

Off-Highway Vehicles

Registration and information: www.B4uRide.com



Know the Laws, Operate Safely and Enjoy!

New Mexico laws for off-highway vehicles (OHV) are designed to protect all citizens through responsible and safe OHV use. OHVs include all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), recreational off-highway vehicles (ROVs), motorcycles and snowmobiles. Hunters who use OHVs must ensure their vehicles are registered and permitted properly and equipped with a Forest Service-approved spark arrester. Nonresidents may register OHVs in their home state or purchase a New Mexico nonresident permit at www.B4uRide.com.

All youth operators and passengers younger than 18 years of age must wear a DOT approved helmet and goggles or safety glasses. Whether young or old, it's every rider's responsibility to know and observe the laws. Before riding on public land, visit www.B4uRide.com.

New Mexico OHV Code of Ethics

- Learn about the area in which you will ride. Contact public-land managers or owners of private property to understand area restrictions and receive permission before you ride. Get maps of the area(s) and stay on trails and/or areas designated for OHV use.
- Be courteous on the trail. Allow right-of-way to hikers and horseback riders, and when encountering horses—pull off of the trail on the low side, stop your engine, remove your helmet, and speak to the rider. Wait until all horses have passed and moved beyond 50 feet before restarting your engine.
- Minimize your impact on other hunters and anglers using the trail. Respect seasonal closures and avoid operating at peak-hunting hours. If retrieving game with an OHV, do it at midday to minimize disturbance to others. Cross streams where designated and at a 90-degree angle wherever possible.
- Leave gates and fences as you found them, and remember it's unlawful to travel or hunt on private property without the owner's permission.
- Leave areas cleaner than found. A plastic trash bag and bungee cords can be helpful tools to keep land clean.
- Obey trail markers and closure signs. If it's posted closed, stay out!
- Keep your OHV quiet. Excessive sound stresses wildlife and annoys property owners and other recreational users. It also contributes to your own riding fatigue. Less sound allows you to ride more comfortably and others to enjoy their outdoor experience.
- Approach livestock or wildlife on the trail slowly. Sometimes range cattle will pass the afternoon under shade trees along the trail. If you startle them, they may run directly into your path. Give them time to react and as wide a berth as possible, and remember, it is unlawful to pursue or harass livestock.
- Never mix riding with alcohol or drugs. It's not only illegal, it's dangerous.
- Familiarize yourself with all of New Mexico's laws and requirements for OHV use by visiting: www.B4uRide.com or telephoning: (505) 222-4727.