

# VEHICLES

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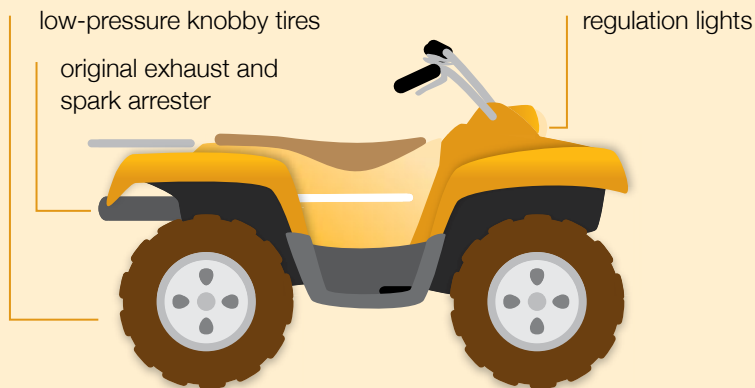
## PAPERWORK

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## COMMON OHVS

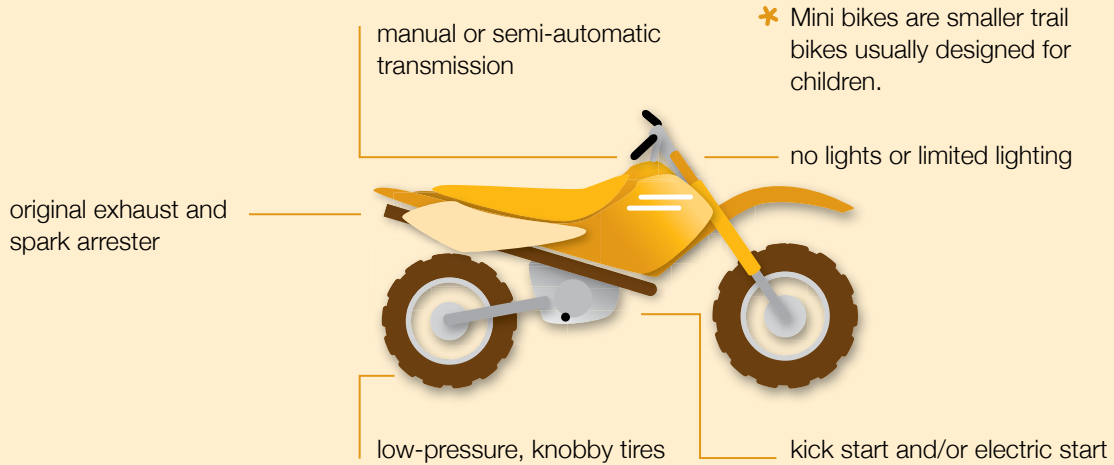
This handbook focuses on ATVs, snowmobiles, and off-road motorcycles, which include dirt bikes and mini-bikes. However, the Off-highway Vehicles Act also regulates other vehicles you drive off road that are not registered under the Motor Vehicle Act.

### ATVs

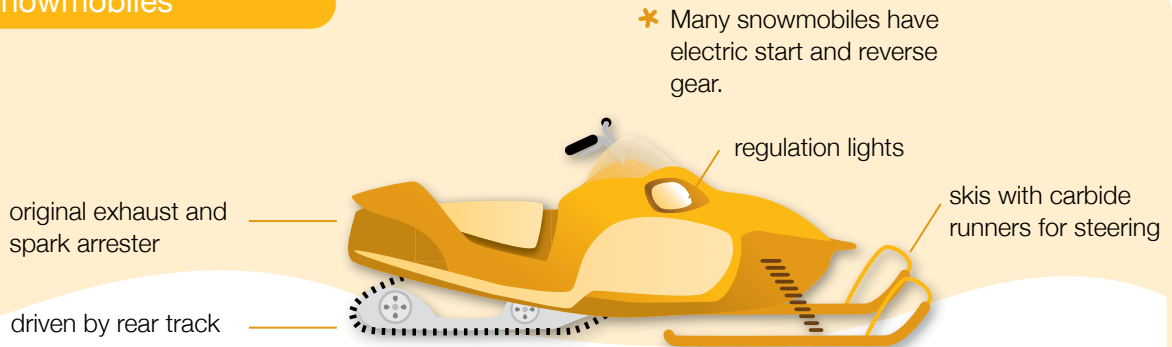


- \* Many ATVs have electric start, automatic or semi-automatic transmissions, and reverse gear. Some have tracks for winter driving.
- \* Three-wheeled ATVs are no longer made because of safety concerns.

## Off-road motorcycles





## Snowmobiles



## EQUIPMENT ON THE OHV

All OHVs must have these things:

- muffler at least as quiet as the one that came from the manufacturer
- spark arrester
-  a registration plate clearly visible on the back, clean, and displayed horizontally
-  a registration plate clearly displayed horizontally

If you are racing an OHV on a closed-course\*, you must have your plate with you to show to a law enforcement officer\*.

### Driving at night

At night\*, all OHVs must have regulation lights. Add lights if they do not come with the OHV.

#### These are regulation lights

 **one white headlight on the front**  
that can be seen for 91.4 metres or 300 feet




AND

 **one red tail light on the back**  
that can be seen for 61 metres or 200 feet

## IS YOUR OHV READY TO RIDE?

You should know the method of inspecting your OHV to be sure it is ready to ride. This will help reduce the chance of injury, damaged equipment, or being stranded.

**tip!** Some models of OHVs come equipped with a **speed limiter** which reduces maximum speed. Refer to your owner's manual and talk to your dealer about setting this feature properly.

T Tires & Wheels or Track	C Controls & Cables	L Lights & Electrics	O Oil & Fuel	C Chain, Chassis, & Suspension	S Stand(s)
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Air pressure</li> <li>○ Condition</li> <li>○ Wheel bearings, lug nuts, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Location</li> <li>○ Operation</li> <li>○ Throttle</li> <li>○ Brakes – foot, hand, parking</li> <li>○ Shifter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ignition switch</li> <li>○ Engine stop switch</li> <li>○ Lights</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Levels – oil dipstick/sight gauge</li> <li>○ Vents</li> <li>○ Air filter</li> <li>○ Fuel supply valve</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Free play</li> <li>○ Condition/lubrication/wear</li> <li>○ Nuts &amp; bolts tight</li> </ul>	
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Air pressure</li> <li>○ Condition</li> <li>○ Wheel bearings, axle nuts, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Location</li> <li>○ Operation</li> <li>○ Throttle</li> <li>○ Brakes – foot and hand</li> <li>○ Shifter</li> <li>○ Clutch</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ignition switch</li> <li>○ Engine stop switch</li> <li>○ Lights</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Levels – oil dipstick/sight gauge</li> <li>○ Vents</li> <li>○ Air filter</li> <li>○ Fuel supply valve</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Free play</li> <li>○ Condition/lubrication/wear</li> <li>○ Nuts &amp; bolts tight</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Condition</li> <li>○ Retention</li> </ul>
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Condition, alignment, and wear on the edges (sides)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Throttle, brakes, pull cord</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ignition switch, tether cord if equipped, engine stop switch, lights</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Oil, fuel, fuel injection reservoir levels, cooling system (vent, liquid) and condition of filters</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Flexibility, adjustment, free play, bent or cracked skis, excessive wear on runners, nuts and bolts tight, and free from debris</li> </ul>	

## GETTING YOUR OHV TO THE TRAIL

There are two ways to get your OHV to the trail:

- Transport your OHV on a trailer or truck. Look in your owner's manual to find out how.
- Ride on approved OHV trails. See page → 46.

## WHEN YOU GET HOME

- Wash off your OHV to avoid the spread of harmful weeds.
- Make any necessary repairs so that you are ready for your next ride.
- Report any problems you came across on the trail to your local club and the proper authorities.



**tip!** Carry gas in a properly sealed CSA approved fuel container.

## BUYING AN OHV

Follow these steps:

- Get the signed Notice of Sale from the seller's Certificate of Registration.
- Follow the steps under Register your OHV. See page → 40.

### If you buy it from a dealer

- Get a receipt to show that you have paid the sales tax. You must show that the tax is paid to register the OHV.
- Register your OHV before you ride it.

### If you buy it in a private sale

- Pay the sales tax when you register it.
- Register your OHV before you ride it.



### ✦ If you are unable to get the seller's Certificate of Registration

- Contact your local law enforcement officer to make an appointment and to obtain more information.
- You will need to complete a declaration and have your VIN (vehicle identification number) verified before you can register your OHV.

## REGISTERING YOUR OHV

### Where to register

the Registry of Motor Vehicles or any Access Nova Scotia Office

Call → **1-800-670-4357**

Click → **[www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr](http://www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr)**  
and click on office locations

### What to bring

- OHV name, make, model, year, VIN (vehicle identification number)
- owner's name, address, date of birth
- signed Notice of Sale if you buy your OHV in a private sale
- sales tax receipt if you buy your OHV from a dealer
- written permission from a parent or guardian\* if you are a youth aged 16 to 18—you must be 16 or older to register an OHV

\* Be prepared to pay registration fees. You will also have to pay the sales tax if you buy your OHV in a private sale. See page → 41.

### What you get

- a certificate of registration
  - Register your OHV only once.
- a permit
  - Buy a new permit each year. Permits expire December 31.
  - Carry your permit when you drive.
- a plate
  - Attach the plate to the back of your OHV where it is easy to see. See page → 36.



\* If you are a dealer, you must have and display dealer's permits and plates on your OHVs when they are driven.

### EXCEPTIONS

You may drive without registering or getting a plate or permit for these reasons:

- You live outside of Nova Scotia AND the OHV will be in Nova Scotia under 90 days.
- You are a registered Indian and you drive only on reserve.
- You drive ONLY on your own land, or land owned by someone who is related to you
  - by blood or marriage
 OR
  - as a common-law spouse
 OR
  - as a registered domestic partner



**Fees** – effective July 2008

You pay all fees to the Registry of Motor Vehicles.

**One-time fee**

Certificate of Registration \$34.75

**Annual fees.**

These expire on December 31

Vehicle Registration Permit \$11.57

OHV Fund \$40.00

**As-needed fees**

Transfer of ownership \$11.51

Duplicate or replacement documents \$11.51

\* Check with the Registry of Motor Vehicles for a current fee schedule.

**OHV Fund**

The OHV fund is used for such things as these:

- developing and maintaining trails
- funding OHV organizations
- funding health and safety projects related to driving OHVs
- educating and training OHV drivers

**EXCEPTIONS - You do NOT PAY into the Infrastructure Fund****If you drive an OHV only for your work:**

- farmer, fishery or forestry worker, for work that relates to your occupation
- law enforcement officer\*
- government employee—municipal, provincial, or federal
- self-employed person who uses an OHV for work
  - you must show that you have training to drive the class of OHV you are driving

\* This does not apply to guides.

**If you drive an OHV for recreation under these conditions:**

- You drive a golf cart on a golf course.
- You drive only on land you own or land owned by someone who is related to you
  - by blood or marriage
  - OR
  - as a common-law spouse
  - OR
  - as a registered domestic partner
- You are a registered Indian and you drive only on reserve.

## SELLING AN OHV OR TRANSFERRING OWNERSHIP

Follow these steps:

- 1 Sign the Notice of Sale part of your Certificate of Registration over to the person buying the OHV.
- 2 Take or send the Notice of Sale to the Registry of Motor Vehicles or any Access Nova Scotia office within 30 days.
- 3 Remove the plate from the OHV. You can use it for another OHV that you own, or return it to the Registry of Motor Vehicles or any Access Nova Scotia office.

## LIABILITY INSURANCE

By law you must carry at least \$500,000 in coverage if you drive on land that does NOT belong to you or members of your family.

You must have liability insurance for every OHV that you and your children drive.

Your insurance must cover third-party liability.

You and your passenger assume all risks that relate to owning and driving the OHV.

A landowner does NOT have the right to deliberately create a danger to you, your passenger, or your property.

### EXCEPTIONS

**You do NOT have to insure your OHV if ALL of these are true:**

- your OHV is designed or modified for racing AND
- you use your OHV for racing and nothing else AND
- you are a member in good standing of an OHV club and hold a valid membership card AND
- your club has OHV racing as one of its objectives AND
- your club is registered and in good standing under the Societies Act or Companies Act