

# ATV Safety

Data shows that an estimated 150,900 emergency room visits per year in the United States are related to ATV injuries. In Louisiana, there a significant increase in the severity of injuries to local children from 2004 to 2006, with one of every five or six children requiring hospitalization... usually in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit.



## Factors to Consider to avoid ATV Injuries:

- Vehicle Size and Speed:

Children younger than 16 should only ride age appropriate youth model ATVs. Parents should adjust speed governors on youth models.

Industry proposed maximum speeds for youth models should not be exceeded:

- 6 yrs to 9 yrs . . . . . 15 mph maximum speed
- 10 yrs to 13 yrs . . . . . 30 mph maximum speed
- 14 yrs & 15 yrs . . . . . 38 mph maximum speed

- Pay particular attention to inexperienced riders; operators having less than 12 months experience on an ATV have a much higher risk of injury.
- Never ride on public roads.
- Never carry a passenger on a single-rider vehicle.
- Always wear a helmet and other protective gear to lower the severity of potential injuries.
- Supervise children at all times; ATVs are not toys.
- Never ride under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
- Ride only on designated trails and at a safe speed.
- Take an ATV Rider Course; visit [www.atvsafety.org](http://www.atvsafety.org) or call toll-free 800.887.2887.



If you have questions or need additional information, visit [www.lexleeovertonlaw.com](http://www.lexleeovertonlaw.com), email [lexlee@lexleeovertonlaw.com](mailto:lexlee@lexleeovertonlaw.com) or call 225.761.7272.