

CHAPTER 939

ATVS

§13151. Application

This chapter applies to the operation of ATVs in the State. [PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2003, c. 414, §A2 (NEW). PL 2003, c. 414, §D7 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).

§13152. License and training

1. License. An operator's license is not required for the operation of an ATV, except as required by Title 29-A.

[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

2. Training. A person over 9 years of age and under 16 years of age must successfully complete a training program approved by the department prior to operating an ATV except on:

A. Land on which that person is domiciled; [PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §17 (RPR).]

B. Land owned or leased by that person's parent or guardian; or [PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §17 (RPR).]

C. A safety training site approved by the department. [PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §17 (RPR).]

The training program must include instruction on the safe operation of ATVs, the laws pertaining to ATVs, the effect of ATVs on the environment and ways to minimize that effect, courtesy to landowners and other recreationists and landowners and other materials as determined by the department.

[PL 2023, c. 228, §16 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2003, c. 414, §A2 (NEW). PL 2003, c. 414, §D7 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 655, §B401 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 655, §B422 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 695, §B10 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 695, §C1 (AFF). PL 2005, c. 397, §E17 (AMD). PL 2023, c. 228, §16 (AMD).

§13153. Rule violations; ATVs

The following penalties apply to violations of rules regulating ATVs. [PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §402 (RPR); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

1. Civil. Notwithstanding section 10650, a person who violates a rule regulating ATVs commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.

[PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §402 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

2. Criminal. A person who violates a rule regulating ATVs after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime.

[PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §402 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2003, c. 414, §A2 (NEW). PL 2003, c. 414, §D7 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 655, §B402 (RPR). PL 2003, c. 655, §B422 (AFF).

§13154. Age restrictions

(REPEALED)**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 2003, c. 414, §A2 (NEW). PL 2003, c. 414, §D7 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 655, §B403 (RP). PL 2003, c. 655, §B422 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 695, §B11 (RP). PL 2003, c. 695, §C1 (AFF).

§13154-A. Age restrictions

1. Minimum age. Except as provided in subsection 6, a person under 10 years of age may not operate an ATV.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §404 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. B, §12 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. C, §1 (AFF).]

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §404 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. B, §12 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. C, §1 (AFF).]

[PL 2021, c. 184, §15 (AMD).]

2. Permitting child under 10 years to operate ATV. Except as provided in subsection 6, a person may not permit a child under 10 years of age to operate an ATV.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §404 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. B, §12 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. C, §1 (AFF).]

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §404 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. B, §12 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. C, §1 (AFF).]

[PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §404 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. B, §12 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. C, §1 (AFF).]

3. Unlawfully operating ATV by person 10 to under 16 years of age. Except as provided in subsection 6, a person 10 years of age or older but under 16 years of age may not operate an ATV unless that person has successfully completed a training course approved by the department pursuant to section 13152 and is accompanied by an adult. Proof of having completed a training course must be presented for inspection upon request of a law enforcement officer.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §404 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. B, §12 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. C, §1 (AFF).]

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §404 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. B, §12 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. C, §1 (AFF).]

[PL 2011, c. 253, §36 (AMD).]

4. Person under 16 years of age crossing public way. A person under 16 years of age may not cross a public way maintained for travel unless the crossing is in accordance with section 13157-A, subsection 6, paragraph A and the person satisfies the requirements of subsection 3.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §404 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. B, §12 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. C, §1 (AFF).]

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §404 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. B, §12 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. C, §1 (AFF).]

[PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §404 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. B, §12 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. C, §1 (AFF).]

5. Permitting an unaccompanied person under 16 years of age to operate an ATV. Except as provided in subsection 6, a person may not permit an unaccompanied person 10 years of age or older but under 16 years of age to operate an ATV.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §404 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. B, §12 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. C, §1 (AFF).]

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §404 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. B, §12 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. C, §1 (AFF).]

[PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §404 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. B, §12 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. C, §1 (AFF).]

6. Exceptions for certain property. This section does not apply to the operation of an ATV on:

A. The land on which the operator is domiciled; [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §404 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. B, §12 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. C, §1 (AFF).]

B. Land owned or leased by the operator's parent or guardian; or [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §404 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. B, §12 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. C, §1 (AFF).]

C. A safety training site approved by the department. [PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §18 (RPR).]
[PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §18 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2003, c. 655, §B404 (NEW). PL 2003, c. 655, §B422 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 695, §B12 (NEW). PL 2003, c. 695, §C1 (AFF). PL 2005, c. 397, §E18 (AMD). PL 2011, c. 253, §36 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 184, §15 (AMD).

§13155. Registration

1. Operating unregistered ATV.

[PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §405 (RP); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

1-A. Operating unregistered ATV. Except as provided in paragraph A and subsection 5-B, a person may not operate an ATV that is not registered in accordance with subsection 3.

A. The following exceptions apply.

(1) Registration is not required for an ATV operated on land that the ATV operator owns or leases, regardless of where that ATV operator is domiciled, as long as the ATV is not operated elsewhere within the jurisdiction of the State.

(2) Registration is not required for an ATV operated by a commercial ski area for the purpose of packing snow or for rescue operations on the commercial ski area, unless the ATV is required to cross a public way during that operation.

(3) An ATV owned and operated in the State by the Federal Government, the State or a political subdivision of the State is exempt from registration fees but must be registered and is required to display registration numbers.

(4) An ATV registration for the farm use specified in Title 29-A, section 501, subsection 8, paragraph E is not required for a vehicle registered with the Secretary of State under Title 29-A, section 501, subsection 8.

(5) An ATV registered in another state or in a Canadian province may be operated without being registered pursuant to this section at a special event organized to occur in this State if the special event organizer submits a request in writing to the commissioner 60 days prior to the special event and provides the commissioner with a map of the trails to be used during the special event and the commissioner approves the request.

(6) An ATV owned or under the control of an ATV manufacturer may be operated without a Maine registration at a demonstration event organized to occur in this State if such operation is approved by the commissioner. An ATV manufacturer or a representative of an ATV manufacturer must submit a request in writing to the commissioner at least 60 days prior to the demonstration event and shall include a description and the location of the event.

(7) The commissioner may annually establish one 3-consecutive-day period, 2 days of which are weekend days, during which a nonresident may operate in the State an ATV that is not registered in this State if the nonresident's ATV has a valid registration from another state or a Canadian province. [PL 2021, c. 215, §5 (AMD).]

B. The following penalties apply to violations of this subsection.

(1) A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$200 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.

(2) A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2009, c. 213, Pt. OO, §21 (AMD).]

[PL 2021, c. 526, §1 (AMD).]

2. Reciprocity.

[PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §407 (RP); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

3. Application and issuance. The commissioner, or an agent designated by the commissioner, may register and assign a registration number to an ATV upon application and payment of a fee by the owner. The commissioner shall charge a fee of \$1 in addition to the fee for each registration issued by an employee of the department. The registration number in the form of stickers issued by the commissioner must be clearly displayed on the front and rear of the vehicle. An annual registration is valid for one year commencing July 1st of each year, except that any registration issued prior to July 1st but after May 1st is valid from the date of issuance until June 30th of the following year. A registration agent shall provide to the person who requests to register an oversized ATV under subsection 5-B a written form developed and provided by the department explaining the size and weight restrictions for registering that ATV, including whether it qualifies for registration, and explaining the

provisions of section 13157-A regarding the operation of oversized ATVs on designated state-approved ATV trails. The department shall develop a form for use by registration agents under this subsection. [PL 2021, c. 215, §6 (AMD); PL 2021, c. 411, §8 (AMD).]

4. Form of registration. An ATV registration must be in such form as the commissioner may determine.

[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

5. Fees. The ATV registration fee is:

A. For a resident, \$70 annually. The registration for an ATV owned by a resident is valid for one year, beginning on July 1st of each year; and [PL 2021, c. 215, §7 (AMD); PL 2021, c. 215, §15 (AFF).]

B. For a nonresident:

(1) One hundred dollars for a registration valid for 7 consecutive days. A person may purchase more than one 7-day registration in any season; and

(2) One hundred fifteen dollars for a registration valid for one year.

The registration for an ATV owned by a nonresident must specify the dates for which the registration is valid. [PL 2021, c. 215, §7 (AMD); PL 2021, c. 215, §15 (AFF).]

Thirty-seven dollars of each fee collected pursuant to this subsection must be deposited in the ATV Recreational Management Fund established in section 1893, subsection 2 and must be used to maintain designated state-approved ATV trails.

Ten dollars of each fee collected pursuant to paragraph B must be deposited in the ATV Enforcement Fund established in section 10267.

[PL 2021, c. 215, §7 (AMD); PL 2021, c. 215, §15 (AFF).]

5-A. Temporary fee.

[PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §408 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF); MRSA T. 12 §13155, sub-§5-A (RP).]

5-B. Oversized ATV; exception. A person may not register an oversized ATV except as provided in this subsection. A resident who has registered an oversized ATV prior to January 1, 2022 may continue to register that oversized ATV upon payment of the fee specified in subsection 5, paragraph A, and upon a transfer of ownership of that registered oversized ATV, the new owner may also register that oversized ATV upon payment of the fee specified in subsection 5, paragraph A. Registration is not required for an oversized ATV operated by a person on the land of another if written permission is received from the landowner, lessee of the land or landowner's representative and the person is engaged solely in a business activity, other than a business activity involving recreational use of the oversized ATV. For purposes of this subsection, "oversized ATV" means an ATV that is wider than 65 inches or weighs more than 2,000 pounds according to the manufacturer's specifications.

[PL 2025, c. 267, §4 (AMD).]

5-C. Antique ATV. A person who owns an antique ATV may register that ATV under this subsection as an antique ATV. Notwithstanding subsection 5, the fee for an antique ATV registration is \$45. An antique ATV registration is valid until the ownership of the ATV is transferred to another person. Upon the transfer of ownership, the new owner may reregister that ATV as an antique ATV by paying the \$45 antique ATV registration fee. Notwithstanding section 10206, all registration fees for antique ATVs must be deposited in the General Fund.

[PL 2021, c. 215, §9 (NEW).]

6. Duplicate registration certificate. The holder of a registration certificate issued under this section may obtain a duplicate from the commissioner upon application and payment of a fee of \$1.

[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

7. Transfer of ownership, discontinuance of use. A transfer of ownership or discontinuance of use of an all-terrain vehicle is subject to this subsection.

A. Whoever transfers the ownership or discontinues the use of a registered all-terrain vehicle shall, within 10 days, properly sign the registration, indicate the disposition of the all-terrain vehicle and return the registration to the commissioner. [PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

B. An all-terrain vehicle owner who transfers ownership or discontinues its use may, within 10 days from the date of transfer or discontinuance, apply to the commissioner for registration of another all-terrain vehicle. The fee for the transfer is \$4, and the registration is valid for the remainder of the registration year for which the previous all-terrain vehicle had been registered. [PL 2007, c. 651, §20 (AMD).]

C. When there is a change of ownership of an all-terrain vehicle for which a registration has previously been issued, the new owner shall apply for a new registration and shall pay the applicable fee under subsection 5. [PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

[PL 2007, c. 651, §20 (AMD).]

8. Restrictions.

[PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §409 (RP); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

8-A. Registration inspection. An owner or operator of an ATV shall present a registration certificate or an online registration receipt for inspection by any law enforcement officer on demand. An owner or operator of an ATV may present a registration certificate or an online registration receipt in electronic form.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §410 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §410 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

[PL 2021, c. 130, §4 (AMD).]

8-B. Notification of destroyed, abandoned, stolen or permanently removed ATV. The registrant shall notify the commissioner if an ATV is destroyed, abandoned, stolen or permanently removed from the State.

[PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §410 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

9. Display of registration numbers. Each new ATV sold in the State must have a space 6 inches in width by 3 1/2 inches in height provided on the front and rear of the machine, as high above the tires as possible, for the vertical display of the registration numbers. A person may not operate an ATV that is required to be registered under this section unless registration numbers in the form of stickers are displayed in these spaces or as otherwise required by the department. A person may operate an ATV registered online without displaying a registration number until that person receives the registration certificate from the department or for 30 days after registering the ATV online, whichever occurs first.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §411 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §411 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]
[PL 2015, c. 281, Pt. B, §1 (AMD).]

10. Training and education. The department shall provide training and education relating to ATVs.
[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

11. Members of armed forces permanently stationed in State. The following persons are eligible to register an ATV owned by them at the resident fee:

A. A person serving in the Armed Forces of the United States who is permanently stationed at a military or naval post, station or base in the State; and [PL 2021, c. 184, §16 (AMD).]

B. The spouse and children of the person described in paragraph A if the spouse and children permanently reside with that person. [PL 2021, c. 184, §16 (AMD).]

A member of the armed forces described in paragraph A or the spouse or child of that member who desires to register an ATV shall present certification from the commander of the post, station or base, or from the commander's designated agent, that the member is permanently stationed at that post, station or base. Registration fees for registrations pursuant to this subsection must be allocated as if the person registering the ATV was a resident of the municipality in which the post, station or base is situated.
[PL 2021, c. 184, §16 (AMD).]

12. Review of ATV registration fees and trail maintenance needs. In consultation with the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, the department shall review ATV registration fees and maintenance needs of designated state-approved ATV trails in 2022 and 2023 and every 2 years thereafter. The Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall report the findings and recommendations from the review to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters by February 1st each year a review is required. The committee may report out legislation related to ATV registration fees and maintenance needs of ATV trails to the session of the Legislature in which the report is received.
[PL 2021, c. 215, §10 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2003, c. 414, §A2 (NEW). PL 2003, c. 414, §D7 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 655, §§B405-411 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 655, §B422 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 695, §B13 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 695, §C1 (AFF). PL 2005, c. 12, §III43 (AMD). PL 2005, c. 177, §1 (AMD). PL 2007, c. 70, §1 (AMD). PL 2007, c. 651, §20 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 184, §2 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 213, Pt. OO, §21 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 340, §§21-23 (AMD). PL 2011, c. 116, §1 (AMD). PL 2011, c. 116, §2 (AFF). PL 2015, c. 281, Pt. B, §1 (AMD). PL 2017, c. 97, §3 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 75, §3 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 130, §4 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 184, §16 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 215, §§5-10 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 215, §15 (AFF). PL 2021, c. 411, §8 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 526, §§1, 2 (AMD). PL 2025, c. 267, §4 (AMD).

§13156. ATV registration agents

1. Appointment of ATV registration agents. The commissioner may appoint municipal clerks or other persons whom a municipality may designate as municipal agents to issue ATV registrations. The commissioner may designate other agents as necessary to issue ATV registrations. The commissioner shall determine by rule the period when the agents must act. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.
[PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §412 (AMD); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

2. Failure to remit funds. An agent is delinquent if that agent fails to forward to the commissioner funds collected by that agent by the date established in rules adopted under subsection 1. Failure to remit the funds as provided in this subsection results in the following sanctions, in addition to any other provided by law.

A. [PL 2011, c. 533, §12 (RP).]

B. [PL 2015, c. 301, §47 (RP).]

C. If an agent is delinquent for more than 150 days or is delinquent 3 or more times in one year, the commissioner shall:

(1) Terminate the agency for the balance of the year; and

(2) Order that the agency not be renewed for the next year. [PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

[PL 2015, c. 301, §47 (AMD).]

3. Service fees. An agent may charge a service fee of not more than \$5 for each ATV registration or renewal registration covered by sections 13002 to 13005. This service fee is retained by the agent. [PL 2023, c. 213, §2 (AMD).]

Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §412 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2003, c. 414, §A2 (NEW). PL 2003, c. 414, §D7 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 655, §B412 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 655, §B422 (AFF). PL 2011, c. 533, §12 (AMD). PL 2015, c. 301, §47 (AMD). PL 2023, c. 213, §2 (AMD).

§13156-A. Findings

The Legislature finds that activities associated with ATVs constitute a more intrusive use of private property open to recreational use by the public than do other recreational activities, and that abusive uses of ATVs puts access to private property for recreational use at risk. [PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. B, §14 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 695, Pt. C, §1 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2003, c. 695, §B14 (NEW). PL 2003, c. 695, §C1 (AFF).

§13157. Operation of ATVs

(REPEALED)

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2003, c. 414, §A2 (NEW). PL 2003, c. 414, §D7 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 655, §B413 (RP). PL 2003, c. 655, §B422 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 695, §§B15-23 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 695, §C1 (AFF). PL 2005, c. 397, §E19 (RP).

§13157-A. Operation of ATVs

1. No permission given.

[PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §20 (RP).]

1-A. Permission required. A person may not operate an ATV on the land of another without the permission of the landowner, lessee or landowner's representative. Permission is presumed on designated state-approved ATV trails or in areas open to ATVs by landowner policy. A landowner, lessee or landowner's representative may limit the use of a designated state-approved ATV trail on that landowner's or lessee's property through agreements with the State or an ATV club to address environmental, public safety or management concerns, including by limiting the type, size and weight

of ATVs permitted on the landowner's or lessee's property. A person operating an ATV, including an oversized ATV, on designated state-approved ATV trails shall adhere to limitations imposed by a landowner, lessee or landowner's representative and the State on that part of the designated state-approved ATV trail on the landowner's or lessee's property in accordance with this subsection. Written permission of the landowner, lessee or landowner's representative is required for use of an ATV on cropland or pastureland or in an orchard. A landowner, lessee or landowner's representative may limit in writing the use of a designated state-approved ATV trail on that landowner's or lessee's property. As used in this subsection, "cropland" means acreage in tillage rotation, land being cropped and land in bush fruits and "pastureland" means acreage devoted to the production of forage plants used for animal production. For purposes of this subsection, "oversized ATV" has the same meaning as defined in section 13155, subsection 5-B. This subsection may not be construed to limit or expand a landowner's or lessee's property rights.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §21 (NEW).]

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated of having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §21 (NEW).]

[PL 2025, c. 267, §5 (AMD).]

2. Stop and identify requirement. Persons operating ATVs upon the land of another shall stop and identify themselves upon the request of the landowner, lessee or the landowner's representative. A person who violates this subsection commits a Class E crime.

[PL 2025, c. 267, §6 (AMD).]

3. Operating ATV upon controlled access highway. The following provisions govern the operation of ATVs on controlled access highways.

A. A person may not operate an ATV upon a controlled access highway or within the right-of-way limits of a controlled access highway, except that:

(1) A person on a properly registered ATV may cross controlled access highways by use of bridges over or roads under those highways or by use of roads crossing controlled access highways at grade;

(2) The Commissioner of Transportation may issue special permits for designated crossings of controlled access highways; and

(3) A person on a properly registered ATV may operate the ATV within the right-of-way limits of a controlled access highway on a trail segment approved by the Commissioner of Transportation or the board of directors of the Maine Turnpike Authority, as applicable.

At the request of the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, the Commissioner of Transportation or the board of directors of the Maine Turnpike Authority, as applicable, may permit construction of an ATV trail within the right-of-way limits of a controlled access highway under the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation or the Maine Turnpike Authority being constructed on or after January 1, 2016 when there is an ability to provide for the continuity of a state-owned or state-controlled network of ATV trails. Funds for the construction of an ATV trail under this paragraph may not be provided from the Highway Fund. [PL 2015, c. 413, §2 (AMD).]

B. The following penalties apply to violations of this subsection.

(1) A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.

(2) A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]
[PL 2015, c. 413, §2 (AMD).]

4. Unlawfully operating ATV on snowmobile trail. Operating an ATV on a snowmobile trail financed in whole or in part with funds from the Snowmobile Trail Fund is governed by section 13107. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

5. Unlawfully operating ATV on private road.
[PL 2015, c. 301, §48 (RP).]

5-A. Operating a motor vehicle on an ATV trail. A person may not operate a motor vehicle as defined in Title 29-A, section 101, subsection 42 on a designated ATV trail that is not on a gravel road system unless that use has been authorized by the landowner or the landowner's agent or it is necessitated by an emergency involving the safety of a person or property.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2007, c. 202, §1 (NEW).]

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2007, c. 202, §1 (NEW).]
[PL 2019, c. 204, §2 (AMD).]

6. Operating ATV on public way. Except as provided in this subsection, a person may not operate an ATV, other than an ATV registered with the Secretary of State under Title 29-A, on any portion of a public way maintained or used for the operation of conventional motor vehicles or on the sidewalks of any public way.

A. A properly registered ATV may be operated on a public way only the distance necessary, but in no case to exceed 500 yards, on the extreme right of the traveled way for the purpose of crossing, as directly as possible, a public way, bridge, overpass, underpass, sidewalk or culvert as long as that operation can be made safely and does not interfere with traffic approaching from either direction on the public way. [PL 2005, c. 626, §3 (AMD).]

B. [PL 2005, c. 626, §4 (RP).]

C. An ATV may be operated on any portion of a public way when the public way has been closed in accordance with Title 23, section 2953. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

D. An ATV may be operated on a public way that is not maintained or used for the operation of conventional motor vehicles, except that operation on the left side of the way is prohibited during the hours from sunset to sunrise. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

E. An ATV may be operated on streets and public ways during a period of emergency when the emergency has been so declared by a police agency having jurisdiction and when travel by conventional motor vehicles is not practicable. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

F. An ATV may be operated on streets and public ways in special events of limited duration conducted according to a prearranged schedule under a permit from the governmental unit having jurisdiction. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

G. An ATV may be operated on a public way on the extreme right of the traveled way by a law enforcement officer for the sole purpose of traveling between the place where the ATV is usually

stored and an area to be patrolled by the law enforcement officer. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

H. Notwithstanding paragraphs A to G, an ATV may be operated on the extreme right of a public way or as directed by the appropriate governmental unit within the public way of a municipality or an unorganized or unincorporated township if the appropriate governmental unit has designated the public way as an ATV-access route. An ATV must travel in the same direction as motor vehicle traffic on a public way designated as an ATV-access route. A public way designated by an appropriate governmental unit as an ATV-access route must be posted conspicuously at regular intervals by that governmental unit with highly visible signs designating the ATV-access route. Before designating a public way as an ATV-access route, the appropriate governmental unit shall make appropriate determinations that ATV travel on the extreme right of the public way or as directed by the appropriate governmental unit within the public way may be conducted safely and will not interfere with vehicular traffic on the public way. For purposes of this paragraph, "appropriate governmental unit" means the Department of Transportation, county commissioners or municipal officers within their respective jurisdictions. The jurisdiction of each appropriate governmental unit over public ways pursuant to this paragraph is the same as its jurisdiction over the passage of vehicles on public ways pursuant to Title 29-A, section 2395. Municipal or county law enforcement officials having jurisdiction have primary enforcement authority over any route established under this paragraph. [PL 2007, c. 33, §1 (AMD).]

I. The following penalties apply to violations of this subsection.

(1) A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.

(2) A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

[PL 2007, c. 33, §1 (AMD).]

7. Failing to stop ATV before entering public way. A person shall bring an ATV to a complete stop before entering a public way.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

[PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

8. Failing to yield right-of-way while operating ATV. A person shall yield the right-of-way to all other types of vehicular traffic while operating an ATV on a public way.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

[PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

9. Crossing closed bridge, culvert, overpass or underpass with ATV. A person may not cross with an ATV a bridge, culvert, overpass or underpass closed to ATVs by the Commissioner of

Transportation pursuant to this subsection. The Commissioner of Transportation may, following a public hearing, prohibit the crossing by an ATV of an individual bridge, culvert, overpass or underpass if the commissioner determines that that crossing or use of a public way is hazardous. Any bridge, culvert, overpass or underpass closed by the commissioner must be posted by appropriate notices.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]
[PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

10. Reckless operating on ATV. A person may not operate an ATV in such a way as to recklessly create a substantial risk of serious bodily injury to another person.

A person who violates this subsection commits a Class D crime.
[PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

11. Operating ATV to endanger. A person may not operate an ATV so as to endanger any person or property.

A person who violates this subsection commits a Class E crime.
[PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

12. Operating ATV at greater than reasonable and prudent speed. A person may not operate an ATV except at a reasonable and prudent speed for the existing conditions.

A person who violates this subsection commits a Class E crime.
[PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

13. Operating ATV without protective headgear. A person under 18 years of age may not operate an ATV without protective headgear.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]
[PL 2021, c. 184, §17 (AMD).]

14. Carrying passenger on ATV without headgear. A person may not carry a passenger under 18 years of age on an ATV unless the passenger is wearing protective headgear.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]
[PL 2021, c. 184, §18 (AMD).]

15. ATV noise and fire control devices.

[PL 2015, c. 301, §49 (RP).]

16. ATV headlight and taillight requirements. This subsection establishes light equipment requirements for the operation of an ATV.

A. Except as provided in this subsection and section 13159, a person may not operate an ATV in the State, regardless of where purchased, unless equipped with front and rear lights as follows.

(1) The ATV must have mounted on the front at least one headlight capable of casting a white beam for a distance of at least 100 feet directly ahead of the ATV.

(2) The ATV must have mounted on the rear at least one taillight capable of displaying a red light that must be visible at a distance of at least 100 feet behind the ATV. [PL 2021, c. 184, §19 (AMD).]

B. The following are exceptions to the requirements of paragraph A.

(2) A person may operate an ATV including a 2-wheel off-road motorcycle without a headlight and taillight between sunrise and sunset. [PL 2017, c. 164, §27 (AMD).]

C. The following penalties apply to violations of this subsection.

(1) A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.

(2) A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

[PL 2021, c. 184, §19 (AMD).]

17. Required use of ATV lights. Except as provided in section 13159, the following provisions govern the use of ATV lights.

A. A person shall use the lights required under subsection 16 as follows:

(1) During the period from 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise; and

(2) At any time when, due to insufficient light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions caused by fog or otherwise, other persons, vehicles and other objects are not clearly discernible for a distance of 500 feet ahead. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

B. The following penalties apply to violations of this subsection.

(1) A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.

(2) A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

[PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

18. Unlawfully operating ATV on railroad tracks. This subsection governs operation of an ATV on railroad tracks.

A. A person may not:

(1) Operate an ATV along or adjacent and parallel to the tracks of a railroad within the limits of the railroad right-of-way without written permission from the railroad owning the right-of-way; or

(2) Operate an ATV across the tracks of a railroad after having been forbidden to do so by the railroad owning the railroad right-of-way or by an agent of that railroad, either personally or

by appropriate notices posted conspicuously along the railroad right-of-way. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

B. Notwithstanding paragraph A, a person may operate within the right-of-way of a portion of railroad line that has been officially abandoned under the authority of the Interstate Commerce Commission. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

C. The following penalties apply to violations of this subsection.

(1) A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.

(2) A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

[PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

19. Operating too close to certain buildings. A person may not operate an ATV within 200 feet of a dwelling, hospital, nursing home, convalescent home or church.

A. This subsection does not apply when a person is operating an ATV on:

(1) Public ways in accordance with subsections 6 and 9 or on controlled access highways in accordance with subsection 3, paragraph A;

(2) The frozen surface of any body of water; or

(3) Land that the operator owns or is permitted to use. [PL 2021, c. 184, §20 (AMD).]

B. The following penalties apply to violations of this subsection.

(1) A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.

(2) A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

[PL 2021, c. 184, §20 (AMD).]

20. Failure to report accident.

[PL 2005, c. 436, §7 (RP).]

21. Operating ATV in prohibited area.

[PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §22 (RP).]

22. Abuse of another person's property. A person may not while operating an ATV:

A. Tear down or destroy a fence or wall on another person's land; [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §414 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

B. Leave open a gate or bars on another person's land; [PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §23 (AMD).]

C. Trample or destroy crops on another person's land; or [PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §23 (AMD).]

D. Remove or destroy signs or posted notices. [PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §24 (NEW).]

A person who violates this subsection commits a Class E crime.

[PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §§23, 24 (AMD).]

23. Operating ATV on cropland or pastureland.

[PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §25 (RP).]

24. Operation of ATV on temporarily closed trail. A person may not operate an ATV on any section of a trail posted with a notice of temporary closure in accordance with this subsection. The

notice must specify the section of trail that is closed and the period of the closure and must be conspicuously posted at each end of the closed section of the trail.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §26 (NEW).]

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated of having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §26 (NEW).]

[PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §26 (NEW).]

25. ATV noise and fire control devices. The following provisions pertain to ATV muffling and fire control devices and noise level limits.

A. Except as provided in section 13159, a person may not:

(1) Operate an ATV that is not equipped at all times with an effective and suitable muffling device on its engine to effectively deaden or muffle the noise of the exhaust;

(2) Operate or modify an ATV with an exhaust system that has been modified in any manner that will increase the noise emitted above the following emission standard:

(a) Each ATV must meet noise emission standards of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and in no case exceed 96 decibels of sound pressure when measured from a distance of 20 inches using test procedures established by the commissioner; or

(3) Operate an ATV without a working spark arrester. [PL 2015, c. 301, §50 (AMD).]

B. The following penalties apply to violations of this subsection.

(1) A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 may be adjudged.

(2) A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime.

(3) In addition to any penalties imposed under this subsection, the court may, subject to section 9321 and Title 17-A, chapter 69, order restitution for fire suppression costs incurred by state or municipal government entities in suppressing a fire caused by an ATV operating without a working spark arrester. [PL 2019, c. 113, Pt. C, §24 (AMD).]

[PL 2019, c. 113, Pt. C, §24 (AMD).]

26. Prohibited equipment. A person may not operate an ATV that is equipped with a snorkel kit or other equipment designed to allow the ATV to be used in deep water except with the permission of the owner of the land on which the ATV is operated or as provided in section 13159.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §26 (NEW).]

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated of having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §26 (NEW).]

[PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §26 (NEW).]

27. Operation of ATV in prohibited area. The following provisions establish areas where the operation of an ATV is prohibited.

A. A person may not operate an ATV:

(1) On a salt marsh, intertidal zone, marine sand beach or sand dune or any cemetery, burial place or burying ground; or

(2) When the ground is not frozen and sufficiently covered with snow to prevent direct damage to the vegetation:

- (a) On alpine tundra;
- (b) On a freshwater marsh or bog, river, brook, stream, great pond, nonforested wetland or vernal pool; or
- (c) In a source water protection area as defined in Title 30-A, section 2001, subsection 20-A.

The provisions of this subparagraph do not apply to a trail designated for ATV use by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. The provisions of this subparagraph also do not apply to a person accessing land for maintenance or inspection purposes with the landowner's permission or the landowner's representative's permission or to local, state or federal government personnel in the performance of official duties, as long as there is no significant ground disturbance or sedimentation of water bodies. [PL 2025, c. 267, §7 (AMD).]

B. The following penalties apply to violations of this subsection.

- (1) A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 may be adjudged.
- (2) A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2005, c. 397, Pt. E, §26 (NEW).]

[PL 2025, c. 267, §7 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2003, c. 655, §B414 (NEW). PL 2003, c. 655, §B422 (AFF). PL 2005, c. 397, §§E20-26 (AMD). PL 2005, c. 436, §7 (AMD). PL 2005, c. 626, §§3,4 (AMD). PL 2007, c. 33, §1 (AMD). PL 2007, c. 202, §1 (AMD). PL 2007, c. 509, §1 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 340, §24 (AMD). PL 2011, c. 657, Pt. W, §5 (REV). PL 2015, c. 301, §§48-50 (AMD). PL 2015, c. 413, §2 (AMD). PL 2017, c. 164, §27 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 113, Pt. C, §24 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 204, §2 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 184, §§17-20 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 215, §11 (AMD). PL 2025, c. 267, §§5-7 (AMD).

§13157-B. ATV accidents involving personal injury or death

1. Law enforcement officer notification. The operator of an ATV involved in an accident that results in personal injury or death of a person shall immediately report the accident, by the quickest means of communication, to the available law enforcement officer nearest to the place where the accident occurred.

A. The owner of an ATV who knows that that ATV was involved in an accident as described in this subsection shall report the accident as provided in this subsection if the operator of the ATV is unknown. [PL 2005, c. 436, §8 (NEW).]

[PL 2005, c. 436, §8 (NEW).]

2. Provide information to injured party. The operator or a person acting on behalf of the operator of an ATV involved in an accident shall provide to an injured person or the operator or an occupant of any other ATV involved in the accident:

A. The operator's name and address; and [PL 2005, c. 436, §8 (NEW).]

B. The registration number of the operator's ATV. [PL 2005, c. 436, §8 (NEW).]
[PL 2005, c. 436, §8 (NEW).]

3. Render assistance. The operator of an ATV involved in an accident shall render reasonable assistance to an injured person.

[PL 2005, c. 436, §8 (NEW).]

4. Penalties. A person who violates this section commits a Class E crime.

[PL 2005, c. 436, §8 (NEW).]

5. Aggravated punishment category. Notwithstanding subsection 4, a person who intentionally, knowingly or recklessly fails to comply with this section when the accident resulted in serious bodily injury, as defined in Title 17-A, section 2, subsection 23, or death, commits a Class C crime.

[PL 2005, c. 436, §8 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2005, c. 436, §8 (NEW).

§13157-C. ATV accident reports

1. Report requirements. A person shall give notice of an ATV accident within 72 hours to the commissioner on forms provided by the commissioner if the person is:

A. The operator of an ATV involved in an accident that does not result in injuries requiring the services of a physician or in the death of a person but involves property damage estimated to cost \$1,000 or more; [PL 2005, c. 436, §8 (NEW).]

B. A person acting for the operator of an ATV described in paragraph A; or [PL 2005, c. 436, §8 (NEW).]

C. The owner of an ATV described in paragraph A having knowledge of the accident if the operator of the ATV is unknown. [PL 2005, c. 436, §8 (NEW).]

[PL 2005, c. 436, §8 (NEW).]

2. Penalties. The following penalties apply to violations of this section.

A. A person who violates this section commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2005, c. 436, §8 (NEW).]

B. A person who violates this section after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2005, c. 436, §8 (NEW).]

[PL 2005, c. 436, §8 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2005, c. 436, §8 (NEW).

§13158. Unlawfully permitting operation; liability for damage by other persons

(REPEALED)

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2003, c. 414, §A2 (NEW). PL 2003, c. 414, §D7 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 655, §B415 (RP). PL 2003, c. 655, §B422 (AFF).

§13158-A. Unlawfully permitting operation; liability for damage by other persons

1. ATV owner; operation by another. A person is in violation of this subsection if that person is the owner of an ATV that is operated in violation of this chapter.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §416 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §416 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]
[PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §416 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

2. Parent or guardian; operation by minor. A person is in violation of this subsection if that person is a parent or guardian responsible for the care of a minor under 18 years of age who is operating an ATV in violation of this chapter.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §416 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §416 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]
[PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §416 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

3. Furnishing ATV. An owner of an ATV, a person who gives or furnishes an ATV to a person and a parent or guardian responsible for the care of a minor under 18 years of age are jointly and severally liable with the operator for damages caused in the operation of the vehicle or by the minor in operating any ATV.
[PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §416 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2003, c. 655, §B416 (NEW). PL 2003, c. 655, §B422 (AFF).

§13159. Racing meets

Notwithstanding section 13155 and section 13157-A, subsection 16, paragraph A, subsection 17 and subsection 25, ATVs used exclusively for scheduled racing meets and operated solely on predefined race courses are exempt from the provisions of this chapter concerning registration, mufflers, snorkel kits and lights during the time of operation at these meets and at all prerace practices at the location of the meets. [PL 2015, c. 301, §51 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2003, c. 414, §A2 (NEW). PL 2003, c. 414, §D7 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 655, §B417 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 655, §B422 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 695, §B24 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 695, §C1 (AFF). PL 2005, c. 397, §E27 (RPR). PL 2015, c. 301, §51 (AMD).

§13160. Dealer's registration and license

1. Application and issuance. A person may not engage in the business of selling ATVs in the State unless that person has registered as a dealer and secured a valid dealer's license from the commissioner. A dealer so registered and licensed need not register individual ATVs.

Each day a person violates this subsection, that person commits a Class E crime for which a minimum fine of \$50 and an amount equal to twice the applicable license fee must be imposed.

[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

2. Fees. The annual license fee for a dealer registered under subsection 1 is \$15. The license runs from July 1st of each year.

A. A dealer licensed under Title 29-A, section 954, subsection 2 is not required to pay the license fee under this subsection. [PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]
[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

3. Dealer's number plates. Dealer's number plates must be provided and obtained as follows.

A. A dealer registered under subsection 1 may receive dealer's number plates for a \$5 annual fee for each plate. [PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

B. Replacements for lost or stolen plates may be obtained for a fee of \$5 for each plate. [PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

C. If a number plate is lost or stolen, the owner shall notify the commissioner immediately. [PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]
[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

4. Temporary registration certificate. The commissioner may issue temporary registration certificates to a registered dealer who may, upon the sale or exchange of an ATV, issue a temporary registration certificate to a new owner, in order to allow the new owner to operate the ATV for a period of 20 consecutive days, after the date of sale in lieu of a permanent number as required by this chapter. The fee for each temporary registration is \$1.
[PL 2009, c. 340, §25 (AMD).]

5. Display of dealer's number plate. A dealer shall display the dealer's number on each ATV being used until the sale of the ATV, whereupon it becomes the owner's responsibility to register the ATV.

A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §418 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §418 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

C. Each day a person violates this subsection is a separate offense. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §418 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]
[PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §418 (RPR); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

6. Warranties and information on used ATVs. A dealer who offers a warranty in connection with the sale or transfer of a used ATV shall furnish a written statement concerning that warranty. The statement regarding the warranty must indicate the parts or systems of the vehicle that are covered and those not covered by the warranty and what the dealer will do in the event of a defect and at whose expense repairs be made.

The dealer shall also furnish before sale a written statement identifying any and all defects known to the dealer and any type of damage that the vehicle has sustained if such information is known to the dealer.

[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

7. Violation.

[PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §419 (RP); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2003, c. 414, §A2 (NEW). PL 2003, c. 414, §D7 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 655, §§B418,419 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 655, §B422 (AFF). PL 2009, c. 340, §25 (AMD).

§13161. Sale of ATV; light equipment

1. Headlight and taillight required. A person may not sell or offer to sell a new ATV unless:

A. That ATV is equipped with a functioning headlight and taillight; or [PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

B. The ATV:

(1) Is a 2-wheel off-road motorcycle; or

(2) Has an engine size of 90 cubic centimeters or less and has 4 or more wheels. [PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

[PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

1-A. Dealer to provide registration information. A dealer may not sell a new or used oversized ATV without providing to the purchaser a written form developed and provided by the department explaining the size and weight restrictions for registering that ATV under section 13155, subsection 5-B and the provisions of section 13157-A regarding the use of oversized ATVs on designated state-approved ATV trails. The department shall develop a form for use by dealers under this section, which must include a place for a purchaser to sign acknowledging receipt of the form. For purposes of this subsection, "oversized ATV" has the same meaning as defined in section 13155, subsection 5-B. [PL 2021, c. 215, §12 (NEW).]

2. Penalty. The following penalties apply to violations of this section.

A. A person who violates this section commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §420 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

B. A person who violates this section after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §420 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]
[PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §420 (AMD); PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2003, c. 414, §A2 (NEW). PL 2003, c. 414, §D7 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 655, §B420 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 655, §B422 (AFF). PL 2021, c. 215, §12 (AMD).

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