

POLICY: ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE (ATV) RESPONSE

Hadley Township Fire Department
Policy #120

PURPOSE:

All members will utilize due regard when operating or towing the All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) to any drill, incident, or function to prevent injuries and/or vehicle damage.

SCOPE:

To ensure safe operation and towing of the Hadley Twp. Fire Department ATV to positively assist members in managing a scene or event.

VEHICLE USAGE:

1. ATV deployment will be initiated by an approved department firefighter.
2. At no time will any operator risk damage to the vehicle by attempting to operate the vehicle outside of its ability on any terrain.
3. Drivers will utilize due regard when operating on or off-road.
4. Drivers will maintain an appropriate speed in relation to terrain conditions.
5. All drivers will be at least 18 years of age.
6. No passengers under the age of 14 are allowed to ride on the ATV, except in medical evacs.
7. Helmets **MUST** be worn when the vehicle is in motion.
8. Parking Brake will be engaged before exiting the vehicle. Gear in the Park position and left-hand brake secured in lock position.
9. Although only one driver is recommended, an additional rider can accompany the driver directly seated (on the seat) and with a helmet for transporting purposes. Extra precaution must be utilized.
10. All fluids, lights, tires and general connections shall be inspected by operator and maintained at proper levels or, if in the case of mechanical failures, reported to a line officer and chief for repair. This shall be done before and after operation.

11. Only REC gasoline will be used for fueling.

12. Drivers in training will complete a vehicle orientation session and show competency operating the vehicle on and off road, loading and unloading onto trailer and towing said trailer prior to incident operation. Drivers will be approved by the chief.

ATV WILDLAND FIRE/RESCUE TRAILER:

1. The ATV utility trailer supports wildland firefighting operations, as well as remote patient transport.

2. Extraordinary precautions should be taken when towing the trailer to prevent damage.

3. The pump and electrical equipment on the tank/sprayer shall be properly tested and maintained on a continuous basis.

4. When transporting a patient, extreme care and low speeds shall be utilized to reduce further injury to patient. EMS personnel should be able to keep pace with monitoring the patient. When the EMS attendee says STOP, the ATV driver must do so at their direction.

TOWING:

1. 7-42 and 7-41 shall be the primary tow vehicles unless otherwise directed by an officer or senior firefighter.

2. Trailer light connection, safety chain connection, and **verifying vehicle is properly secured to the trailer will be preformed prior to towing.**

GENERAL:

1. Members involved in an accident or damage incurred to or with the vehicle will report the event to the Incident Commander or highest line officer as soon as possible.

2. Violation of this BPG will result in revocation of operating privileges until reinstated through a review by the department Board of Directors and Chief.