

GENERAL ORDER 61.3.9

Off-Road Vehicles

GENERAL ORDER CROSS-REFERENCE: None.

SUMMARY

Describes the enforcement of off-road vehicle regulations.

DISCUSSION

The governing of off-road vehicle use is vital in promoting the safe and enjoyable use of this form of recreation. As a result, the Springfield Police Department must maintain an awareness to the use of ORV's within the City limits. Attention must be given to proper licensing and registration of all ORV's, any offenses involving trespass and/or vandalism by way of ORV use; the usage of ORV's on public roadways, and any accidents on private and public property.

Off road vehicles as defined by ORS 821.010 is any motor vehicle designed or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, sand, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other natural terrain.

These vehicles include dirt bikes, all terrain vehicles, motorcycles, four wheel drive vehicles, dune buggies and snowmobiles.

POLICY

I

Officers shall take enforcement action toward violators using appropriate City ordinances and State statutes regarding rules of the road, licensing and equipment. Officers shall pay particular attention to noise violations, trespass violations, and damage to property violations.

II

All ORV's must conform to Oregon State Department of Motor Vehicles licensing regulations. All ORV laws shall be strictly enforced. Trespassing and/or vandalism conducted by ORV users will be prosecuted at the request of property owners or when it involves the misuse of public property.

III

The operator of any ORV operated on a traffic way in violation of any licensing or traffic laws shall be subject to the same enforcement actions as any other traffic violator. This shall apply to both juvenile and adult violators. Officers stopping juveniles under the age of 16 shall make every attempt to contact a parent or guardian to arrange for the juvenile and the vehicle to be picked up at the violation site. Should no parent or guardian be available, the officer may impound the vehicle.

IV

Accidents involving ORV's shall be investigated under the same guidelines as Department policy details for motor vehicle accidents.

Richard L. Lewis
Chief of Police