

ORDINANCE NO.: 59**Regulating All-Terrain Vehicles and Utility-Terrain Vehicles
In The Town of Grand Rapids**

The Town Board of the Town of Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, pursuant to Chapter 23 of the Wisconsin Statutes does ordain as follows with regard to its Town Ordinances:

59.1 Purpose, and Applicability.

The purpose of this ordinance is to establish an all-terrain vehicle/utility-terrain vehicle (ATV/UTV) routes in the Town and to regulate the operation of ATVs/UTVs in the Town to provide safe and enjoyable ATV/UTV recreation consistent with public rights and interests. The provisions of this Ordinance apply equally to ATVs and UTVs. The provisions of this Ordinance shall apply to the areas designated herein, including roadways within the jurisdiction of the Town of Grand Rapids.

59.2 Statutory Authority. The Town Board of Supervisors of the Town of Grand Rapids, Wood County, Wisconsin, pursuant to the specific authority given to Towns under §§ 23.33(4)(d), 23.33(8)(b) and 23.33(11) of the Wisconsin Statutes provides under this Ordinance regulations to ATV/UTV operations.

59.3 Routes.

A. Routes Designated. Pursuant to § 23.33(8), Wis. Stats., the following roads and portions of roads are designated all-terrain vehicle routes as defined in § NR 64.12, Routes, Wisconsin Administrative Code, within the Town of Grand Rapids:

- 1) All Town roads in the Town under the jurisdiction of the Town of Grand Rapids are designated ATV/UTV routes unless otherwise indicated in subsection 2, herein. This designation excludes all county and state highways and all private roads.
- 2) The following Town-roads are not designated as an ATV/UTV route (*all restricted areas are also depicted in shaded/outlined areas in Appendix A*):
- 3) Operation of ATVs/UTVs shall be suspended on any road where hazard, construction or emergency conditions exist.
- 4) The Town of Grand Rapids reserves the right to close or modify routes at any time.

B. Pursuant to § 23.33(8)(e), Wis. Stats., a sign shall be erected on each highway that crosses the Town's territorial boundary alerting motorists that all highways under the jurisdiction of the Town have been designated as ATV/UTV routes unless otherwise indicated. Any highway under the jurisdiction of the Town which is not designated as an ATV/UTV route shall have signs erected at such locations as appropriate to indicate the highway is not designated as an ATV/UTV route. The Town of Grand Rapids, or its designee shall maintain all route signs within the township.

C. Pursuant to § 23.33(4)(d)4., Wis. Stats., except as otherwise provided in § 23.33(4), Wis. Stats., no person may operate an ATV or UTV on the roadway portion of any highway in the Town except on roadways that are designated as ATV/UTV routes by this ordinance.

59.4 Conditions and Restrictions on Operation. The following restrictions are placed on the use of ATV/UTV routes designated by this Ordinance:

- A.** Operation of ATVs and UTVs shall be subject to all provisions of § 23.33, Wis. Stats., which are adopted as part of this ordinance by reference, pursuant to § 23.33(11), Wis. Stats. All ATV/UTV operators shall observe all applicable rules of the road governing motorized vehicles in accordance with Ch. 346, Wis. Stats.
- B.** No person may operate an ATV/UTV upon any designated route or roadway in the Town unless:
 - 1) Where a person is under 16 years of age. All ATV safety certified operators age 12-15 must have obtained a Wisconsin ATV Safety Certificate, must be in possession of the Certificate at all times while operating on any Town road, and be accompanied by a parent or guardian with continuous verbal direction and physical control. Anyone under age 12 shall not operate on Town roadways. No person under age 16 may operate a UTV on Town roadways.
 - 2) Where a person is 16 years of age or older. All ATV/UTV operators age 16 or older must have a valid driver's license and must carry their driver's license on their person at all times while operating an ATV/UTV on Town roadways. Additionally, riders 16 years of age or older and born after January 1, 1988 must also have obtained a Wisconsin ATV Safety Certificate, and be in possession of the Certificate at all times while operating on any Town road.
- C.** All ATV/UTV operators shall observe the roadway speed limit for motor vehicle traffic. Lower speed limits for ATVs/UTVs may be designated by the Town Board on certain portions of roadway routes as deemed appropriate and indicated by signage. All ATVs/UTVs operated on designated routes shall maintain physical control, reasonable and prudent speed.
- D.** All ATV/UTV operation must be on paved, graveled or maintained road surfaces only. No ATV/UTVs may be operated on road shoulders or in road ditches. No straddling of the shoulder or ditch is allowed.
- E.** Insurance Requirements. No person shall operate an ATV/UTV upon any Town road where operation of an ATV/UTV is authorized unless the owner or operator of the ATV/UTV has in effect a liability policy covering the vehicle being operated and have minimum liability coverage amounts consistent with Wis. Stat. 344.62 (motor vehicle liability requirements). All operators shall have in his or her possession a certificate or proof of insurance covering such vehicle which shall be displayed upon demand from any law enforcement officer.
- F.** It shall be unlawful for any person to possess an open intoxicant container while operating, or as a passenger on, an ATV/UTV on any route or street within the Town of Grand Rapids.

59.5 Enforcement and Penalties.

- A.** This Ordinance shall be enforced by any law enforcement officer authorized to enforce the ordinances of the Town of Grand Rapids and the laws of Wood County and/or the State of Wisconsin.
- B.** The penalties under § 23.33(13), Wis Stats. Are adopted by reference. Any person or organization who violates any provision of this ordinance shall upon conviction be subjected to

a forfeiture per Ordinance 39 “Schedule of Fees and Forfeitures” for each offense, together with the costs of prosecution.

This ordinance shall take effect from and after the date of its passage and publication as provided by law.

HISTORY

Declaration/Ordinance/Resolution No

Dated

RESOLUTION NO:

2009-29	23-June-09
2022-	10-May-22
2024-13	10-July-24
2025-11	10-September-25