
Definitions

- Accident**—A crash involving an ATV is any accident (regardless of the number of vehicles involved) which results in a fatality or an injury that requires medical treatment by a physician.
- Accompanied**—Subject to continuous verbal direction or control, but not necessarily on the same machine.
- Agricultural Purpose**—a purpose related to the transportation of farm implements, equipment, supplies, or products on a farm or between farms. Operation between a dwelling and a farm or piece of non-agricultural property does not meet this definition unless the dwelling is on the same piece of property as the farm.
- All-terrain vehicle (ATV)**—a commercially designed and manufactured motor-driven device that has a weight, without fluids, of 900 pounds or less, has a width of 50 inches or less, is equipped with a seat designed to be straddled by the operator and on 3 or more low-pressure or non-pneumatic tires. See also: **Small ATV**.
- Dealer**—a person engaged in the sale of all-terrain vehicles for a profit at wholesale or retail.
- Designated Adult**—parent, guardian or adult designated by the parent or guardian.
- DNR**—Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.
- DOT**—Department of Transportation.
- Golf cart**—a vehicle in which the speed attainable in one mile does not exceed 20 mph on a paved, level surface, and that is designed and intended to convey one or more persons and equipment to play the game of golf in an area designated as a golf course.
- Highway**—All public ways, thoroughfares, and bridges on the same. It includes the entire width between the boundary lines of every way open to the use of the public as a matter of right for the purpose of vehicle traffic. Generally Federal and State Highways are designated by a number, County highways are designated by a letter or letters. Town Highways are generally designated by a name.
- Hours of Darkness**—The period of time from ½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise and all other times when there is not sufficient natural light to render clearly visible any person or vehicle on a highway at a distance of 500 feet.
- Immediate Family**—Persons who are related as spouses, as siblings or as parent and child.
- Implement of Husbandry**—A vehicle or piece of equipment or machinery designed for agricultural purposes, used exclusively in the conduct of agricultural operations and used principally off the highway, or a trailer-mounted bulk liquid fertilizer container.
- Land Under The Management And Control Of A Person's Immediate Family**—Land owned or leased by a person or a member of a person's immediate family over which the owner or lessee has management and control. This term excludes land owned or leased by an organization of which the person or a member of the person's immediate family is a member.

ATV/UTV Clubs/Organizations

Please consider joining a club, your help is needed. By staying on the trail you show your respect for the hard work of the local clubs and the rights of the property owners who have graciously allowed a trail to cross their property.

ATV/UTV Trail Patrol Ambassador

Want to help others while out on the trail? Consider becoming a volunteer Trail Patrol Ambassador. Go to www.trailpatrol.com for more information.

Registration Information

What Can be Registered as an All-Terrain Vehicle?

An ATV must meet all of the following specifications:

- Commercially designed and manufactured
- A motor-driven device
- Dry weight of 900 pounds or less
- Width of 50 inches or less
- Has a seat designed to be straddled
- Travels on 3 or more low-pressure or non-pneumatic tires

What Can't be Registered as an All-Terrain Vehicle?

The following do not meet legal ATV specifications:

- A vehicle with tracks, skis or a combination thereof
- Machines that can legally be registered as UTVs
- 6-8 wheel amphibious vehicles
- A golf cart (*see Definitions*)*
- A go cart
- An off-road motorcycle
- Anything outside the ATV specifications listed above
- A homemade or non-commercially manufactured machine

What Can be Registered as an UTV?

A UTV must meet all of the following specifications:

- Commercially designed and manufactured
- Four or more low pressure tires or non-pneumatic tires
- Dry weight less than 2,000 lbs
- Steering wheel
- Tail light
- Brake light
- Two headlights
- Max width of 65 inches
- Seat belts for each occupant
- Roll bar or similar structural system or device

Other Vehicles Qualifying as UTVs:

Any machines that would otherwise meet the ATV specifications (see "What Can Be Registered as an ATV") except that the weight is more than 900 lbs, but less than 2,000 lbs.

What Cannot be Registered as a UTV?

The following devices do not meet the UTV or ATV definition and cannot be registered:

- A motor-driven device that meets federal motor vehicle safety standards
- a dune buggy
- a vehicle with tracks, skis or a combination thereof
- a homemade or non-commercially manufactured machine
- a golf cart*
- vehicles that meet the legal definition of a low speed vehicle*
- a mini-truck*

* **See “Definitions”**

Registration Requirements

Unless specifically exempt, ALL ATVs and UTVs operated in Wisconsin must:

1. display current Wisconsin registration decals, or
2. possess a temporary operating receipt or
3. possess a copy of a signed registration application from a dealer.

Exception: ATVs / UTVs displaying valid non-resident trail passes.

Display—Machines registered with the DNR are issued two decals. The decals must be displayed on both sides of the machine, in a position which is forward of the operator and visible to law enforcement. Until decals are received by mail, operators must possess the temporary operating receipt issued for the machine. Operators should carry all necessary registration cards and paperwork with them for display to a law enforcement officer upon request.

Registration Options

- **Free Registration Weekend**—ATVs and UTVs are exempt from registration and trail pass requirements during the first full weekend in June. All other laws such as age restrictions and required equipment apply.
- **Public Use**—Valid for legal operation on public trails, road routes frozen waterways and private property. Not valid for agricultural use. Valid for up to 2 years, beginning April 1st and expiring two years later on March 31st. Machines registered for Public Use are required to display their registration ID number on a rear plate. *Original: \$30, Renewal: \$30, Transfer: \$5*
- **Private Use, Agricultural**—Allows private registration for agricultural use if the machine is used for an agricultural purpose. Agricultural purpose includes a purpose related to the transportation of farm implements, equipment, supplies, or products on a farm or between farms. It is valid during operation on public roads for agricultural purposes, but is not valid for operation on public, frozen waterways or public lands open to ATVs/UTVs. Owners may dual register their machines for public use also. This type of registration remains valid until ownership is transferred. *\$15*