

In order to help increase the number of minors who are certified to ride ATVs, the Southwest Utah Public Health Department, in partnership with the Utah Division of Natural Resources, is holding an Off-Highway Vehicle Safety Certificate Course for youth. The class will be held on Saturday, July 20, 2019, at the Kaneplex in Kanab at 8 a.m. There is a \$30 registration fee and class size is limited.

With summer activities in full swing, there is an increased number of ATVs on the roads and in state parks. This year's ATV season started in tragedy with a crash in an Ogden neighborhood, killing one boy and injuring another. Neither was wearing a helmet. Unfortunately, this story is not uncommon. Twelve percent of Primary Children's Hospital traumatic brain injury admissions are due to ATV crashes. Studies also show that only 58 percent of Utahns report wearing a helmet while riding an ATV, and only 38 percent of Utah children (whose parents own an ATV) have taken a training course. Utah law states that anyone driving an ATV or OHV (off-highway vehicle) without a driver's license must obtain an Off-Highway Vehicle Safety Certificate, and no one under the age of eight is permitted to operate an ATV. Everyone under the age of 18 must wear a helmet that is fitted, fastened and meets state safety standards.

Parents wanting to register their children can contact Delaney Matheson at [dmatheson@swuhealth.org](mailto:dmatheson@swuhealth.org) or 435-644-2537. Youth ATV Certification Course offered.