



A MINUTE OF HEALTH WITH CDC

The Road Less Traveled

All-Terrain Vehicle Fatalities — West Virginia, 1999–2006

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Taking the road less traveled can be exciting, but without the proper training and precautions, it could be deadly. All-terrain vehicles are popular in the U.S., especially in rural areas, where they're used to access mountain trails and other rugged terrain. But ATVs are often used on pavement, and because of their open design, they provide little or no protection in a crash or rollover. A study in West Virginia found that 250 people died in ATV crashes in a recent eight-year period; over half of these crashes occurred on public roads. So before taking a spin, put on a protective helmet and consider taking a course on how to safely operate an ATV.

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