



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2003 Wisconsin Act 251 [2003 Senate Bill 277]	Regulatory Changes Relating to All-Terrain Vehicles
2003 Acts: www.legis.state.wi.us/2003/data/acts/	Act Memos: www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/act_memo/act_memo.htm

2003 Wisconsin Act 251 makes multiple changes to laws relating to all-terrain vehicles (ATVs).

Under current law, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) administers the laws relating to the operation and registration of ATVs and administers funding for ATV projects, such as trails, and for ATV safety.

Act 251 does the following:

1. Increases registration-related and other fees for ATVs, including the following:
 - The fee for renewal of a registration certificate for public use of an ATV is increased from \$12 to \$30.
 - The registration fee for a certificate for private use is increased from \$6 to \$15.
 - The fee for the issuance or renewal of a commercial ATV certificate is increased from \$36 to \$90.
 - The fee for the transfer of an ATV registration certificate is increased from \$2 to \$5. A number of other fees including those for reflectorized plates and duplicate registration decals are also increased by the Act.
2. Requires a nonresident trail pass that must be displayed on any ATV that is being operated in this state on public trails and corridors and that is exempt from being registered in the state because the ATV is in the state for less than 15 days or because the ATV has been registered by an American Indian tribe or band that has an agreement with the state for registering ATVs. The assigned cost of a nonresident trail pass is \$17.25.

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents.

3. Requires safety training for public use of an ATV by any person who is at least 12 years old and born on or after January 1, 1998.
4. Increases the penalties imposed on a person operating an ATV under the influence of an intoxicant or controlled substances if the person's alcohol level is above a specified level.
5. Prohibits the manufacturing, sale, rental, or operation of an ATV if that ATV is constructed in such a manner that the noise from the ATV exceeds 96 decibels on the "A" scale as measured in compliance with rules promulgated by DNR.
6. Increases state appropriations for ATV trails, safety education, and law enforcement from the increases in trail fees and ATV registration fees.

Effective Date: The Act takes effect on April 28, 2004.

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