

Off-Highway Vehicle Advisory Committee

Massachusetts Environmental Police

OHV Accidents 1-1-15 to 12-31-15

Minor OHV Accidents

On February 8th 2 ATV's were participating in an organized ice racing event held by Hamilton Rod and Gun Club on one of the ponds located on their property in Sturbridge. Male minor (age 14) turned sharply, rolled, and was ejected from his ATV. His ATV made minor contact with the 2nd ATV (operator age 37, Male). Minor sustained a concussion. Written warning was given to the father of the victim for operating without a certificate and unregistered operation of an ATV. Adult operator was issued a warning for unregistered operation of an ATV.

On April 13th a 13 year old male was operating a dirt bike on his residence, Main Street in Plympton. He was transported to hospital for treatment of internal injuries. His father was issued a citation for allowing underage operation.

On April 20th an 83 year old male and 3 passengers ages 8 female, 12 male and 41 female went for a ride on his 480 acre campground in Hancock on a 2007 green Polaris UTV to gather some stones approximately 20lbs when he attempted to back up to turn around. As he backed up one of the tires sunk in the mud in a brook and the UTV rolled over. No one was wearing a helmet. The adult female passenger received a laceration which required stitches on her face, the minor female injured her arm and leg and the minor male injury to his arm. Operator sustained sore hip. Operator was cited for not wearing a helmet and unregistered OHV.

On April 26th in woods behind High Street and Pond Street Billerica, a 17 year old male was operating a 1995 Polaris Sport 400 ATV with an 18 year female passenger on the back of it. He was travelling at a high rate of speed on pavement without helmets. Another operator, a male 23 years old operating a Kawasaki 300 ATV was pulling up to a railroad track intersection when he was struck on the right side by the Polaris. Female passenger sustained mild concussion, soreness and road rash along the right side of her body. Operator of Polaris sustained a fracture to his neck, sprained ligaments on both sides of spine and a concussion. Operator of Kawasaki sustained a broken fibula and road rash on his face. Criminal Charges for the adult operating the Kawasaki ATV were negligent reckless operation, helmet violation and carrying a firearm while operating on OHV. Criminal charges for the Minor were operating the Polaris ATV are negligent/reckless operation, helmet violation, vehicle unregistered and motor vehicle trespass. Accident cause was determined to be negligent operation including usage of machines on pavement, unsafe speeds, no helmets and riding in a no-trespass area.

On April 28th a 16 year old male operating a 2007 Honda CR127 dirt bike was turning left and was struck by an automobile that was following to close being operated by a 47 year old male on Ashton's Way, Tisbury (public way). Minor was treated and released for scrapes to arm and hand. Minor was cited for improper operation of a motor vehicle, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, unregistered/uninsured motor vehicle and trespass with motor vehicle. Adult operator was cited for reckless operation of motor vehicle, negligent operation of motor vehicle and A & B with dangerous weapon.

On May 1st a 12 year old male was operating a 170cc Polaris Razor with an 11 year old male passenger. Operator was making a turn on a public way in front of the residence, Paradise Lane, Sturbridge, in order

to circle around to get to the trials at the back of the residence. The Razor rolled on its side. The passenger was injured when his arm got caught under the razor as it rolled. He was transported to the hospital for treatment of a broken arm. Both minors were wearing helmets at the time. The mother of the passenger was cited for allowing unregistered operation, operating under 18 without a safety course and operation on a public way.

On May 22nd a 16 year male was operating a 1985 Honda ATC200 3 wheel ATV on a public way, Broadway Street and Liberty Street in Haverhill at a high rate of speed when the ATV started to shake and he bailed off the machine. He sustained severe road rash and mild abrasions on his legs and arms. Operator was issued a warning for operating unregistered ATV's, operating on a public way and operation under 18 without a safety course.

On May 23rd a 15 year old male while at a party at 23 Carle Drive, Dracut took a Polaris Razor RUV for a drive without permission to an adjacent field, along with some passengers and rolled the RUV. One of the passengers, a 14 year old male, was pinned under the vehicle. He was transported to the hospital and treated for scrapes, bumps bruising and headaches. Owner was issued written warnings for unregistered operation, operation without a safety certificate, operating on private property- UPDATED

On May 24th in Douglas State Forest a 12 year old male was operating a Yamaha TTR125 dirt bike and a 13 year old male operating a Honda CRF150R dirt bike crashed. The 13 year old sustained a broken arm and was treated and released from the hospital. Owner of dirt bikes was issued a written warning for unregistered recreational vehicle and allowing operation under 18 without a safety certificate.

On June 15th a 6 year old male was learning how to ride a dirt bike and hit a tree while practicing on a trail at Training Wheels Facility in Plympton. He sustained a leg injury. Owner of facility was issued warnings for unregistered vehicle and operator under 18 without a safety course.

On July 13th, on Sandy Pond Road, Plymouth (public way) 2 brothers both male and 15 years old were operating, a 2001 Yamaha 125 dirt bike, and a 1983 Honda 200X, 3 Wheeler. A car swerved towards the operators to avoid a squirrel. One of the operators's panicked lost control and crashed. The operator of the dirt bike was taken to the hospital for minor injuries. Father was issued citations for unsafe operation without a safety course, unregistered operation, unsafe operation and public way violation.

On August 15th a 10 year old girl was operating a mini ATV that was newly purchased on her residence, Downey Street in Plymouth. She lost control and drove in the house and breaking and disconnecting the main gas line. She was wearing a helmet and did not sustain any injuries.

On August 29th at Crow Hill Motor cross Track in Templeton, a 10 year old male operating a KTM 65 dirt bike went over the handlebars and bike landed on top of him. **UPDATE:** Initial call indicated there was a back injury but after investigation was complete no injury was sustained by the operator.

On September 6th in Winchendon a 13 year old female was operating her parents 2014 Suzuki MO LTZ750X with a 14 year old passenger. She rolled the ATV while cornering and both fell off. Operator was transported to the hospital with scrapes and bruised ribs and passenger had minor scrapes and refused any treatment.

On September 14th in East Bridgewater in woods a 15 year old female was operating a 2014, Odes Dominator, RUV, 60hp. She had (3) 15 year old female passengers. 2 of the females were transported to hospital with minor injuries. **UPDATED:** One of the passengers was cited for not wearing a helmet

On September 20th in Plymouth on the power lines a 14 year old male operating a 2013 Kawasaki KLX dirt bike, 140L, collided with a 15 year old male operating a 2007 Kawasaki dirt bike. 15 year old cut off 14 year old. Both operators' were taken to the hospital for treatment of unknown injuries.

On September 21st in Williamstown in woods a 17 year old male was operating a 2007 KYMCO ATV. While proceeding up a hill, he stopped and rolled 2x over and landed on his knee. He sustained leg and knee injuries. Operator was cited for operating without a safety course.

On November 25th in Wareham, on 32 Sunset Blvd, a 16 year old male was operating a 2006 Honda, 250, dirt bike, doing a wheelie, when he fell off and the motorcycle struck 3 pedestrians causing a leg and internal injury to himself, and leg and head injury to a 44 year old female. The 2 other pedestrians a 9 month old baby in a stroller which was knocked over and an 18 year old female were not injured. Operator was arrested for public way violation, negligent/reckless operation and unlicensed operation.

On December 13th in Grafton, in a field off of 22 Estabrook St, a 12 year old male was operating a 2002 Yamaha, YZ 125 dirt bike, when he struck a rock in the hay, loss control, fell off and continued for several feet before landing on the ground. He was taken to the hospital for treatment of a headache, shoulder, leg and hand pain. A citation was issued for operating without a safety course.

Adult OHV Accidents

On January 17th a 43 year old male was operating a 2006 Bombardier ATV on Otis Reservoir. Operator had been ice fishing with a friend. Operator was using ATV to gather firewood from shore when the ATV rolled over throwing him off and breaking the face shield on the left side of his helmet. Victim suffered a partially collapsed lung and seven broken ribs to his left side.

On January 20th a 30 year old male operating a KTM 300 hp dirt bike on Oldham Pond in Pembroke was testing new ices tires and went thru the ice. No injuries. Citations issued by Pembroke PD.

On January 23rd a 20 year old male operating a 2002, 49cc, Kawasaki, Mule on Lake Manchaug in Douglas with 2 male passengers ages 20 and 21 when thru the ice. No injuries. Parties were not wearing helmets and a verbal warning was given.

On January 24th a 57 year old male operating a 2006, 350 hp Honda ATV on Whitehall Reservoir in Hopkinton went through the ice. He was not wearing a helmet. No injuries but given a hot shower at the fire department. Operator was cited for operating on public property without permission and a written warning for not wearing a helmet.

On January 28th during the blizzard a collision occurred between a 2004 Suzuki LT-2250 ATV (44 year old male) and an automobile (33 year old operator) on Rte 130 in Sandwich. Operator of ATV was operating on his drive way when he was unable to come to a complete stop at the end of the driveway due to slippery conditions and collided with automobile. ATV operator was treated for an ankle injury. Minor damage to automobile.

On February 1st a 28 year old operating a 2015 Polaris Razor in a field with permission in Norfolk. He rounded a corner, caught one of the ruts and tipped over on its right side. His male passenger age 27 had been holding onto the handle grips meant for the passenger but apparently let go resulting in his right arm getting stuck outside of the vehicle and eventually pinned under the rear side roll bar. Victim was transported to hospital for treatment of a significant elbow injury.

On March 21st a 20 year old male operating a 2003 Honda Quad Sportrax 400ex on Reed Road in Dartmouth was not wearing a helmet. He turned sharply onto his lawn and the ATV rolled over causing to eject onto the lawn and strike his head. He was taken to the hospital as a precaution, treated and released. He was issued a citation for failure to report his accident, operation after suspended license and operating without a helmet.

On April 2nd a 36 year old female was operating a 2005 Honda ATV on Alden Street in Ludlow when she attempted to negotiate a turn resulting in the ATV rolling over on top of her. She sustained broken bones in her right arm and other non-life threatening injuries. She was admitted to hospital. The ATV was not registered. **UPDATE:** operator sustained only minor bumps and bruises only and was cited by the Ludlow PD.

On April 6th a 64 year old male operating a Polaris Magnum 330hp Quad on his own property in Sheffield near Rte 7 rest area went down a steep slope causing his ATV to rollover. He did not sustain any injuries and given a written warning for unregistered operation.

On April 11th a 39 year old male was operating a 2004 Yamaha Quad Blaster on Kiah's Way in Sandwich. Minor injury. Suspect fled on machine was located by Sandwich PD and charged.

On April 13th A DCR ATV Kubota was off the road at Nickerson State Park Entrance in Brewster and was struck by a car going by. Damage to both vehicles.

On April 15th a 22 year old male was operating a Razor with a 24 female passenger on board. The passenger was not wearing a seatbelt or helmet. Operator took off at a high rate of speed, turned the wheel (fish tale maneuver) and flipped. Passenger was thrown from the vehicle and struck her face on the ground. She required stitches. A citation was issued for not wearing a helmet.

On April 19th a 40 year old male was operating a 2007 Kawasaki 250 dirt bike in a parking lot in Yarmouth on Mid Tech Drive when he increased speed sitting side saddle, fell off and injured his knee and was transported to the hospital for treatment.

On April 19th a 28 year old male was operating a 2004 Yamaha Blaster ATV on East Wilson Road in Warwick. He was not wearing a helmet. He came down the hill at a quick rate of speed, hit a patch of soft sand and lost control of the ATV. He started to break in order to avoid striking an electrical pole but when he realized that was not going to work he accelerated in an attempt to steer away but hit a rock which launched him and the ATV into the air. His head, left arm and shoulder came in contact with the pole. He died as a result of these injuries. Cause of accident was determined to be brakes not being operational and not wearing a helmet.

On May 4th a 33 year old female was operating with a 29 year old female passenger on a 2011 Polaris DX85AZ ATV. Operator was not wearing a helmet. She was operating on private property in Harverhill owned by the owner of the ATV. She saw a tree blocking the trail and hit the brakes and both riders went over the handle bars. Both women were transported to the hospital for treatment. Operator was treated and released and passenger was admitted with broken ribs. Operator was issued a warning for no helmet.

On May 8th a 54 year old male was operating a 2004 Artic Cat 500CC in woods off of Green Street in Athol, MA. His tire tangled up with some barbed wired attached to wood. A male 44 year old fireman was attempting to help free up wire when it tangled up and the wood hit him in back of leg sending him to the hospital for treatment.

On May 10th a witness called 911 as he witnessed a male rider of a 2003 Yamaha YZ450F crash at Holyoke Watershed in Southamptton and started a fire and left the scene with an apparent hip or leg injury. Dirt bike was reported stolen so there is no further information on this accident.

On May 17th a 23 male operating a 2009 Honda CRF250 Dirt bike on a public way George Loomis Rd @ Reservoir Road in Southwick MA struck a tree and sustained a broken right femur. He was fined for operation on a public way, unregistered vehicle and operation within 150 feet of residence.

On May 24th in the woods of King Street in Hanover a 39 year old male went for a ride at a high rate of speed on a 2013 Honda TRX 420 ATV without a wearing a helmet. He came upon a security gate that was closed and applied the brakes. He went airborne, rolled and ejected victim. The ATV struck the victim and he sustained critical injuries that he succumbed to 8 days later. Speed and not wearing a helmet was the cause of this accident.

On May 25th a 31 year old male was operating dirt bike on the power lines in Sandwich injured his right shoulder and was transported to the hospital.

On May 25th a 30 year old male was operating a 1988 Suzuki QU Racer Dirt bike on the power lines in Sandwich broke his arm

On May 29th on Homestead Lane (public way) Stow a 19 year old male was operating a 2008 Kawasaki KFX450R at excessive speed on a paved road and was ejected. He sustained broken collar bone, possible

concussion/internal injuries. He was criminally charged for unregistered vehicle, operating on a public way, negligent reckless operation and speeding.

On June 11th a 20 year old male was operating a 2004 Yamaha 250 dirt bike on a bike path on Spring Street in Winchendon. He came to a corner to fast and fell off. Minor injuries sustained possibly broken ribs. **UPDATED**

On June 19th a 27 year old male was operating a 2002 Polaris ATV on a public way, Washington Street and Wilson Road in Franklin with a 25 year old female passenger. Operator was looking for the power lines and missed the turn and drove off the road. Female passenger broke her leg and was taken to the hospital. Operator was charged with marked lanes violation, OUI liquor with serious injury, operating on public way with a recreational vehicle and negligent/reckless operation.

On June 22nd a 19 year old male saw a Kawasaki KX80 dirt bike for sale at Haynes Farm apartment complex in Shrewsbury and asked the owner if he could test drive it. He got on and drove a short distance lost control and crashed it into a parked car. He was not wearing a helmet and the brakes were not working. He was treated for road rash at the hospital. Operator was issued a warning for recreation vehicle operation unregistered, operation without a helmet and trespass on private property. **Updated**

On June 23rd in Hinsdale a male unknown age was moving an atv from garage to storage building on property and rolled over on its side. Property damage only.

On June 27th a 48 year old male was operating a 2004 Yamaha YZ250 Dirt bike on a trail designated for "jeep usage" ½ mile from Rondeau Road, Palmer. This trail was lined on both sides with trees of various sizes and a number of medium to large rocks that made access to the accident scene very difficult. Operator's right tire struck a tree and the victim fell and struck the right side of his head on a large rock causing severe blunt force trauma. Victim was deceased at scene. Cause of accident is improper speed and inattention.

On July 2nd a 43 year old male crashed his 1978 Yamaha 50 choppy dirt bike in the woods off of Chapel St. Holden. He went home after the accident and was urinating blood and went to the hospital. He had 3 broken ribs and a torn spleen. He died at the hospital. **Update:** Accident did not occur on 7/5 as previously reported.

On July 9th in the woods behind 85 Harvey Street, Norton a 24 year old male operating a 2008 Kawasaki 140 dirt bike hit a rock on a rough trail and went over the handlebars injuring his shoulder. He was issued a warning for operating an unregistered recreational vehicle.

On July 15th MEP received notification of a dirt bike accident on Camp Edwards, Bourne. Injured party life flighted to the hospital. No further info at this time.

On July 19th MEP received notification of an OHV accident in Bourne, Bournedale Powerlines. No further info at this time.

On July 21st a 48 year old male was operating on a public way, 140 Keyes Road, Westford. He was towing a trail on his 2005 Kawasaki KVF750 ATV. He entered a sharp turn and struck an utility pole. He was not wearing a lifejacket. He sustained multiple broken bones including collar bone, ribs and wrist. He was issued a citation for operating an ATV w/o a helmet and operating an ATV on a public Way. Warning was given for operating unregistered ATV, Negligent operation resulting in injury and trespass on public property.

On July 25th a 25 year old male operator was operating a 2014 Honda TRX in Freetown State Forest. Operator went airborne and struck tree. Operator treated for injuries fractured spine, broken collar bone, fractured hand, ribs, chest hematoma and head injury. Speed and operator error causes of accident. UPDATE : Operator was cited for speed and a written warning failure to file a recreation vehicle accident report

On July 27th a 31 year old female was operating a 1993 Honda 450 Rancher ATV in Myles Standish State Forest during an ASI training event. She successfully attempted to drive her ATV over an obstacle; the ATV came down hard on its front wheels causing her to suddenly lurch forward, at which time her knees came into contact with the handlebars and instrument cluster. Her knees were bandaged but she declined any treatment from EMS personnel. Minor damage to ATV.

On July 28th on Cislak Drive in Ludlow. MEP was notified of a past ATV accident. No further information.

On August 9th on Fire house Road, Plymouth (public way) a 25 year old male was operating his 2002 Yamaha Raptor-YFM660R to a party on his ATV. Operator has drunk alcohol and was on his way home took a corner too fast in the dark and wiped out. He was not wearing a helmet. He had multiple lacerations to his face and a broken collarbone. Operator was charged with public way violation, negligent reckless operation and OUI by 21 plus liquor.

On August 9th a 21 year old male was operating his 2005 CRF 250R Honda dirt bike on The Range in North Adams. This is a track that was originally built for snowmobile racing. It has been redesigned for MX riding this year. It is supervised by the police department. He was going around a corner and tipped over. The peg went into his leg just above his motor cross style boots. He sustained 35 stitches to his 5 inch wound on his right calf.

On August 9th a witness called to notify the MEP of an accident. Incident occurred at Ames and Nowell state park approximately ½ mile past East Ashland gate on a gravel roadway. It appears ATV lost control as it travelled over a small hill and came to rest approximately 21 feet away. Witness states it was a young white male late 20's-early 30's with a possible abrasion/fracture to left forearm. The operator left with a woman. Officer could not identify the operator.

On August 13th a 23 year old male had taken his 2003 Yamaha TTR225 dirt bike out for a ride and crashed his dirt bike into the guard rail that was on the bridge that crossed the railroad tracks. He was operating on a public way Stafford Hollow Road and Route 32 in Monson. He walked back to his house with the bike. He called his friend over to take him to the hospital for treatment of his injuries. He was issued a warning for operating an unregistered recreation vehicle and on public way. He was treated and released from the hospital.

On August 20th on Goddard Memorial Drive, public way, Worcester a 24 year old male was operating with a 23 female passenger on a 2005 Kawasaki KFX400 ATV. ATV was doing wheelies and rolled over. Both individuals were taken to the hospital. The passenger sustained a critical brain injury. Operator was released with a broken wrist and other non-life threatening injuries. ATV was only designed for a single rider and not on a public way. UPDATED: female succumbed to her injuries at a later date. Worcester Police Department charged the operator with criminal motor vehicle charges.

On August 22nd in the woods off of Route 8A Claremont a 27 year old male operating a 2005 Polaris sportsman 500 HQ ATV when he got stuck on a small tree sapling. The sapling held the ATV in place when the operator pushed the throttle down and the ATV got stuck again. He backed up and gave a little throttle when the ATV flipped over onto him. It rolled over 3 times and landed on his back and

sustained internal injuries. He was operating without a helmet. He was cited for helmet violation and warning for unregistered vehicle.

On September 2nd on trails off of Parameter Lane in Grafton a 31 year old male was operating a 1985 Honda 3 wheel ATV when his back wheels “kicked up” and he landed on the ground. He was not wearing a helmet. He sustained a compound fracture to his leg and other minor scrapes and bruises. He was given written warnings for trespassing on public party and unregistered operation.

On September 6th on the rail trail in Millbury a 33 year old male was operating a 2013 KTM Dirt bike crashed when his front wheel struck a rail road tie. He sustained injuries to two limbs. He was issued written warnings for trespassing on public property and unregistered operation.

On September 13th on the Spencer Fairgrounds (during a antique/vintage motorcycle show) on a dirt circle track a 34 year old male was operating a 1986 KL66B Kawasaki Motorcycle lost control and crashed while in a turn. He was ejected over the handlebars. His helmet came off during the crash. He was unconscious for 10 minutes after crash and sustained possible internal injuries.

On September 20th on Quanapoag Rd (public Way) in Freetown a 30 year old male operating a 2003 KTM Dirt bike was fleeing the police when he missed the trail and was attempting to turn around to get back on it and crashed. Operator sustained a broken tibia requiring surgery. Operator was charged with operating on a public way, refuse to stop for police, neqligent/reckless operation resulting in serious injury, unregistered registration subsequent offence, speeding and disorderly conduct.

On September 26th in Chicopee, in the power lines, a 19 year old male crashed a 1986 Honda Quad TRX 200SX. No injuries property damage only.

On October 4th off Rte 130, on a sand pit, a 24 year old male was operating a 2001 Yamaha Raptor 660 quad when he lost control and crashed. He sustained a lower leg injury.

On October 11th in Middleboro, 176 Cherry Street, a 34 year old male operating a Yamaha Big Bear 400 quad struck a low tree branch was his head and was taken to the hospital.

On October 24th in Barre on Cummings Rd @Cutoff Rd a 22 year old male operating a Suzuki 500 CC quad struck a telephone pole. Extensive damage to vehicle and operator sustained several spinal fractures and a fracture to his clavicle. Operator was cited for unregistered vehicle, operation of a public way and speeding.

On October 31st, in New Bedford, on Concord Street @ Princeton Street a 23 year old male operating a 1999, TRX400 Quad collided with a marked police cruiser. Operator failed to stop at a stop sign. He was not wearing a helmet and was treated on scene for a minor head injury and refused further treatment. He was cited for failed to stop/yield, reckless operation, operating without a helmet, unregistered on public way, allow uninsured vehicle.

On November 1st in Granby, off Rte 116 in the woods, a 59 year old male operating a 2006 Kawasaki KLX250 motorcycle struck a tree and sustained head trauma. Initially he did not realize he had sustained any trauma and continued onto the public way and fell down at the intersection at Granby Heights as a result of the effects of his injury. Operator was trespassing on private party and did not have his dual sport motorcycle registered for off road operation.

On November 7th in Haverhill, on 29 Lisa Lane, a 61 year old male was operating a 2015 Polaris Sportsman 570 quad, lost control, struck a mailbox, rolled over and was thrown from the quad. Operator was not wearing a helmet and sustained a severe head trauma, was transported to the hospital but succumbed to his injuries. Cause of accident was inexperience, failure to wear a helmet, speed, failure to maintain control and operating a vehicle that was not designed for operating on paved surfaces.

On November 16th in Rochester, on 169 Alley Road, a 21 year old male, was operating a KTM, 250, Dirt bike on private property when he wedged his foot between a trailer parked in the driveway and the dirt bike. Operator received a laceration to his foot and toe. His toe had to be amputated.

On December 9th in Uxbridge, in woods of 688 West Hartford Ave, a 41 year old male, operating a 2015 Honda Pioneer, 500 RUV, rolled the machine on himself and pinned his ankle underneath but did not sustain any injury. Responding enforcement and EMS lifted the RUV off the operator. He was cited for not wearing a helmet. Written warnings were issued for unregistered operation and operating on private property without permission.

On December 13th in Templeton, on sand pits, off of Barre Road@Cook Road, a 46 year old male operating, a 2014 KTM 350 XCF dirt bike, "hit a wash" drove his bike through water and came up a slight incline, his front tire lost traction, turned sharply to the left and sent him over the handlebars and into the ground head first. He sustained, head, neck and back injuries. He was issued written warnings.

On December 19th, in Plymouth, on 262 Halfway Pond Road, a 19 year old male, was operating a 2002 Yamaha quad on a public way and was not wearing a helmet. He was directed to stop by a police officer but refused and struck a 2009 Jeep motor vehicle being operated by a 36 year old female pulling into her driveway sustaining property damage. The operator of the quad was ejected his leg was wrapped around a mailbox post. The quad rolled and came to rest upside down and on the operator. Police officers and passenger of Jeep were able to lift quad off operator. Operator sustained a severe head injury and was taken to the hospital for treatment. Operator was arrested for refuse to stop for police, helmet violation, unsafe operation, operating public way, neqliqent reckless operation and causing property damage.

On December 26th in Spencer, on 37 Hastings Road, a 24 year old male, jumped on a 2014 Polaris Sportsman 570, drove it down the front lawn into the roadway and attempted to turn sharply into the driveway but it rolled over on top of him. He was unconscious and taken to the hospital for treatment. He had been drinking alcohol prior to the accident. He was cited for operating on a public way and not wearing a helmet.

On December 31st in Fitchburg, on 500 Ashburnham hill Road a 31 year old male (severe leg injury resulted in amputation) was operating a 2002 Yamaha Blaster YFS 200 with a 7 year old passenger (foot injury) and a 21 year old male (concussion) was operating a 2011 Yamaha YFM 700 ATV (had a plow attached) with a 6 year old passenger (shoulder injury). 21 year old was chasing 31 year old and side swiped him with the plow. The 2 adults were not wearing helmets and the 2 minors were wearing adult helmets. Active and ongoing investigation. Charges forthcoming by Fitchburg and State Police.

