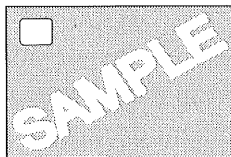
OHMs licensed in Minnesota for highway use and also used on public lands or waters must display the OHM decal in the upper left section of the regular motorcycle license plate. The DNR registration number should not be displayed.



OHM Highway and  
Off-Road Use

**ORV**

ORVs registered only for designated trail or area use must display the current decal on a plate at least 4 inches high and 7½ inches long. No registration number should be displayed. The plate must be clearly visible on the back of the vehicle and at least 12 inches from the ground. The decal must be displayed in the upper left section of the plate. The plate and decal must be maintained in a clear and legible condition.



ORV  
Off-Road Use Only

ORVs licensed in Minnesota for highway use and also used off-road in designated public ORV trails and use areas must display the ORV decal in the upper left section of the regular

motor vehicle license plate. The DNR registration number should not be displayed.



ORV Highway and  
Off-Road Use

## Expiration and Renewal

The expiration date appears on both the registration card and the decal. All public use ATV and all OHM and ORV renewals expire on December 31st of the last year the registration is valid.

Individuals who notify the DNR of mailing address changes should receive a notice by mail to renew their registration. Whether notified or not, owners are responsible for renewing their public use ATV, OHM and ORV registrations. Renewal fees are the same as the first-time registration fee.

Private use ATV registration does not expire. It is valid until the ownership is transferred.

## Special Operating Permits

Individuals may apply to the DNR Division of Enforcement for special operating permits for recreational motor vehicles from states that do not require registration. The special operating permits must be used for organized group outings, trail rides, races, rallies, or other promotional events. The permit must be carried by the vehicle operator and is valid for up to 30 days. Contact the DNR Division of Enforcement for more information at (651) 297-2368.

## Replacement Registration Cards

Recreational motor vehicle owners may obtain a replacement registration card for \$6 from a deputy registrar or the DNR License Bureau. Replacement decals are available from the DNR License Bureau or any conservation officer. Replacement decals and numbers must be affixed in the same manner as the original.



## GENERAL OPERATIONS

The following regulations apply to all recreational motor vehicles: all-terrain vehicles, off-highway motorcycles and off-road vehicles. Information and regulations specific to each of these vehicle types can be found in the All-Terrain Vehicle, Off-Highway Motorcycle and Off-Road Vehicle sections of this booklet.

### Required Equipment

**Recreational motor vehicles operated on public lands, waters, trails, public streets and roads open to vehicle use must be equipped as follows:**

#### Lights

- ◆ Headlights and taillights must be on during hours of darkness or reduced visibility.

#### Brakes

- ◆ Brakes must control movement, and stop and hold the vehicle.

#### Throttle

- ◆ The throttle must return the engine to idle when pressure to advance the throttle is removed.

#### Mufflers

- ◆ Mufflers must have a federally approved spark arrestor.
- ◆ Overall noise emission may not exceed 99 decibels at a distance of 20 inches.
- ◆ Mufflers may not be altered to increase motor noise, or have a cutout, bypass, or similar device except for organized events.

#### Towing

- ◆ A straight arm bar must be used to tow a sled or trailer containing passengers.
- ◆ A disabled vehicle towed by any means may contain a person to steer.
- ◆ At least 16 square inches of reflective material that is unobstructed and visible, must be mounted on each side and at the rear of a sled or trailer.

## **Where You May Ride**

### **You may operate a recreational motor vehicle:**

- ◆ on your own land
- ◆ on private land with the landowner's permission
- ◆ on frozen waters where you have legal access (if not restricted by law or local ordinances)
- ◆ on public lands that are open to RMVs. Land uses vary, be sure to check federal, state, and local ordinances for details.

### **In the seven-county metro area, you may ride:**

- ◆ on your own land
- ◆ on land, other than your own, with written or spoken permission of the landowner, occupant or lessee
- ◆ on land posted with signs specifically permitting the use of recreational motor vehicles.

## **Where You May NOT Ride**

### **You may not operate a recreational motor vehicle:**

- ◆ on the median of a four-lane highway
- ◆ within the right-of-way of any interstate highway
- ◆ on the right-of-way between opposing lanes of traffic
- ◆ at airports
- ◆ in most state parks, state recreation areas, state historic sites, wildlife management areas or state scientific and natural areas with the exception of posted trails and areas
- ◆ on any frozen waters located in a restricted area, or frozen waters where you don't have legal access
- ◆ in any areas restricted by local ordinances or municipalities
- ◆ in a tree nursery or planting area
- ◆ along or on the roadway, shoulder, inside bank or slope of a public right-of-way (see page 15)
- ◆ on agricultural land (see page 22)
- ◆ on state forest lands that are posted or designated closed to motorized uses.

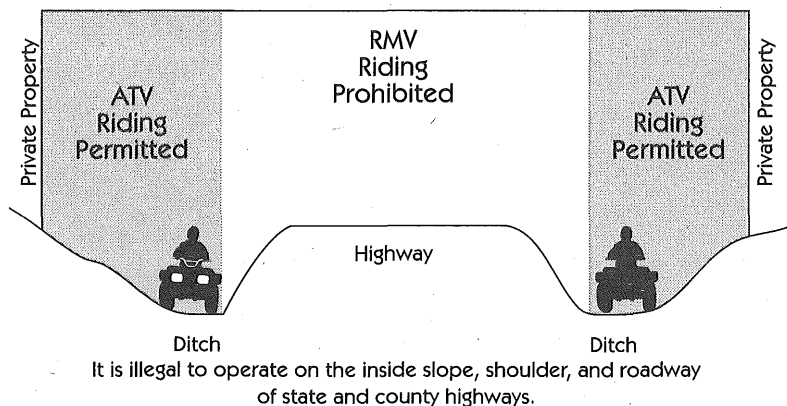
### **Inside the seven-county metro area, you may not ride**

on land you do not own, unless given written or verbal permission to ride on that land by the owner, occupant or lessee.



**Outside the seven-county metro area, you may not ride on land that you have been told verbally, in writing or by posted signs not to ride.**

## Operation Along State and County Highways



## Other Prohibitions

### **You may not:**

- ◆ operate a recreational motor vehicle in a careless, reckless or heedless manner that endangers another person or their property
- ◆ litter
- ◆ enter or leave lands by cutting wire or tearing down any fence
- ◆ mutilate, destroy, damage or remove any facility of any trail on state land
- ◆ post, damage or remove any signs on any lands or waters unless you are the landowner, occupant or lessee of the property.

## Check For Local Regulations or Ordinances

Cities, towns, and counties may further regulate the operation of recreational motor vehicles within their jurisdiction. Check with the appropriate local unit of government for additional regulations. National forests and Voyagers National Park regulate motor vehicle use on federal lands. Check with the managing agency before riding on these lands.

## Speed

You may not operate a recreational motor vehicle at a speed greater than is reasonable under all of the surrounding circumstances or greater than the posted speed limit on any public lands, waters, trails or public road rights-of-way. Speed limit signs may be erected along specific portions of trail.

The speed limit may be waived in writing by the DNR for an organized race or similar competitive event. Contact the DNR at 1-888-MINNDNR (646-6367).

## Trail Riding

- ◆ All trail signs must be obeyed.
- ◆ One-way trails must be traveled in the direction indicated.
- ◆ When meeting or being passed by another trail user, you must stay to the right half of the treadway.
- ◆ When passing another trail user, you must pass on the left half of the treadway and only when the trail is free from oncoming traffic for a sufficient distance to safely pass the other trail user.
- ◆ When entering or crossing a trail treadway you must yield to trail traffic.
- ◆ When two trail users are about to enter an unmarked treadway intersection from different directions, the trail user to the right has the right-of-way.
- ◆ Motorized trail users must yield the right-of-way to non-motorized trail users and shut off their machines when meeting a horse until the horse has passed or until waved on.

## Crossing Public Roads

**When making a direct crossing of a street or road, you must:**

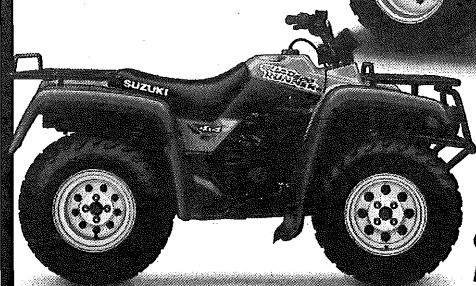
- ◆ come to a complete stop and look both ways
- ◆ yield to all traffic
- ◆ cross the road at a 90 degree angle
- ◆ cross a divided road only at an intersection
- ◆ use headlights and taillights from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise or in conditions of reduced visibility.



# Tough Choice



QuadMaster™  
LT-A500F 4X4



QuadRunner®  
LT-F500F 4X4

Put the performance of a winning pair on your side with the all-new Suzuki QuadMaster LT-A500F and the QuadRunner LT-F500F. The only question you have to ask yourself is: *automatic or manual?*

- Liquid-cooled, 4-stroke engine with four-valve cylinder head provides the most torque of any four-wheeler in its class.
- Four-wheel drive is delivered through a solid rear axle and torque-sensing limited slip front differential for lightweight durability combined with light steering.
- Dual hydraulic front disc brakes with twin-piston calipers and rear drum brake for sure stopping power.
- Standard front and rear cargo racks and built-in utility box for maximum carrying capacity.

Suzuki QuadRunner ATVs may be used only by those aged 16 and older. Suzuki highly recommends that all ATV riders take a training course. We'll even pay for it. For safety and training course information, see your dealer or call the SVIA at 1-800-852-5344. ATVs can be hazardous to operate. For your safety, always wear a helmet, eye protection and protective clothing. Always avoid paved surfaces. Never ride on public roads. Never carry passengers or engage in stunt riding. Riding and alcohol or other drugs don't mix. Avoid excessive speeds. Be extra careful on difficult terrain. Along with concerned conservationists everywhere, Suzuki urges you to "Tread Lightly" on public and private land. Preserve your future riding opportunities by showing respect for the environment, local laws and the rights of others when you ride.

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For Dealer Nearest To You Call:  
**1.800.828.RIDE**

(7433)

## Bridges and Obstructions

You may operate a recreational motor vehicle on a bridge, a roadway shoulder or the inside bank of a public road right-of-way if necessary to avoid obstructions to travel. You must remain on the farthest right-hand lane, enter the roadway within 100 feet of the bridge or obstacle and make the crossing without delay. You may not cross an interstate highway bridge.

## STATE FOREST LANDS

### Rules Relating to Motor Vehicle Operation on State Forest Lands - Minnesota Rules 6100.1950 (partial)

**Classified Forest Lands.** State forest lands are classified by the commissioner for purposes of motor vehicle use. "Motor vehicle" means any self-propelled vehicle including, but not limited to, automobiles, trucks, dune buggies, minibikes, motorcycles, trail bikes, and all terrain vehicles (ATVs), but not including snowmobiles. Motor vehicle use is regulated as follows:

#### **State Forest Lands Classified as *Managed*:**

- ◆ Motor vehicles may operate on forest roads and forest trails **unless** they are posted and designated **closed**.

#### **State Forest Lands Classified as *Limited*:**

- ◆ Motor vehicles may operate on forest roads **unless** they are posted and designated closed.
- ◆ Motor vehicles may operate **ONLY** on forest trails or areas that are posted and designated open.
- ◆ Exception: Persons lawfully engaged in hunting big game or constructing hunting stands during October, November and December, or trapping during open seasons, may use ATVs off forest trails in a manner consistent with the general operating restrictions. This exception does not apply in the Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood Forest.

#### **State Forest Lands Classified as *Closed*:**

- ◆ Motor vehicles and snowmobiles are **not allowed** except:
  - Vehicles licensed for highway use may use forest roads that are not posted or gated closed.



- Vehicles may operate on frozen public waters where it is not otherwise prohibited.
- Snowmobiles may operate on designated trails.

### **General Operating Restrictions - anywhere on state forest lands that motor vehicles are allowed.**

- ◆ No motor vehicle operation is allowed on designated non-motorized trails unless also posted open for a motorized use.
- ◆ No motor vehicle operation is allowed on or over the beds of lakes, rivers or streams except:
  - when the water body is ice covered
  - on a bridge, culvert or designated low water crossing.
- ◆ Motor vehicles or snowmobiles may not operate on forest lands in a manner that causes erosion or rutting, damages, or destroys trees or growing crops. The rutting provision does not apply on designated motorized trails.
- ◆ Motor vehicles or snowmobiles may not operate within the boundaries of an area that is posted and designated as closed to such use.
- ◆ Motor vehicles on state forest roads must travel at a reasonable and prudent speed; obey posted speed limits, parking and traffic regulation signs; observe road closures; and may not operate in a manner that causes damage to the road, land or other natural resources.
- ◆ No person shall construct an unauthorized permanent trail on forest lands.
- ◆ **Special Provision** - Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood Forest: Motor vehicles and snowmobiles may operate on forest roads that are not posted closed and **ONLY** on forest trails that are designated for motorized use. No motorized travel is allowed off of designated trails under any circumstances. *Motorized trails are open for ATV and OHM use from May 1 to November 1.*

### **State Forests Classified as Limited**

Chengwatana State Forest  
D.A.R. State Forest  
General C.C. Andrews  
State Forest  
Nemadji State Forest

R. J. Dorer Memorial  
Hardwood State Forest  
Rum River State Forest  
St. Croix State Forest  
Snake River State Forest

## State Forests Classified as Closed

Birch Lakes State Forest  
Insula Lake State Forest

Lake Isabella State Forest  
Sand Dunes State Forest

**Note:** State forests not listed above are classified as Managed.

## Events On State Forest Lands

A permit is required from a DNR area forester to hold an event on state forest lands. The DNR may charge a fee for the use of the land. Security such as a bond or cashier's check may be required to ensure that cleanup, sign removal, damage, repairs and other actions are completed.

For emergencies or authorized special events, the DNR may provide temporary exceptions to the general rules for a specific state park, forest campground, forest day use area or state forest lands. Notice of the exception will be posted at the site.

## OPERATING WHILE INTOXICATED

Operating a recreational motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance or other illegal chemical is unlawful. Operators who are impaired may be required to take tests by an enforcement officer to determine their sobriety. There is a penalty for refusal. RMV operation while intoxicated convictions and refusals on or after 8/1/95, are recorded on the violator's driver's license record.

As of January 1, 1998, most of the intoxicated while operating laws were transferred to the motor vehicle statutes. As in the past, an operator who is found to be under the influence, or at .10 alcohol concentration or higher, will be subject to:

- up to \$700 fine plus surcharges
- possible jail sentence
- loss of RMV operating privileges for one year, upon conviction by the court and notification by the DNR.

In addition to the above penalties, the following will apply:

- A refusal of test will be a separate criminal charge with the loss of operating privileges for one year upon refusal and can be charged with operating while intoxicated.
- A second or subsequent DWI offense or refusal may lead to motor vehicle license plate impoundment.



- Multiple prior DWI offenses or refusals may result in forfeiture of the RMV.

The penalties automatically will have substantially higher fines and mandatory jail time when:

- a child under 16 years is on the RMV
- at railroad crossings
- a first offense with alcohol concentration .20 or more
- it is a second or more DWI offense or refusal of any kind.

## **ENFORCEMENT**

Conservation officers, deputy sheriffs, police officers and other peace officers enforce recreational motor vehicle rules. You must stop when signaled by a law enforcement officer.

### **Penalties**

- ◆ Fleeing an enforcement officer is a felony. In addition, the RMV used may be forfeited.
- ◆ A violation of ATV or ORV rules is a misdemeanor.
- ◆ A violation of OHM rules is a petty misdemeanor.

### **Reporting Stolen, Abandoned or Destroyed Vehicles**

A registered recreational motor vehicle that is abandoned, stolen or destroyed must be reported to the DNR within 15 days. Complete the reverse side of the registration certificate and mail it to the DNR License Bureau. No fee is charged for reporting the vehicle.

### **Accident Reports**

The operator and an officer investigating a recreational motor vehicle accident must file a written report of the accident to the DNR within 10 days if:

- ◆ the accident resulted in a human injury requiring medical attention or hospitalization, or death; or
- ◆ the total damage was \$300 or more for ORVs, or \$500 or more for ATVs or OHMs.

## TRESPASS

**Ask First!** The trespass law now applies to all outdoor recreation including operation of your recreational motor vehicle.

Landowners, lessees or land managers need only post their land once a year. The signs must be at intervals of 1,000 ft (500 ft in wooded areas) or signs may be placed at primary corners and at access points to the property. Signs must state "No Trespassing" or similar words in 2 inch letters and the signature or name and telephone number of the landowner, lessee or manager. There can be civil and criminal penalties for violation of the trespass laws. Civil penalties start at \$50 for first offense, and range up to \$500 and loss of license or registration for a third offense within 3 years.

All conservation and peace officers enforce trespass laws.



### **You must have permission to:**

- ◆ enter legally posted land
- ◆ enter agricultural land. "Agricultural land" is land that is plowed or tilled, has standing crops or crop residue, and is withing a maintained fence for enclosing domestic livestock.

**Landowners: Though your CRP, CREP, or RIM Reserve lands may be agricultural land for tax or other purposes, these lands do not meet the definition of agricultural land for the purposes of the outdoor recreation trespass law.**

**Posting is required to prohibit recreational use.**

### **You may not:**

- ◆ wound or kill another person's domestic animal or destroy private property
- ◆ pass through a closed gate without returning it to the original position
- ◆ stray off marked trails.

## RELATED GAME LAWS

A person may not discharge a firearm or bow and arrow at a grouse, or a decoy of a grouse placed by an enforcement officer,





unless the person is at least 20 yards away from a motor vehicle and the motor is turned off. Exceptions will be made only for hunters with disabilities who are in possession of a valid permit allowing them to shoot from a stationary motor vehicle.

## **General Restrictions**

### **It is unlawful to:**

- ◆ transport a firearm on any recreational motor vehicle unless it is unloaded and completely enclosed in a case
- ◆ transport an archery bow on any recreational motor vehicle unless it is unstrung or enclosed in a case
- ◆ use any recreational motor vehicle to chase, run over or kill a wild animal
- ◆ shoot or attempt to shoot an animal from any recreational motor vehicle without a special disability permit to do so
- ◆ remove deer, elk, moose or bear from the site of a kill without first attaching the proper tags.

**To reduce disturbance during prime hunting hours, a person possessing a valid deer license may operate a recreational motor vehicle during the firearms deer season only:**

- ◆ before legal shooting time (one-half hour before sunrise)
- ◆ from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.
- ◆ after legal shooting hours (one-half hour after sunset).

\*The above does not apply to any vehicle licensed for highway use.

A permit to operate a recreational motor vehicle during the legal shooting hours for deer may be issued by a conservation officer in the event of an emergency or another unusual condition.

## **Special Permits for Disabled Hunters**

A permit may be issued to shoot from a standing recreational motor vehicle to a licensed hunter who has a permanent physical disability that is more substantial than discomfort from walking. For more details contact the Department of Natural Resources, Enforcement Division, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4047, or call in the Twin Cities area (651) 296-6157, or toll free 1-888-MINNDNR (646-6367).



## ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE SAFETY SECTION

ATV owners are cautioned that any inexperienced rider in the first month of operating an ATV has 13 times the average risk of injury. Never permit the inexperienced to operate an ATV until they have read the owner's manual and all warning labels, and have completed a certified training course.

### **Know the uniqueness of ATV design and the potential risk of accidents and injury.**

#### **ATV Design**

High ground clearance  
and short, narrow wheel base

Seating straddles the top of  
the machine

Wide, low pressured,  
knobby tires

Powerful drive train with  
high and low gear ratios

Fixed rear axle for traction

#### **Potential Risk**

Operator must have sufficient size and weight to properly balance the vehicle. ATV may roll or flip with shift of body weight. ATV is more likely to roll than skid in turns and on hillsides.

Requires operator to maintain balance on the machine. Operator can fall or be thrown. No protection for the operator in a collision or roll over.

Wobble or bounce may cause loss of control. Vehicle is more likely to roll than skid in turns and on hillsides.

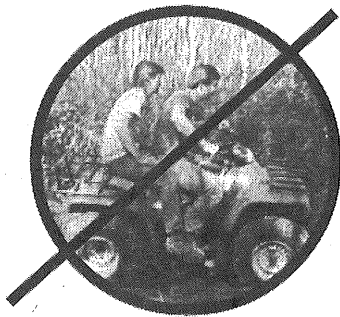
Has power to climb or accelerate until it flips over backwards. Capable of speed too fast for conditions and or skill of the operator.

Prevents the inner wheel from rotating freely when attempting turns on pavement. Loss of control occurs when torque to the inner wheel releases in the sudden lurch forward.



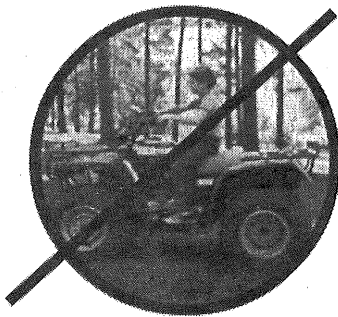
## Never Carry Passengers

- ◆ To maintain stability and control an ATV operator needs the entire seat to shift position. The weight and position of a passenger restricts an operator's ability to prevent roll overs and flips.
- ◆ Because an ATV does not provide foot rests or hand grips for a passenger, the passenger has a high risk of falling or being thrown from the machine.
- ◆ **State law prohibits** a person from operating an ATV with more persons on the vehicle than it was designed to carry. Generally, ATVs are not designed to carry passengers.



## Warning

Approximately 35 percent of ATV related deaths and injuries are to youths under age 16. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission warns that young people, under the age of 16 years, should never operate an adult sized ATV (over 90cc engine size). In addition, state law prohibits youth under the age of 16 years from operating adult sized ATVs on public lands and waters, including public roads and road right-of-ways.



## Why Children Are At Risk Operating ATVs

Children cannot maintain position or control without increased risk of falling or being thrown from the machine because:

### Leg Length

A minimum of 3 inches of clearance between the seat and the top inseam of the pants when standing on the foot rests is required to enable the operator to maintain balance on the foot rests when turning and riding over hills and rough terrain.

### Arm Length

While seated on the machine and gripping the handle bars, there should be a distinct bend in the arm at the elbow. Without a bend, there will not be sufficient reach to properly grip the handle bars when turning.

### Hand Size

While gripping the handle bar with fingers extended to the brake lever, the first joint of the index finger should extend beyond the brake lever. If it does not, the hand is too small to safely operate the brake.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (USCPSC) states that a variety of factors converge to place children at risk as operators of ATVs including:

- ◆ Children believe that any products purchased by their parents are safe.
- ◆ Danger and risk are underestimated because of the child's own lack of experience with accidents.
- ◆ Children between the ages of 12 and 15 often overestimate their skills, particularly with increased experience.
- ◆ Children can easily get into trouble trying to imitate more complex maneuvers of older friends.

**Safety Tip:**

- ◆ Always wear a helmet and protective clothing.

## Youthful Operators

It is unlawful for anyone in control of an ATV to permit it to be operated contrary to the following requirements:

### Age

### Requirement

**Under 12**

May operate only on private property with permission of the owner.

**12 to 16**

All-terrain vehicle safety certificate valid only for engine sizes 90cc or less.

May operate an ATV 90cc or less on public lands and waters with safety certificate and under supervision.\*

May make a direct crossing of highway with safety certificate and while under supervision.\*

Must wear a helmet while operating on public lands, waters and on road right-of-way.

**16 to 18**

May operate an ATV on public lands and waters without a safety certificate.

Must have a driver's license to make direct crossing of highway, or operate on road right-of-way.

Must wear a helmet while operating on public lands, waters and on road right-of-way.

\* "Supervision" means the person's parent, legal guardian, or other person 18 years of age or older who holds a valid driver's license.

## ATV Education and Training

The DNR Division of Enforcement administers an ATV safety training program. The course includes ATV familiarization, operating procedures, ATV laws, loading and towing procedures, ethics, safety hazards and environmental consequences.

For a \$5 fee, students who successfully complete the safety training program and written test are issued a safety certificate. Duplicate certificates are available from the DNR if the original is lost or destroyed.

For more information on safety training, call the Safety Training Program Headquarters at 1-800-366-8917.

## General Operations

**Agricultural Zone Restriction:** You may not drive an ATV within the right-of-way (ditch) of a state or county highway from April 1 to August 1 in the Agricultural Zone (see definition on page 5). This does not apply to ATVs licensed and used for agricultural use.

A person with a valid driver's license may operate an ATV registered for private use and being used for agricultural purposes on a public right-of-way of a trunk, county, state aid, or county highway, if the ATV is on the extreme right side of the road. A left turn may be made if it is safe to do so.

The headlight and taillight must be on at all times if your ATV is equipped with them.

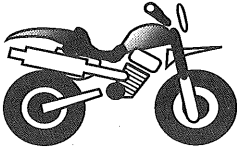
You may not exceed 10 mph on the frozen surface of public waters within 100 feet of a person fishing or a fishing shelter.

Grant-in-aid snowmobile and ski trails are closed to ATVs unless specifically allowed.

**Operation on a Township Road:** A person with a valid driver's license may operate an ATV on the extreme right-hand side of a township road, as long as the township does not prohibit it by posting and local ordinance.

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Also see Recreational Motor Vehicle section for more ATV information.



## OFF-HIGHWAY MOTORCYCLE SAFETY SECTION

### Safety Tips:

- ◆ Any person who operates an OHM must wear eye protection.
- ◆ Always wear a helmet and protective clothing.
- ◆ Never carry a passenger on vehicles intended for one-person use.

### Youthful Operators

It is unlawful for anyone in control of an OHM to allow it to be operated contrary to the following requirements:

**Any person under the age of 18 must wear a helmet.**

#### Age

#### Requirement

##### Under 12

May not make a direct crossing of a public road right-of-way.

May not operate an off-highway motorcycle on a public road or public road right-of-way.

May not operate an OHM on public lands or waters unless accompanied on another OHM by a person 18 years of age or older.

##### Under 16

Must possess a valid off-highway motorcycle safety permit to operate an OHM on public lands or waters.

May make a direct crossing of a public road (except an interstate highway) if accompanied on another OHM by a person 18 years of age or older who holds a valid driver's license.

May operate within a road right-of-way that is part of a designated trail when accompanied by a

person 18 years or older who holds a valid driver's license.

**16-18**

Must have a driver's license to operate an OHM on a public road, and the motorcycle must be licensed for road use. A driver's license is not required on trails, except when the trail is part of the road right-of-way.

## **OHM Education and Training**

The DNR Division of Enforcement administers an OHM safety training program. The course includes OHM familiarization, operating procedures, OHM laws, loading and towing procedures, ethics, safety hazards and environmental consequences.

For a \$5 fee, students who successfully complete the training program and written test are issued a safety certificate. Duplicate certificates are available from the DNR if the original is lost or destroyed.

For more information call Safety Training Program Headquarters at 1-800-366-8917.

## **General Operations**

Your OHM must have a headlight, a taillight and brakes to be operated on a public road.

You must wear eye protection when operating an OHM.

You may not operate an OHM within a public road right-of-way (see page 5) unless it is:

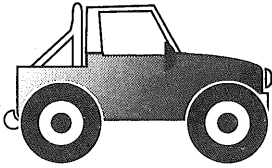
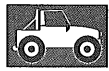
- ◆ a trail designated for OHM use or multiple use
- ◆ a corridor access trail
- ◆ a designated access to an established OHM trail
- ◆ allowed for an organized contest.

You may not exceed 10 mph on the frozen surface of public waters within 100 feet of a person fishing or a fishing shelter.

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Also see Recreational Motor Vehicle section for more OHM information.





## OFF-ROAD VEHICLE SAFETY SECTION

### Youthful Operators

A person under 16 years of age may not operate an ORV. The owner of an ORV may not knowingly allow it to be operated by a person under 16 years of age.

### General Operations

All ORV passengers and operators must wear seat belts.

A valid driver's license is required to operate an ORV on or along a public road.

#### **You may:**

- ♦ operate on state forest roads unless posted closed.

#### **You may not:**

- ♦ operate an ORV within the right-of-way of an interstate highway
- ♦ operate an ORV within a public road right-of-way except on a designated trail, and when in possession of a valid driver's license.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### **For information on ATV or OHM safety training call:**

Safety Training Program Headquarters, Camp Ripley,  
Little Falls, MN: 1-800-366-8917

### **For information on ATV, OHM, and ORV trails; maps of state parks, forests, and trails; and other information contact:**

DNR Information Center  
500 Lafayette Rd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040

Twin Cities: 651-296-6157  
Toll free: 1-888-646-6367

Hearing Impaired  
Twin Cities: 651-296-5484  
Toll free: 1-800-657-3929

DNR Web Site: [www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us)

### **For more information on registering your recreational motor vehicle call:**

DNR License Bureau  
500 Lafayette Rd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4026

Twin Cities: 651-296-2316  
Toll free: 1-800-285-2000

### **Local DNR Conservation Officers**

Contact the Minnesota state patrol or county sheriff for the name and phone number of a Minnesota DNR conservation officer in your area.

### **County Sheriff**

Check the local phone directory. The sheriff's non-emergency numbers will usually be listed inside the front cover. In an emergency, call 911 from anywhere in Minnesota.

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**ONLY YOU  
CAN PROTECT  
YOUR RIGHT  
TO RIDE:**



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Avoid Wetlands  
Respect Wildlife  
Keep Your Sound Down**

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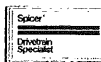
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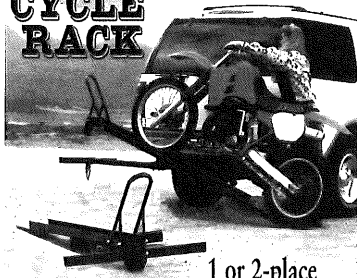
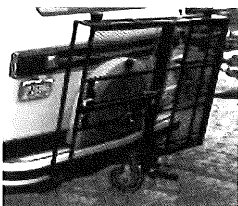


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Bemidji, MN 56601  
218-751-3033

### Tri-K Sports

5839 Hwy 12 W  
Maple Plain, MN 55359  
763-479-3719

### Stacy Do It Best Hardware

Box 70  
6125 Stacy Trail  
Stacy, MN 55079  
651-462-4342

### Jackson Sports

166 Industrial Pkwy  
Jackson, MN 56143  
888-299-8151  
507-847-3977

### E-Z Sports

N. Hwy 65, Mora, MN  
800-773-4031  
320-679-4014

### The Shop - Gordy Kinn

P.O. Box 5  
306 Main Ave  
Bigfork, MN 56628  
218-743-3666

### Ride Sports

Burnsville, 952-894-9666

### Midwest Water Sports

Hopkins, 952-933-9666

### Delano Sports Center

W. Hwy 12  
Delano, MN 55328  
763-479-2530

### Warner Outdoor Equipment

9521 Garfield Ave S  
Bloomington, MN 55420  
952-884-2111

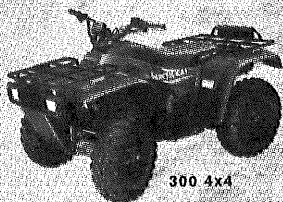
**POLARIS**  
RIDE THE BEST

WARNING! ATVs can be hazardous to operate. These are full sized machines designed to be ridden only by adults aged 18 and older. For your safety, always wear a helmet, eye protection, protective clothing. Be particularly careful on difficult terrain. Polaris recommends that all ATV riders take a training course. For safety and training information, see your dealer or call Polaris at 1-800-342-3764.

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# WORK SO HARD THEY HAVE CALLUSES ON THE HANDLEBARS.

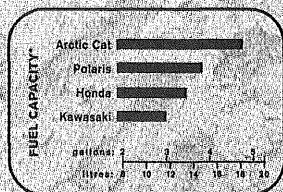
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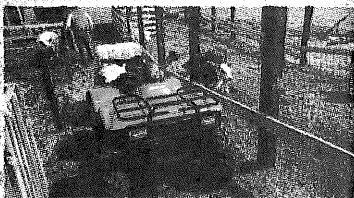
300 4x4

300 4x4 FEATURES

- 1 8.5 in. of ground clearance allows you to work in the most rugged of conditions.
- 2 Standard front and rear racks let you haul just about anything that needs hauling.
- 3 The class-leading 4.75-gal. fuel tank with a new filler neck for easier fueling is the largest in its class.



When there's a nasty job staring you down, an Arctic Cat® ATV is not afraid to get dirty. But that's what you would expect from one of the hardest-working, most durable machines money can buy. Our 300 2x4 and 4x4 are also the best values out there. We're talking all the features you want, like fully independent front and rear suspensions with 6.5 in. of travel. There's also standard full front and rear racks, a towing hitch, full floorboards, an 850-lb. towing capacity, the largest fuel tank and 8.5 in. of ground clearance. The 4x4 also features high, low and super-low gears with a shifter that lets you easily go from two- to four-wheel drive. To learn how you can get more for your money, and for the Arctic Cat ATV dealer nearest you, call 1-800-3-ARCTIC or visit **ARCTIC CAT** MORE TO GO ON.™ us on the Web at [www.arctic-cat.com](http://www.arctic-cat.com).



**tread lightly!**  
LEAVING A GOOD IMPRESSION™

\*Chart based on comparison information between Arctic Cat 300 4x4, Honda Fourtrax 300, Kawasaki Bayou 4x4 and Polaris Magnum 325. All comparisons based on data available at time of printing. ATVs can be hazardous to operate. For your safety always wear a helmet, eye protection, and protective clothing. Never ride on paved surfaces or public roads. Never carry passengers; never engage in stunt driving; riding and alcohol/drugs don't mix and could cause injury or even death. Avoid excessive speeds and be particularly careful on difficult terrain. The Arctic Cat ATV may not be ridden by anyone under 18 years of age. Arctic Cat recommends that all riders take a training course, and that they read and understand their owner's manual before operation. For safety or training information, see your dealer or call the ATV Safety Institute at 1-800-887-2887. Along with concerned conservationists everywhere, Arctic Cat urges you to "Tread Lightly" on public and private land. Preserve your future riding opportunities by showing respect for the environment, local laws, and the rights of others when you ride. ©2000 Arctic Cat Sales Inc.,  
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