



ATV/UTV ORDINANCE

Last Update: 06.24.2025

ORDNANCE #799

ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES (ATV) AND UTILITY TASK VEHICLE (UTV) OPERATION

Ord. (1) STATE ALL-TERRAIN / UTILITY TASK VEHICLE (ATV/UTV): LAWS ADOPTED

- (a) The provisions describing and defining regulations with respect to all-terrain vehicles in the following enumerated Subsections of Sec. 23.33, Wis. Stats., and any future amendments or revisions, are hereby adopted by reference and made part of this Section as if fully set forth herein. Any acts required to be performed by this Section or are prohibited by this Section.

Ord (2) UNAUTHORIZED OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES ON PUBLIC PROPERTY

a) Purpose

- (1) The unauthorized off-road operation of Motor Vehicles has resulted in serious damage to public and private lands including damage or destruction of vegetation, animal life and improvement to the land; and
- (2) The unauthorized off-road operation of Motor Vehicles has resulted in the permanent scarring of land and an increase in both erosion and air pollution; and
- (3) The unauthorized off-road operation of Motor Vehicles has resulted in collisions and Near collisions threatening the life and safety of the operators of such Vehicles as well As of other persons; and .
- (4) The unauthorized off-road operation of Motor Vehicles has resulted in a loss of the privacy, quietude, and serenity to which the owners and users of land are rightfully entitled.

(b) UNAUTHORIZED OFF-ROAD OPERATION PROHIBITED

- (1) The unauthorized off-road operation of a Motor Vehicle is prohibited.
- (2) Except for authorized maintenance Vehicles, Snowmobiles or All-Terrain Vehicles Operating authorized areas, it shall be unlawful to operate any minibike, go kart, all-terrain vehicle or any other motor-driven craft or vehicle principally manufactured for off-highway use on the town roads, public lands, or private lands.

(c) PROHIBITED USE OF SNOWMOBILE TRAILS

- (1) Except as provided in Subsections (b) (2) above, no person shall operate any Motor Vehicle other than a snowmobile on a snowmobile trail.

Ord (7) (3) DESIGNATED ALL-TERRAN ROUTES

(a) Purpose

- (1) To establish an ATV / UTV route and provide safe enjoyable recreation consistent with public rights and interest.



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(b) Applicability, Enforcement and Penalties

- (1) The provisions of this Ordinance shall apply to the following roads, including roadways completely within the jurisdiction of the Town. The provisions of this Ordinance shall be enforced by the Adams County Sheriffs Dept. in accordance with the Wisconsin State Statutes

(c) Areas Designated

- (1) All town roads within the municipality are open to ATV/UTV use.

(d) Town Roads

- (1) All-Terrain vehicles shall only ride on the travel portion of all town roads.

DEFINITIONS

Motorized Vehicle. Any licensed vehicle which is self-propelled and shall include motorbikes, go-karts, motorized three wheeled vehicles, all-terrain vehicles (ATV), utility task vehicles (UTV), mopeds and dune buggies. A motorized vehicle shall not mean an airplane, railroad train, boat, wheelchair, or bicycle. A vehicle which would otherwise be defined as a Motor Vehicle under this Section shall not be defined while:

- a) It is being operated solely for the purpose of construction or maintenance of an improvement to land or solely for access to construction or maintenance sites provided such operation is by persons having legitimate business on such land or sites.
- b) It is being operated by or at the direction of public employees or utility company employees as part of their employment duties.
- c) It is being operated by the holder of an easement or right of access on or over the land on which operation is occurring or the holder's employees or agents.

Off-Road Any location which is not a paved or maintained public road or alley or is not used or maintained by the owner or lessee of land as a driveway, parking lot or other way for motor vehicles or is a private trail for use only by the owner or his permittees for recreational or other vehicular use. Off-road shall not include any creek bed, riverbed, or lake, provided, however, that this Section shall not apply to snowmobiles or other vehicles being operated on the ice covering such creek bed, riverbed, or lake.

Operation The physical manipulation or activation of any of the controls of a Motor Vehicle necessary to put it in motion.

Road or Highway. All public ways and thoroughfares and bridges on the same. It includes the entire highway right-of-way, not limited to the actual traveled portion, but also includes the shoulder, ditches, and other areas adjacent thereto.



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Unauthorized. Without the express prior consent of the owner, lessee, manager, or other person authorized to give consent by the owner or lessee of land. Authorization shall not be implied from a failure to post private land.

This Ordinance includes a means to travel from a residence within the limits of the Town of Monroe, Adams County, Wisconsin, for the shortest distance (on roadways within the jurisdiction of the Town of Monroe) that is necessary for a person to operate an ATV/UTV in order to reach a route of travel that is closest to the residence.

This Ordinance will take effect only AFTER the Road Signs have been posted and the Ordinance has been published.

Adopted at a Town Board meeting June 22, 1999

Chairman – William L. Moore

Supervisor 1 – D. Carl Petersen

Supervisor 1 – Daniel A. Carlson

**** Please refer to specific changes within each Amendment.***

Original Ordinance and ALL Amendments are kept in Town of Monroe Clerk's office