



#6 ATV SAFETY AND GEAR

Talk Leader Instructions:

This is background information ONLY. Be sure to customize to your operation and facilities.

- ✓ Print copies of this sheet for yourself and each of the participants.
- ✓ Lead a discussion with your workers about the materials on this sheet at a location that is appropriate to the topic. Be sure to give real life examples whenever possible.
- ✓ Be open to questions.
- ✓ Conclude with a brief review of the main points or a summary based on the discussion.
- ✓ Fill in your operation name, location and the date on your sheet. Have each worker sign your sheet to confirm their attendance.
- ✓ File your sheet in your worker training records to document the training experience.

WORK ACTIVITY

An all-terrain vehicle, or ATV, is any two, three or four wheeled motorized vehicle designed for off-road, rugged landscapes. By design, ATVs are “driver active” where the operator sits on a saddle-like seat, and steers with handlebars, similar to a motorcycle or snowmobile. On “driver active” vehicles, the operator’s body movements help control the steering and direction, requiring a strong combination of skill, good judgement, attention and physical strength.

KEY POINTS

- ✓ Review our Standard Operating Practices for ATVs at least yearly. If you have questions, ask.

WEAR THE GEAR

- ✓ All drivers, and passengers when appropriate, and riders on vehicles towed by an ATV, must wear CSA approved helmets with a visor or safety goggles.
- ✓ Appropriate clothing includes trousers that cover the legs, boots that cover the ankles, a long-sleeved shirt or jacket and gloves.
- ✓ Wear bright coloured clothing to make yourself more visible.

MAKE A PRE-RIDE CHECK

- ✓ **Tires and wheels:** Make sure air pressure in tires is at recommended rate and check for cuts or gouges. Tighten axle nuts and secure with cotter pins.
- ✓ **Controls and cables:** Check controls and cable locations and make sure all work well, including throttle and brakes.
- ✓ **Lights and electrical system:** Ignition switch should stop the engine when in “off” position and when in “on” position, headlights and taillights should work.
- ✓ **Oil and fuel:** Check oil and fuel levels.
- ✓ **Chain and/or drive shaft chassis:** Inspect, adjust, and lubricate chain and/or drive shaft chassis. Check for nuts and bolts loosened by vibration.

START IT PROPERLY – BONEC

Brakes – Always have parking brake on.

On position – for fuel cap vent or valve and ignition.

Neutral – Ensure the transmission is in neutral position.

Engine – The engine stop switch should be in the “run” or “start” position.

Choke – For cold engines, turn choke to ‘on’ position and start according to the manual. *(cont’d on page 2)*

BACKGROUND

ATVs are NOT toys! As with all vehicles and farm equipment, they must be used safely. Certain offences under the Criminal Code, such as dangerous driving and alcohol related offences, will apply to drivers of ATVs, as will offences under the Highway Traffic Act such as careless driving. Check your provincial legislation for the laws that apply in your area. Ask about the requirements for registration and insurance, legal age and/or licensing of driver, and the rules for public roads.



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REMEMBER...

- ✓ You can ride farther in one hour on an ATV than you can walk in a day – so don't risk getting stranded. Check local weather forecasts, tell someone where you'll be traveling and when you expect to be back and don't go out alone.
- ✓ Do not accept a rider! Do not carry passengers on a single-person ATV.
- ✓ Closely supervise new drivers, regardless of age, until they are familiar with the machine and can handle it competently. Ride within your own skill limitations.
- ✓ Bring along a farm first-aid kit, an extra ignition key and tools that may be needed for vehicle repairs.
- ✓ Be extremely careful in rough unfamiliar terrain and in water. Check the depth of the water or landscape beforehand and drive slowly and carefully so you can steer around rocks and other obstacles.
- ✓ Be extra cautious when riding among pedestrians, horseback riders and livestock.
- ✓ Always use a flag mast when riding in dunes and hills.
- ✓ Bring a cell phone or two-way radio in case of an emergency.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES / CONTACTS

In case of emergency, call 911 or your local emergency services.

MORE RESOURCES

For more information, a free booklet "ATV Safety for Agricultural Workers" is available at <http://www.casa-acsa.ca/content/atv-safety-agricultural-workers-manitoba>

COMMENTS / SUGGESTIONS:

Operation Name _____

Location _____

Meeting Leader _____

Date _____

TOOLBOX TALK PARTICIPANTS

Print name _____ Signature _____

Print name _____ Signature _____

Print name _____ Signature _____

Print name _____ Signature _____

Print name _____ Signature _____