



Pueblo County Sheriff's Office

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News Release

For Immediate Release
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Off-Road Vehicle Enthusiasts Urged to Know Laws Before Riding

Pueblo, CO: With the recent increase in complaints regarding individuals using off-road vehicles in prohibited areas, particularly in rural areas, the Pueblo County Sheriff's Office is urging all drivers of off-highway vehicles to know the law before going out on a ride.

Off-Highway Vehicles or OHVs are any vehicle designed for use off public roadways, to include three- and four-wheelers, dirt bikes and go-carts. These vehicles are prohibited from operating on streets, roads and highways per Colorado State Statute 22-14.5-108. All OHVs must be registered before they can operate on public lands. Violators can face a summons and be fined.

The following are instances when state law allows for the operation of off-highway vehicles on public streets, roads or highways:

- When a street, road or highway is designated open by the state or any agency or subdivision;
- When crossing bridge or culvert;
- During emergency conditions declared by proper state or local authority;
- When local subdivisions authorize by ordinance or resolution the establishment of off-highway vehicle routes allowing for the vehicles to be driven on city street or county roads, but not part of the state highway system;
- When using off-highway vehicles for agricultural purposes;

Any violation of these provisions can be charged with a class 2 petty offense and faces a fine of \$50.

It is illegal to operate a motor vehicle on any federal public land, trail or road unless there is signage and authorization for such use. Violation of this provision is a misdemeanor offense and violators can face a fine of up to \$100. If caught driving an OHV in a federal wilderness area, violators can be fined up to \$200.

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