

RIDE ON! OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE ETHICS AND SAFETY SECONDARY SCHOOL LESSON PLAN



Goal: Students will learn the importance of safe off-highway vehicle (OHV) operation, stay on the trail messages, and how to protect Utah lands.

Objectives:

At the end of the lesson students will be able to state:

1. One way that they can protect the land while riding OHVs;
2. The importance of protecting the land while riding OHVs; and
3. Two ways they can protect themselves while operating OHVs.

Teacher Prep: Review attached fact sheets

Educational Technology – Standard 5

Health: Seventh through 10th grade – Standard 4: Objective 1

Activities:

Lecture points

1. Importance of school trust lands to benefit schools (refer to SITLA fact sheet).
2. Many OHV riding opportunities take place on school trust lands.
3. We must take care of and respect the land (refer to Ethics & Courtesy fact sheet) to keep riding opportunities available.
4. While riding OHVs, we need to keep ourselves safe and accident free (refer to OHV Safety fact sheet).

Contest Information

1. Video entry deadline May 13.
2. Up to \$1500 in cash and prizes available to you, your teacher and your school. \$1500 will be awarded to middle and junior high school students and another \$1500 will be awarded to high school students.
3. Videos can be no longer than 90 seconds and must include the school trust land message and at least one OHV safety rule.
4. For complete contest rules and entry upload information, visit www.stateparks.utah.gov/rideonvideocontest

Show slide presentation of OHV safety and importance of staying on trail

Ethics and Safety Role Playing Game & Discussion (Game Below)

ATV Safety Word Search

ATV Safety Crossword Puzzle

Contest poster, information and entry forms

OHV Safety Equipment Trunk: Helmet, goggles, long pants, gloves, etc. (Available for checkout through Utah State Parks and Recreation, 1-800-OHV-RIDE)

Additional Website Resources:

www.atv-youth.org/

www.atvsafety.org

www.nohvcc.org

www.treadlightly.org

www.trustlands.utah.gov

Ethics and Safety Game "On the Trail" Role Play



Objective:

- Provide realistic scenarios/role plays of situations students may encounter while on the trail.
- Develop message delivery skills in order to raise awareness of safety and ethics.
- Recognize and take advantage of "teachable moments" to suggest or reinforce responsible behavior.

Duration: 30 to 45 minutes

Instructions: Break the class into small groups of three or four students. Hand out one scenario card to each group. Ask groups to spend five minutes playing out the scenario. Ask groups to report back and discuss how they handled the situation. Open to class discussion for other ideas.

You are riding on a defined trail open to ATVs, with signs asking that you stay on the trail because of the fragile desert cryptobiotic soil. Your friend riding with you sees something interesting off the trail and wants to ride over to see it. What should you do?

Your friend comes over and wants you to go for a quick ride with him over to visit another friend. He has brought his ATV and tells you to hop on the back, it's only a short ride over, nothing will happen in a short amount of time. Do you ride on the back with him?

You are riding an ATV on a trail designated for motorized use. You see up ahead another ATV rider, driving off-trail, coming down a wet slope that is thick with low vegetation—ferns and shrubs. That rider slows to a stop as you approach, giving you an opportunity to educate the careless rider. What do you say to them?

You and a couple of friends are riding your ATVs on a trail designated for motorized use. You come upon a side trail that has a newly posted sign closing that trail to motorized use. You know the trail leads to a stunning view your friends haven't seen. They want to go see the view. What do you do?

You and your friends have just finished your lunch break while riding your ATVs. As you put on your safety gear to get ready to begin your ride again, you notice there is trash laying around your lunch site—a potato chip bag, a couple of juice cartons, a banana peel and an apple core. What do you do?

Your friends want to have a group ride. Although nobody in your group knows the area, a member suggests that you go to Jasper Valley because a friend of his used to ride there and it is nearby. Do you all go?

You and a few friends are gathering at a multi-use trailhead with your ATVs preparing for a ride. A couple of hikers are also starting out and are upset that you are there. They are making disparaging remarks about "motor heads" messing up their experience. How do you handle the situation?

Your friend calls you and wants you to come over to his campsite to play card games with him. You decide to ride your ATV over. Since it's only a few campsites away, you decide you don't need to wear your helmet or other safety gear on the ride. What are some things that could happen on the way over?



Your friend invites you over to his house to see the new ATV he just got for his birthday. He's on the high school basketball team and is a foot taller than you, but you are best friends. He invites you to give it a spin, but when you get on the machine, you can't reach the controls. You really want to ride it, what do you do?

You and your friends are out on the sand dunes having a great time on your ATVs. Your friends have been riding on the dunes many times before, but this is your first time. They are doing some crazy stunts! Do you try to keep up with them or stay within your skill level?

You and your friend decide to take a short ATV ride up in the canyon behind your house after school. You start to leave a note on the counter for your parents to let them know where you're going, but then decide not to because you plan on being home before they get home from work. Good idea or not?

You have had a serious infection and have been taking antibiotics and prescription pain medication that the doctor has given you. Your friend calls and wants to go for an ATV ride. Should you go, even though you are feeling a little better and are tired of being cooped up in the house?



Trust Lands Fact Sheet

What are Trust Lands?

When Utah was granted statehood on January 4, 1896, the federal government gave the new state parcels of land to be managed "in trust" in order to provide financial support for public education and 11 other public institutions. The institutions that benefit from these lands are called beneficiaries. The lands are called "trust lands" and are scattered throughout the state.

There are currently about 3.4 million acres, or 5,500 square miles of trust lands remaining. More than half of the original 7.5 million acre land grant has been sold, much of it within the first 35 years of statehood. Interestingly, about 30% of all private lands in Utah were once trust lands.

What is the Trust Lands Administration?

The School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) is an independent agency of state government. It was created in 1994 by the state legislature to manage the trust lands. The agency is entirely self-funded and uses no tax dollars in its operations. Prudent and profitable trust lands management has put needed dollars to work in Utah's schools.

How Do Trust Lands Make Money?

Money from the management of trust lands comes from a variety of different sources. The largest source of revenues is from the leasing of minerals properties and royalties from the production of commodities such as oil, gas, coal, sand and gravel. Trust Lands are also leased for a variety of other purposes including easements, telecommunications sites, industrial sites, commercial sites, timber harvesting and agricultural activities.

There are times when the best way to make money for the beneficiaries is through the sale of trust lands or through real estate development activities. Public auctions are generally held twice a year where select parcels of trust lands are sold to the public.

How Do Trust Lands Help My School?

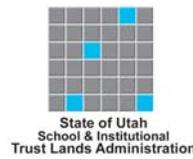
The money that is made from trust lands is transferred to the state's permanent school fund. The permanent fund's current balance is over \$1.1 billion and growing. Investment income from the permanent fund is distributed to each school in the state every year for local academic needs. Each school's community council has the responsibility of determining how their share of the money can be used to best meet their school's needs. Total distributions to schools last year were about \$23 million.

How Can I Help?

In order for trust lands to continue providing increasing amounts of funding for schools, it is important that they be treated properly and protected from abuse. You can help by being responsible in your use of trust lands. If you hunt, fish, camp, hike, ride your OHV, or participate in other recreational activities on trust lands please be sure to be a responsible steward of these lands. Remember, if you pack it in, pack it out. Always stay on the trail and remind others to do the same. By doing so, you are protecting your privilege to use these lands and also helping your school.

Want More Information?

Please visit our website at www.trustlands.utah.gov or give us a call at 801-535-5100.



OHV SAFETY FACT SHEET

Always wear your safety gear. This includes a HELMET, goggles or face shield, long sleeves, long pants, gloves and boots that cover the ankles. Make sure your helmet is approved for motorized vehicle use.

Ride a machine that is the right size for you. Riding a machine that is too big or too small is a major cause of accidents and injuries! Riders should be able to straddle the machine with a slight bend in the knees while both feet are on the footrests. Riders should be able to reach the controls while turning.

Always ride in control. Never attempt anything that is beyond your skill level or machine capability.

Only carry passengers if an OHV is specifically designed for it. Off-road motorcycles and most ATVs are designed to be ridden by only one rider.

Operators between the ages of 8 and 15 (before they obtain a drivers license) are required by law to take an OHV Safety Education class approved by Utah State Parks and obtain their Utah OHV Safety Education Certificate. For more information, visit www.stateparks.utah.gov/ohv.

Always leave an itinerary and map with family or friends.

Be prepared for any emergency. Always carry a tool kit and spare parts, a first aid kit and survival equipment when you ride. Carry plenty of extra food, water and fuel.

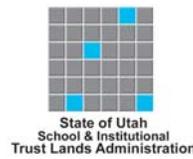
Riders under the age of 16 should be supervised by a responsible adult at all times.

Never drink and ride. Alcohol and OHVs don't mix, but create a deadly and illegal combination. Make sure you know how prescription drugs affect you before you operate a machine.

Always make sure your machine is in good working condition before taking it out on the trail.

Be sure to have a red or orange whip flag attached to your OHV and at least eight feet off the ground while riding on sand dunes.

Check the weather forecast before leaving home and be prepared for changing weather conditions.



OHV ETHICS AND RIDING COURTESY

Protect your riding privilege—stay on the trail. Riding on public lands is a privilege, not a right!! Because it is a privilege, it can be taken away if riders don't do everything they can to protect. The best way to protect riding privileges is to **STAY ON THE TRAILS**. These trails have been developed to provide riders with great riding adventures and can be closed because of the careless acts of irresponsible riders.

Avoid riding in wet meadows or on stream banks. Also avoid riding on steep and erodible slopes.

Avoid riding over small trees and shrubs. Trampled vegetation not only looks bad, but also damages critical wildlife habitat and contributes to soil erosion.

Ride in the middle of the trail to avoid widening it. Trail widening is unsightly and expensive to repair.

Always yield the right of way to non-motorized trail users. When encountering other hikers or horses on the trail, pull over and shut off your engine. Remove your helmet and let others pass.

Don't alter the manufacturer's muffler system. Loud exhaust systems are annoying to other users.

Honor seasonal and permanent trail closures.

Never harass wildlife or domestic animals while riding. Always view wildlife from a respectful distance.

Never litter. Always carry bags to pack out your trash and other trash you may encounter. Leave the trails better than you find them!

When overtaking others, follow at a safe distance until they provide a signal for you to pass. Be courteous while passing. A little bump of the throttle can leave a shower of gravel or a cloud of dust and an angry rider behind.

After each ride, wash machines to avoid spreading noxious weeds to new areas.

Make sure the area you are riding in is open to ATV and OHV use. All areas in Utah are considered closed to OHV use unless designated open either by signs or on maps.

Respect private property and do not enter without the owner's permission.

Remember that you, as one rider, represent the whole OHV community to others. Be a good example of courteous and ethical OHV riding.