

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF LONG

ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES AND OFF ROAD VEHICLES

SECTION 1. ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES.

A. Definitions. The following words and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meaning or meanings as set out herein;

1. **All-terrain vehicles ATV-** means a self-propelled vehicle designed primarily for operation over natural terrain and steered by wheels, to specifically include but not be limited to, off-road motorcycles, three-wheelers, four-wheelers and all other such vehicles with one (1) or more wheels. The use of the acronym ATV is not intended to include bicycles or street legal vehicles operating on public road right-of-ways.
2. **Operate-** means to ride in or on and control the operation of a ATV or Off-road vehicle
3. **Operator-** means every person who operates an ATV or Off-road vehicle
4. **Owner-** means a person, other than a person with a security interest, having a right of use regarding, property interest in or title to an ATV/ORV and entitled to the use and possession of the vehicle.
5. **Person-** includes an individual, partnership, corporation, or other legal entity whether incorporated or not.
6. **Public right-of-way-** means the entire right-of-way of a public road, street or highway, including the traveled portions, banks, ditches, shoulders and medians of a roadway that is not privately owned.

B. **Intent.** It is the intent of this ordinance to limit the use of ATV/ORV within the unincorporated areas of Long County.

C. **Unlawful Operation.** Unless otherwise noted, it is unlawful for any person to operate an ATV/OTV:

1. In a careless, reckless, or negligent manner or heedlessly in disregard of or for the rights of or safety of others, or in a manner so as to endanger, or be likely to endanger or cause injury or damage to any person or property;
2. So as to tow any person or thing on a public road right-of-way;
3. In a manner so as to create loud, unnecessary, unusual or unreasonable noise so as to disturb or interfere with the peace and quiet of other reasonable persons of ordinary sensibilities. Such sound that is plainly audible at a distance of two-hundred (200) feet from the origin of sound shall be presumed to be a violation of this provision. It shall be presumed to be a violation of this provision if an individual rides an ATV/ORV continuously past, around, or near an inhabited dwelling place so as to disturb or unduly annoy the inhabitants;
4. On private property without express permission to do so by the owner and occupant of the property;
5. On public school grounds, park property, playgrounds, recreational areas, golf courses, cemeteries or any other public places, except of posted ATV or ORV riding trails or locations, unless the operator has the express permission of the proper public authority;

- D. **Age Restrictions.** No person shall operate an ATV or ORV in violation of the age requirements established by Georgia State Law.
- E. **Organized Events.** Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit the use of ATV's or Off-road Vehicles within the county for organized events, provided the event organization and property owner do not object to such use.
- F. **Exceptions** This chapter shall not apply to:
1. Motorboats;
 2. Any military, fire, or law enforcement vehicles;
 3. Any vehicles used such as farm machinery, farm tractors, and other self-propelled equipment for harvesting and transportation of forest products, for clearing land for planting, for utility services and maintenance;
 4. Self-propelled lawnmowers, snow blowers, garden or lawn tractors, or golf-carts, while such vehicles are being used exclusively for their designed purpose.
- G. **Additional Requirements.** This section shall apply to the operation of ATV/ORV that are otherwise operating in compliance with this Ordinance:
1. No ATV/ORV shall enter any intersection without yielding the right-of-way to any vehicles or pedestrians at the intersection or so close to the intersection as to constitute an immediate hazard;
 2. The operator of an ATV/ORV shall make every effort to be visible to traffic from any direction.
- H. **Penalties.** Any person violating the terms of this ordinance shall be subject to issuance of a citation, and if proven guilty before a court of competent jurisdiction, shall be subject to a

fine no less than \$100.00 with community service but no more than \$500.00 with community service.

State Law Reference- Off-Road Vehicles O.C.G.A. § 40-7-1 et seq.

1st Reading of Off-Road Vehicle Ordinance

Earl D. Gordon Date: August 4, 2015

Earl D. Gordon, Chairman

Long County Board of Commissioners

Mary Ann Odum Date: August 4, 2015

ATTEST: MaryAnn Odum, Clerk

Long County Board of Commissioners



2nd Reading of Off-Road Vehicle Ordinance

Earl D. Gordon Date: Sept 1, 2015

Earl D. Gordon, Chairman

Long County Board of Commissioners

Mary Ann Odum Date: Sept 1, 2015

Attest: MaryAnn Odum, Clerk

Long County Board of Commissioners



All other aspects of the Code of Ordinances of Long County shall remain in full force and effect.

SO RESOLVED THIS 1st DAY OF Dec, 2015.

Earl D. Gordon

Earl D. Gordon, Chairman

Long County Board of Commissioners

Mary Ann Odum

Attest: MaryAnn Odum, Clerk

Long County Board of Commissioners

