

## **Riding Safe** (good judgment will keep you safe)

1. Always wear safety gear
2. No alcohol, drugs, or other impairments of judgment
3. Know your limits and the limits of your machine
4. Don't outride your sight distance
5. Don't give in to peer pressure
6. Never carry passengers
7. Paved roads and traction

### **Summary**

Safe off-road riding requires special skills and good judgment. Smart riders ride with caution while they work to build their skills and become familiar with the riding environment. Recognize the limits of your abilities as well as the limits of your vehicle. All too often, riders fail to understand the risks and hazards involved in off-road recreation.

Build your skills gradually while you learn the riding environment. Always give yourself time and space to react to hazards. This requires that you look far ahead to prepare for danger and avoid it. Control your speed in situations where sight distance is limited.

Never ride as a passenger on an ATV. Avoid carrying passengers unless your ATV or off-road motorcycle is designed for them. Never carry a passenger in front of you. Carrying passengers on ATVs is a common cause of crashes, deaths and injuries. Other common causes of ATV crashes are youths riding ATVs that are too large for them and riders colliding with other vehicles while riding ATVs on paved roads.

## **Riding Smart** (Know the laws and rules)

1. ATV Safety Education Card
2. Rider Fit for all under 16
3. Supervision for all under 16
4. Helmets for all under 18, must be DOT approved and must be fastened
5. Flags – on dunes
6. Must be at least 7 to operate dirt bike
7. ATV must have a current permit (sticker)

### **Summary**

The requirement for online ATV safety training begins on January 1, 2009 for all individuals under age 16, everyone, regardless of age, will be required to complete online safety training in order to ride on public lands in Oregon. Non-residents are required to carry a valid Oregon ATV Safety Education Card or an ATV Safety Education Card issued by another State.

Be certain that you understand the rider fit and minimum age requirements for youths, as well as the supervision requirements that apply to all riders under age 16.

Much of the public land in Oregon is surrounded by private property or joins property that is privately owned. Make certain that you understand the laws and rules that are in force for the area where you are riding.

## **Riding Ethically** (attitudes and perceptions affect your access)

1. Protect the soundscape – don't violate sound limits
2. Staging Areas, Camping Areas and Vicinity
3. Wildlife
4. Tread Lightly
5. Respecting rights and property of others
6. Avoid sensitive areas and habitats
7. Avoid restricted areas

### **Summary**

Protect your access to riding areas by treading lightly and respecting the rights of others who share public lands. Keep your speed low in congested areas and always watch for children and pets.

Minimize your impact on the environment by staying on designated trails and avoiding sensitive areas. Recognize the effect that excessive noise has on wildlife and on others who use public land. Protecting the soundscape helps protect your access to off-road riding. Join forces with other volunteers and help keep our riding areas maintained and open for future use.