



**Saskatchewan All Terrain Vehicle Association Inc.**

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**Safety is Priority For SATVA**

The safe operation of all-terrain vehicles is a top priority for the Saskatchewan All Terrain Vehicle Association. "The SATVA is very proactive with regards to safety," says President Vera Connolly. Beginning in 2010 the association will provide training and safety education for youths and adults, both to its members but also for anyone wishing to learn the safety issues involved in operating an ATV. Safety courses are for youths 12-15 and, is available to parents or guardians as well. The safety training and education initiative has translated into a reduction in ATV-related accidents across the province. "We've seen a huge decrease in the number of accidents. The safety education and training has seen positive results, most notably with youths; it makes them more aware of danger and the potential for accidents to happen. This initiative has been a good step," Connolly notes, adding that the federation has been working in partnership with the Canada Safety Council (CSC), ATV Safety Institute (ASI), Canadian ATV Safety Institute (CASI) and the SATVA promote ATV safety training and education. The SATVA also supports the protection of the environment through responsible use of all-terrain vehicles, promoting best practices for ATV operators. We practice the 'tread lightly' concept, which means travel responsibly,

respect the rights of others, educate yourself, avoid sensitive areas and do your part," Connolly says.

**NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR THE CANADIAN  
ATV INDUSTRY**

Safer ATV riding is a top priority for the COHV and its member companies, Arctic Cat Inc., BRP (CAN-AM), Canadian Kawasaki Motors Inc., Honda Group Inc., KTM, Polaris, Suzuki Canada Inc., Yamaha Motor Canada and their dealerships across Canada, which is why the COHV has introduced the "Ride Safe, Ride Smart" DVD. The primary goal of the Ride Safe, Ride Smart DVD is to demonstrate the safe and responsible use of ATVs thereby assisting in reducing accidents and injuries that could result from improper ATV operation by the rider. This nine-minute video is a rider friendly look at how to get a proper start in ATV riding. It profiles two families; one who rides for recreation only, the other who uses their ATVs first for working on the farm, then as camping and trail riding machines. Both sets of parents lead by example, emphasizing riding an ATV that is right for your age, wearing proper protective gear and respecting the environment. They also recommend taking an ATV Rider Course to get the most from your ATV, enjoy the opportunity to meet other enthusiasts, and find out about the best places to ride.

**TIPS FOR RESPONSIBLE ATV RIDING**

**TRAVEL RESPONSIBLY**

Travel responsibly on designated roads, trails or areas.

**RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF  
OTHERS**

Respect the rights of others, including private property owners, all recreational trail users, campers and others so they can enjoy their recreational activities undisturbed.

**EDUCATE YOURSELF**

Educate yourself prior to a trip by obtaining travel maps and regulations from public agencies, planning for your trip, taking recreation skills classes, and knowing how to operate your equipment safely.

**AVOID SENSITIVE AREAS**

Avoid sensitive areas such as meadows, lakeshores, wetlands and streams. Stay on designated routes.

**DO YOUR PART**

Do your part by modeling appropriate behavior, leaving the area better than you found it, properly disposing of waste, minimizing the use of fire, avoiding the spread of invasive species, and restoring degraded areas.

**Remember**

**Don't Drink & Ride!**