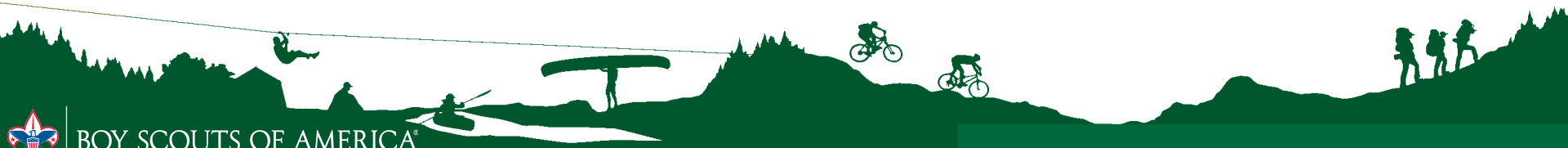




BSA National Outdoor Ethics Conference

Camp Tracy





Outdoor Ethics Considerations for ATV use in Council Summer Camps

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BSA National Outdoor Ethics Task Force Chair





ATV's in BSA Camps

- Transition from pilot program to full implementation in early 2016
- 62 councils approved to offer ATV programs on 68 camp properties
- Nat'l Camp Assessment Program (NCAP) released interim standards in April, 2016
- ATV's are available through grant program with Polaris, annual selection process





Outdoor Ethics for ATV's

- Facilities Considerations
- Operations Considerations
- Program Considerations
- References: NCAP Circular #7, April 5th, 2016
PS-205 “Interim Standards for ATV Programs”
FA-716 “ATV Course & Facility Standards”
SQ-412 – ATV program staffing standards





Facilities Considerations

PS-205

“D. Councils should consult available resources for *designing ATV trails to minimize injury risks to . . . the environment.* The resources consulted and the safety and conservation measures implemented should be addressed in the (council's) task force report.” and “Councils operating pursuant to this Interim Standard must produce a copy of the . . . *conservation plan provision*”.





Facilities Considerations (2)

Specific Requirements of Standard FA-716:

A. On-camp property courses must be addressed by and *follow the camp's conservation plan to minimize impacts on the environment.*

B. Off-camp property courses must have *approval in writing from the land owner or land manager.*





Facilities Considerations (3)

(FA-716 continued)

C. Minimum course size is 150 feet by 200 feet.

The course must also provide for *covered*, secured storage for the ATVs.

D. The course must provide for a *vehicle wash area* and *appropriate handling and disposal of wash waters*.

E. The *course should conform to design standards* of the National Off Highway Vehicle Conservation Coalition. <http://www.nohvcc.org>





Operations Considerations

PS-205

B.3. ATVs must be *used and maintained in accordance with manufacturer's instructions* at all times. Records of maintenance must be maintained.

Recommendation (not currently in standard):
“Staff members should carry a spill kit when trail riding.”





Program Considerations

Specific Requirements of the Standard:

...

A.2. A qualified staff member (see Standard SQ-XXX) must be present at all times participants are riding. No unsupervised riding is allowed at any time.

...

A.5. Course content must address the ethical use of ATVs using materials drawn from BSA's Outdoor Code and TreadLightly!, as appropriate.





Program Considerations (2)

H.1. *Two staff members must participate in ATV activities.*

H.2. *At least one ATV staff member must hold a valid current ATV Safety Institute's instructor certification. All other ATV staff must have been trained by an ATV Safety Institute certified instructor.*

H.3. *All ATV staff must be familiar with applicable outdoor ethics principles and conservation limits on ATV activities.*



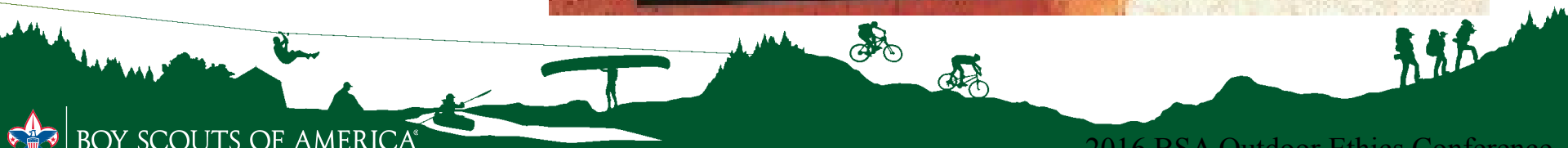


ATV Safety Institute (ATSI) Right Rider Program

Ride Right
on Designated Trails and Areas

**Ride Right With
Others on the Trail**
Respect the Rights of all Trail Users

Ride Responsibly
and Protect YOUR RIGHT to Ride!





Key Resources

Tread Lightly! - www.treadlightly.org

ATV Safety Institute - www.atvsafety.org

Nat'l Off-Highway Vehicle

Conservation Council - www.nohvcc.org

BSA Nat'l Camp Accreditation Program

[http://www.scouting.org/Home/](http://www.scouting.org/Home/OutdoorProgram/CampAccreditation.aspx)

[OutdoorProgram/CampAccreditation.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/Home/OutdoorProgram/CampAccreditation.aspx)





Summary

- ATV Trail design must consider risks to environment and be documented in camp conservation plan
- Trail design guidelines from NOHVCC
- Program staff trained by ATSI, including safe practices and “Ride Right”
- Participant Orientation course consistent with Outdoor Code & TreadLightly!

