

Off Highway Travel in B.C.

Off Highway Vehicles (OHVs) provide the users with enjoyment and a challenge. They allow the rider to travel long distances and explore a variety of outdoor settings.

However, OHVs can harm the environment as well as disturb wildlife, domestic animals and other recreation site and trail users. By acting responsibly you can reduce your impact on the environment and help other recreationalists have a great outdoor experience.

The term off highway vehicle, "OHV", includes all-terrain-vehicles (ATVs), four wheel drives (4x4s), and motorcycles.



To drive your OHV on

Forest Service roads you must:

- have a valid drivers licence
- have \$200,000 worth of third party liability insurance
- wear a helmet (for ATV and motorcycle riders)

Enforcement of rules and regulations is ongoing and conducted by Forest Service staff and the R.C.M.P.

For more information

If you would like more information regarding OHV use on Crown land, contact your local Forest Service Office.

Please report all forest fires

Dial 1-800-663-5555

Be a part of the solution!

Observe, Record and Report resource damage to your local Forest Service Office.

treadlightly!®

LEAVING A GOOD IMPRESSION

Travel only where permitted

Respect of other users

Educate yourself

Avoid wet lands, meadows and fragile alpine areas

Drive and travel responsibly!

To Find out More about Tread Lightly!

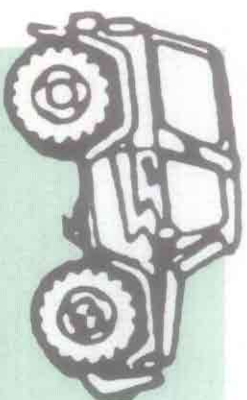
Canada, contact:

Box 22049 Westmount Str.

Waterloo, Ontario

N2L 6J7

Call: 1 (519) 575-0661



Recreational Off Highway Vehicles

Tips for Responsible OHV Use



Forest Practices Branch


BRITISH
COLUMBIA

989 FPPB, 018-0998



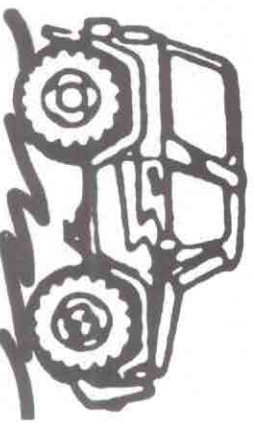
R i d e R e s p o n s i b l y

Show respect

for wildlife and the environment

Soil erosion, damaged vegetation, and disturbed wildlife or domestic animals can all result from careless OHV use. By following some guidelines you can help to reduce the impact of your OHV. Remember:

- Travel only on established roads or trails.
- Respect closures. They may be for hunting or protecting habitat during nesting season or lawning time.
- Cross streams at designated locations only, and at 90 degrees to the stream bank.
- Avoid wetlands, meadows and fragile alpine environments. If you must travel through a sensitive area use extra caution, go slow and easy.
- Don't chase or unnecessarily scare animals.
- Enjoy wildlife from a distance.
- Keep your off highway vehicle quiet to prevent disturbing the wildlife.



Be an ambassador for your sport!

Your actions will help determine other people's attitudes towards OHVs.

- When you meet a horseback rider pull off to the lower side of the trail, shut off your engine, and let the horse pass. A horse is less easily spooked by an object lower than itself. Also take off your helmet, get off/out of your vehicle and speak to the rider. This will help keep the horse calm, and sends a good message to other trail users.
- Maintain your OHV, including exhaust, to help reduce noise.
- Be especially considerate when travelling through a recreation site. Keep noise levels low and speeds below 20 km/hr.
- Pack out your garbage.
- Always use a spark arrester to help prevent fires.
- Don't mix alcohol and off highway vehicles!

Know where you are allowed to travel

- Many trails are zoned for non motorized use. Be aware of restrictions to OHV use and stay off hiking trails. Use only trails and roads authorizing OHV use.
- Stay on the trail. Don't cut switchbacks or take shortcuts.
- Leave gates how you found them.
- Stay off grasslands and always avoid high alpine areas—they are easily damaged and may take hundreds of years to recover.
- Don't travel through patches of noxious weeds. Keep your all-terrain-vehicle and clothing free of weed seeds.
- Learn how to minimize your OHV's environmental impact through proper riding techniques.
- Stay off soft, wet trails and roads that can be easily damaged.
- Travel in the middle of the trail to avoid creating a wider path.
- Avoid traveling on Forest Service Roads that have heavy logging traffic.

