Operating a Utility Task Vehicle (UTV)

Can youth do this job safely?

Youth must be able to do/have all of the following to perform this job safely:

- Avoid loose clothing, clothes with strings, tie up long hair
- Reach and operate controls while wearing seatbelt
- Reach the ROPS handhold while seated wearing seatbelt
- Recognize a hazard, problem solve, and respond appropriately
- React quickly to hazards
- Mature enough to consistently do what is expected
- Think through actions and consequences before acting
- Safely demonstrate the job 4 to 5 times
- Maintain two-way communication link



Adult Responsibilities

- Ensure UTV is mechanically sound with safety features
- Provide appropriate training
- Ensure youth does not operate UTV after dark or in bad weather
- Teach youth to minimize driving on or crossing public roads
- Demonstrate how to safely drive an UTV
- Ensure work area is free from as many hazards as possible
- Educate youth on avoiding/addressing remaining hazards
- Establish a safe route to the worksite
- Ensure load is appropriate size, balanced and secured
- Train youth to call an adult if equipment malfunctions

Supervision

Note: Youth should not engage in high risk activities, such as loading/unloading UTV for transport, driving on roads or spraying.

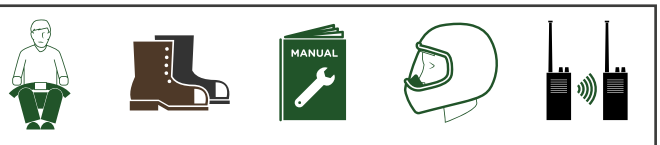
16+ yrs	Continuous supervision progressing to periodic

Hazards



High speed | Extra riders | Rollover | Run-over | Collision with objects

Protective Strategies



Seatbelt | Non-skid shoes | Operator's manual | Helmet (if no ROPS) | Communication Tools

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