

Dear ATV Rider,

You are receiving this email because you indicated on the Oregon Parks on-line ATV Safety Course that you would like to get notifications from us. Please contact us at [atv.info@state.orus](mailto:atv.info@state.orus) if you wish to be removed from this list.

We want to notify you that there are new safety restraint and helmet requirements for young people riding in off-highway vehicles that will go into effect Jan. 1, 2010.

Changes in state law will require youth under age 16 to be secured by proper restraints while riding certain Class I and all Class II vehicles mandated to have seatbelts by the manufacturer. Riders on Class I quads and three-wheelers weighing less than 800 pounds are exempt from the law. Class II vehicles include jeeps trucks, or side-by-side utility vehicles that are off-highway. Class I vehicles that are affected include youth-sized side-by-side all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) that weigh 800 pounds or less and have seatbelts.

Basically, laws governing the use of safety restraints for anyone 16 years of age or under in vehicles on roads and highways will now apply to off-road vehicle riding. Ref: Senate Bill 579

<http://www.leg.state.or.us/09reg/measpdf/sb0500.dir/sb0579.en.pdf>

The change in the statutory helmet requirement states that all youth under 18 must wear fastened helmets approved by the Department of Transportation (DOT) while riding in any class of off-highway vehicle not registered by DMV. Anyone riding in a registered, street-legal Class II ATV with a roof or roll bar that leaves the highway is exempt. Ref: Senate Bill 583

<http://www.leg.state.or.us/09reg/measpdf/sb0500.dir/sb0583.en.pdf>

Both changes resulted from legislation passed by the 2009 Oregon State Legislature and signed into law by Governor Ted Kulongoski. The new safety restraint requirements were carried in Senate Bill 579. The amended off-highway helmet requirement was passed as Senate Bill 583.

If you have any questions regarding this or any other ATV-related matter please contact our ATV hotline at 877-7SAFELY (877-772-3359). Many ATV questions can be answered by going to our web site at [www.oregonOHV.org](http://www.oregonOHV.org).

We'll be sure to keep you updated on matters relating to off-highway recreation in Oregon.

Have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

John Lane  
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