Farm ATV Safety Infographic



All-Terrain Vehicle Hazards during Farm Work

All-terrain vehicles (ATVs) are used in agricultural operations to help farmworkers gather livestock, pull trailers and haul small loads, or carry pesticide applicators. ATVs have caused many farm fatalities and injuries. This fact sheet provides practical safety measures that employers and supervisors can take to protect vehicle operators from harmful incidents. Employers are responsible for providing a safe workplace for farmworkers.

ATVs Can Be Dangerous

ATV injuries and fatalities on farms and ranches are widespread and increasing. NIOSH identified 2,090 ATV injuries and 321 ATV fatalities between 2003 and 2011, with three out of five of the occupational deaths occurring in agriculture.

The majority of these ATV incidents result from:

- Loss of control of the vehicle
- ATV rollovers
- Operators being thrown from the vehicle
- ATVs colliding with a tree or other obstacles
- Operators not wearing a helmet or other protective equipment
- Inexperienced operators

Employers need to provide ATVs that have the following features: Motorcycle-type handle bars for steering control; large, low-pressure tires; single worker design; and a seat that can be straddled by the worker.



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ATV Safety Checks

Employers should train operators to perform pre- and post-ride safety checks to ensure that the ATV is operating properly. Pre- and post-ride checks should include inspecting:

- Tires and wheels
- Controls and cables
- Lights and electrical systems
- Oil and fuel
- Chain and/or driveshaft

Source: https://www.osha.gov