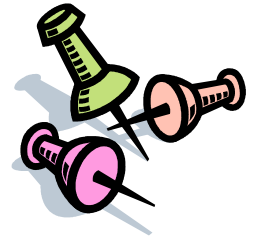




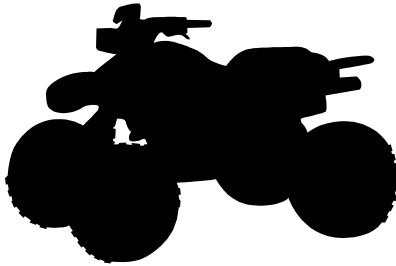
Safety Note

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY



Safety Note #30

ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES



According to data available from the Consumer Product Safety Commission, a total of about 135,000 people were treated in hospitals for all-terrain vehicle injuries during 2003. Of this total, approximately 33,400 were fractures, 36,000 were contusions or abrasions, and 15,400 were head injuries. On average, there are 18 all-terrain vehicle fatalities in California every year. All-terrain vehicles are regulated by the California Vehicle Code (CVC), Sections 38000 through 38506.

Pre-Use Activities

- Prior to first use, employees assigned tasks requiring the use of an all-terrain vehicle shall receive instructions on safe operation of the vehicle, including descriptions of specific property hazards/obstacles and vehicle weight carrying/towing limits.
- Thoroughly review and understand information provided in the all-terrain vehicle operator's manual with particular attention given to descriptions of safety procedures.
- Before using, always inspect the all-terrain vehicle for damage or disrepair.
- If an all-terrain vehicle fails the pre-use inspection, notify your supervisor and remove the vehicle from service by attaching a red tag that states "DO NOT USE." Complete red tag with appropriate information.

Operating Requirements

- All-terrain vehicle operators are required to wear approved helmets (CVC Section 38505).
- Passengers are not allowed on all-terrain vehicles (CVC Section 38506).
- It is unlawful to drive an all-terrain vehicle at a speed greater than is reasonable or prudent or at a speed which endangers the safety of persons or property (CVC Section 38305).
- All-terrain vehicle operators shall be able to reach and operate all controls necessary to operate the vehicle (CVC Section 38304).
- No operator shall place in motion an all-terrain vehicle that is stopped, standing, or parked until such movement can be made with reasonable safety (CVC Section 38312).
- No operator shall turn an all-terrain vehicle from a direct course or move right or left until such movement can be made with reasonable safety (CVC Section 38314).
- It is unlawful for an operator of an all-terrain vehicle to disobey any sign, signal, or traffic control device placed or maintained by a government authority (CVC Section 38300).
- When operated between sunset and sunrise, all-terrain vehicles must be equipped with one tail lamp and one head lamp that is sufficient to see 200 feet ahead (CVC Section 38355).
- It is unlawful to operate an all-terrain vehicle with a wanton and willful disregard for the safety of other persons or property (CVC Section 38316).
- The speed limit within 50 feet of any campground, campsite, or concentration of people or animals shall be 15 miles per hour unless posted otherwise (CVC Section 38310).
- All-terrain vehicles shall not be operated in a manner likely to cause malicious or unnecessary damage to the land, wildlife, wildlife habitat or vegetative resources (CVC Section 38319).