

Motor Vehicles Used for Sport or Recreation

(including trail bikes, quad bikes & paddock vehicles etc)

Motor vehicles are used by many people during day trips and camping holidays for sport or recreation (recreational vehicles), but there are laws applicable to using such vehicles.

Under the Environmental Management and Pollution Act 1994 (the Act) and its Regulations, the Environmental and Pollution Control (Miscellaneous Noise) Regulations 2004 there are rules that relate directly to recreational vehicles.

Under Regulation 15, it is an offence to operate a motor vehicle for sport or recreation within 500 metres of a domestic premises, unless:

- You have consent from the occupier of all premises within 500 metres
- The vehicle is being operated on a public street (in which case the vehicle must be fully registered and the rider must hold a current licence)
- The vehicle is being driven to or from a public street
- The vehicle is being driven to or from a place that is further than 500 metres from the premises OR
- The vehicle is being driven directly to a place for cleaning, maintenance, refuelling or repairs.

This rule applies regardless of whether you own the property or not.

If recreational vehicles are ridden in contravention of the Regulation, Police Officers and Council Officers can issue significant on the spot fines for each offence. Under the Act, vehicles can also be seized and held until the offence has been heard in court.

In a Public Place:

You require a full motorcycle licence to use a 2-wheeled recreational vehicle.

If you are riding an ATV 4 wheeler bike you require a full motor vehicle licence.

All vehicles must be registered.

A Public Place is defined as any land or highway owned or under the control of a Government body.

If you are caught riding without a licence, significant penalties apply.

When riding be mindful of others, to ensure you don't interfere with their safety and enjoyment of the environment.

Looking after our bush

Not only is riding a recreational vehicle in a reserve illegal, it will cause erosion and damage to native vegetation.

Reserves are areas commonly used by walkers and horse riders. Recreational vehicles can scare horses causing injury, and walkers can sometimes be hard to see. Therefore not only is it illegal to ride a vehicle in a reserve, it is inappropriate for safety reasons.



Where can I legally ride my Recreational Vehicle?

For further information on places where you can legally ride your trail bike in Tasmania:

Forestry Tasmania

03 6233 8203

Tasmanian Recreational Vehicle Association

03 6244 5290

For Further Information

Contact Council during business hours Monday to Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm on **03 6376 7900**

If you have an enquiry after hours please contact Tasmania Police on **03 6230 2111**

It is up to you to find out who manages the land you are riding on and make sure you are riding legally.