



4-H ATV Safety

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4-H Youth Development

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It's hunting season! Many hunters use ATVs to get to and from hunting areas. But many people don't realize how dangerous it can be to load up their ATV for transport. Please follow these tips to help ensure a safe start to your next hunting trip!

The safest way to load/transport your ATV is to use a trailer. Remember to:

1. Tie down your ATV.
2. Check the trailer's lights to make sure they are working properly.
3. Attach safety chains between the truck and trailer.
4. Check the trailer's tires.

If you don't own or have access to a trailer, then you will probably be loading into the back of a truck. This is where it can get dangerous. Here's a few tips to make sure you get to the woods instead of the hospital.

1. Check the cables holding the tailgate, if they are frayed, replace them.
2. Make sure your ramps are long enough to keep from flipping the ATV onto you (keep the angle down).
3. Strap the ramps to the bed of the truck so your ATV doesn't kick them out when loading or unloading.
4. Be careful about the front of your ATV and the back glass on the truck's cab!
5. Don't forget to tie the 4-wheeler down before you move the truck!
6. **Be careful, ATV loading is dangerous if you get rushed, especially if you are alone.**



A neat trick to make a “self-loading” ATV:

Add an eye bolt to the inside of the truck bed closest to the cab. If your four wheeler has a winch, hook your winch to the eye bolt. Now you can use the winch to load the wheeler! This can be a lot safer than using the ATV itself to get up the ramps, especially if you are by yourself.

NEWS

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