

NEW! ATV/UTV LAW CHANGES EFFECTIVE 3/3/16

Senate Bill 381 is slated to be signed into law on 3/1/16. This bill relates to small UTVs, small ATVs and operator age restrictions. Here are a summary of the changes:

- Modifies the definition of a “small all-terrain vehicle” by increasing the max engine size from 90 to 130 ccs.
- Creates a new definition of “small utility terrain vehicle”. Small UTVs must meet all of the general UTV definition/specifications however engine size must be 200 ccs or less. Previously there wasn’t a small UTV definition.
- Requires all UTV operators at least age 12 and born on or after 1-1-88 to possess a valid ATV Safety Certificate while operating in public areas.
- Children between the ages of 12 – 15 may now operate small UTVs on designated off-road ATV trails only if they are accompanied by a designated adult and possess a valid ATV Safety Certificate. Previously no one under age 16 could operate a UTV. NOTE: This is slightly different from the small ATV exception which allows children under age 12 to operate with adult accompaniment. Small ATV operators under age 12 are not required to possess safety certificates because the certificates aren’t valid until the child turns age 12.
- Restricts children under age 16 from operating UTVs on a roadway under any circumstances. This coincides with the new created small UTV exception so that children operating under both the small UTV and small ATV age exceptions may only operate on off-road trails with adult accompaniment. Previously there also was no minimum age established for agricultural use of a UTV on a roadway like there was for ATVs. Minimum age for agricultural use of an ATV on a roadway is age 12 with a safety certificate and now minimum age for agricultural use of a UTV on a roadway is age 16 with a safety certificate.