

**Town of Ellington adopted this ordinance Outagamie County passed.  
Town of Ellington only has jurisdiction on town roads.**

***ORDINANCE NO.: C—2020-21***

TO THE HONORABLE, THE OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

***MAJORITY***

1 Wis. Stat. s. 23.33 allows all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and utility terrain vehicles (UTVs) to  
2 operate on highways. This same statute allows Counties to enact ordinances allowing the  
3 use of ATV's and UTV's on roadways designated by the County referred to as "routes".  
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5 Wis. Stat. s. 23.33(8)(b)1. also gives a town, village, city or county the ability to enact an  
6 ordinance to designate a highway not under its jurisdiction, but within its territorial limits,  
7 as an ATV route. In any circumstance in which the proposed route is one which is on or  
8 across a state highway, the local government entity must seek DOT approval.  
9

10 There has been increased use of ATV's and UTV's, on roadways in our rural townships,  
11 and a demand from constituents to allow for designation of additional routes allowing their  
12 use. The Outagamie County Highway, Recycling & Solid Waste Committee recommends  
13 the following ordinance to be added to the Outagamie County Code of Ordinances. This  
14 ordinance will outline the process required to designate a county highway an ATV/UTV  
15 route, the requirements necessary to qualify as an ATV/UTV route, and the rules, laws,  
16 and regulations that operators of ATV/UTV must follow while operating on a qualified  
17 route.  
18

19 There is no expected significant revenue or cost associated with the enactment of this  
20 ordinance.  
21

22 NOW THEREFORE, the following ordinance is presented by the Highway, Recycling and Solid  
23 Waste Committee to the County Board.

24 BE IT ORDAINED, that the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors does create Outagamie  
25 County Ordinance Sec. 50-353: All-Terrain Vehicles and Utility Terrain Vehicles to read as follows:

26 **OUTAGAMIE COUNTY ORDINANCE Sec. 50-353: ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES AND UTILITY**  
27 **TERRAIN VEHICLES**  
28

- 29 (1) *Intent.* To create uniform procedures and requirements for the use and operation of All-  
30 Terrain Vehicles and Utility Terrain Vehicles on Outagamie County highways.  
31  
32 (2) *Definitions.* In this section, words and phrases used herein shall have the meaning as defined  
33 by Wis. Stat. § 23.33(1), unless otherwise defined herein. All-terrain vehicles (hereinafter  
34 referred to as ATVs) shall have the definition given in Wis. Stat. § 340.01(2g). Utility terrain  
35 vehicles (hereinafter referred to as UTVs) shall have the definition given in Wis. Stat. §  
36 23.33(1)(ng). Any reference to a Wisconsin Statute Section or Administrative Code  
37 Regulation is a reference to that specific chapter, section, code, or its successor chapter,

1 section, or code. Any future amendments, revisions, or modifications of the statutes or  
2 administrative code incorporated herein are intended to be made part of this Code in order  
3 to secure uniform statewide regulation of all-terrain vehicles.  
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5 (3) *Statutory Authority.* Outagamie County is authorized to designate county highways as  
6 ATV/UTV routes pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 23.33(8)(b) and 59.02, and is authorized to enact  
7 ordinances regulating ATVs and UTVs on designated routes pursuant to Wis. Stat. §  
8 23.33(11)(a).  
9

10 (4) *Designating ATV/UTV Routes.*

11 (a) *Application Process for Route Designation.* The Commissioner shall develop policies  
12 and procedures for consideration of ATV/UTV routes in accordance with the  
13 requirements of Wis. Stat. § 23.33, Wis. Admin. Code NR § 64, and the provisions of  
14 this Ordinance.  
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16 (i) *Municipalities.* Any town, village, or city in Outagamie County may, by application  
17 to the Highway Commissioner, request that portions of county highways be  
18 designated as ATV/UTV routes. Applications shall be completed as prescribed by  
19 the Commissioner and must be in compliance with the policies and procedures  
20 developed by the Commissioner for the designation of ATV/UTV routes. The town,  
21 village, or city must further affirm that the municipality will pay for the costs to  
22 make, install, and maintain ATV/UTV route signs. Prior to application, Municipality  
23 shall:  
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- 25 1. Hold a public hearing on the proposed ATV/UTV route, with publication by  
26 Class 2 Notice under Wis. Stats. Chapter 985. Notice of public hearing shall  
27 include the time and location of the hearing, a map depicting the proposed route,  
28 and details on how public comment can be submitted in addition to verbal  
29 comment at the public hearing.  
30
- 31 2. Provide written notice, by mail, to property owners abutting the proposed  
32 ATV/UTV route's County Highway right-of-way by including, at minimum, a  
33 copy of the Public Hearing notice described in (4)(a)(i)1.  
34
- 35 3. Take official action, during a public meeting of municipality's governing board  
36 or designated committee, to authorize said municipality to apply for ATV/UTV  
37 route designation.  
38

39 (ii) *Application requirements.* An application for designation of an ATV/UTV route  
40 shall, at a minimum, include the following:  
41

- 42 1. A map showing the proposed ATV/UTV route on the county highway system.  
43
- 44 2. A map showing any existing or future ATV/UTV routes leading to the proposed  
45 route.  
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- 47 3. A statement explaining why the proposed route should be designated as an  
48 ATV/UTV route.



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- 4. Documentation that items required in 4(a)(i)1-3 were completed by Municipality.
- 5. A statement that the applicant will be financially responsible for payments for the installation and maintenance of required ATV/UTV route signs.
- 6. Any municipality in which the segment of a county roadway being proposed as an ATV/UTV route exists must have adopted the regulations in paragraph (5) set forth below for the application to be considered.

(b) *Duties and Powers of Highway Commissioner.*

- (i) The Commissioner shall administer, at minimum, an annual ATV/UTV route designation application process. Such process shall include administrative review and evaluation of proposed routes based on safety and operational considerations, such as traffic volume, roadway speed limits, topography, vision clearance issues, pavement and shoulder conditions, and other factors related to operational safety and efficacy. Commissioner shall summarize said evaluation and provide a recommendation to the Highway, Recycling and Solid Waste Committee for their consideration of route designation by ordinance.
- (ii) The Commissioner shall ensure that all routes designated pursuant to this Ordinance are properly posted. Payment for signage production, installation, and future maintenance for designated routes shall be at the cost of the requesting municipality.
- (iii) The Commissioner shall establish the official ATV/UTV route opening and closing dates for each year. Dates shall be posted on the Outagamie County website in a place visible to the public.
- (iv) All routes established pursuant to this Ordinance shall be reviewed annually by the Commissioner to consider the continued value, efficacy, safety, and need for the ATV/UTV routes. In the event the Commissioner believes the route is no longer safe or is otherwise inappropriate, Commissioner shall seek a modification of the ordinance allowing designation of that route through the Highway Recycling and Solid Waste Committee which may advance its recommendation to amend the ordinance to the County Board of Supervisors.

(c) *Route Adoption, Modification and Termination Procedures.*

- (i) The Highway, Recycling and Solid Waste Committee shall on an annual basis, at minimum, consider ATV/UTV route designation applications received by the Highway Commissioner, to include the Highway Commissioner’s review and recommendation per 4(b)(i).
- (ii) Upon review of ATV/UTV routes under consideration, the Highway, Recycle, and Solid Waste Committee shall authorize an ordinance be drafted for any ATV/UTV routes they find worthy of designation. Said ordinance can incorporate any terms,

1 conditions and/or modifications of proposed routes as recommended by the  
2 Highway Commissioner and/or based on factors identified by the Highway,  
3 Recycling and Solid Waste Committee during their review.  
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5 (iii) An ATV/UTV route that is created by Ordinance shall not officially become  
6 effective until said route is officially opened by the Highway Commissioner,  
7 indicated by the erection of signage.  
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9 (iv) The County Board of Supervisors may rescind or modify the designation of an  
10 ATV/UTV route by enactment of an ordinance rescinding or modifying the  
11 designation.  
12

13 (5) *Regulation of ATVs and UTVs.* Except as otherwise provided herein, the statutory provisions  
14 of Wis. Stat. § 23.33 and Wis. Admin. Code NR § 64, which create, describe, and define  
15 regulations with respect to ATVs and UTVs, are adopted and, by reference, made a part of  
16 this Code as if fully set forth herein.  
17

18 (a) *Operator and Rider Requirements.* Any person who operates or rides as a passenger  
19 on an ATV or UTV on a roadway that is an ATV/UTV route in Outagamie County  
20 designated pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 23.33(8)(b)1, or an ATV/UTV route in  
21 Outagamie County designated pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 23.33(8)(c), must meet the  
22 following requirements:  
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24 (i) Any operator or passenger shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws,  
25 orders, regulations, restrictions, and rules, including those outlined in Wis.  
26 Stat. § 23.33 and Wis. Admin. Code NR § 64. All ATV/UTV rules of  
27 operation outlined in Wis. Stat. § 23.33 and Wis. Admin. Code NR § 64 are  
28 adopted and incorporated by reference in this Ordinance.  
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30 (ii) No person may operate an ATV or UTV without having attained the age of  
31 16.  
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33 (iii) No person may operate an ATV or UTV without a valid driver's license.  
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35 (iv) All operators shall have a liability insurance policy in force on any ATV or  
36 UTV operated on an ATV/UTV route or route. The liability insurance policy  
37 must have the following minimum coverages:  
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- 39 a. \$10,000 for property damage
- 40 b. \$25,000 for the injury or death of one person
- 41 c. \$50,000 for the injury or death of more than one person  
42

43 (b) *Rules of Operation.* The operation of an ATV or UTV on a roadway that is an  
44 ATV/UTV route in Outagamie County designated pursuant to Wis. Stat. §  
45 23.33(8)(b)1, or an ATV/UTV route in Outagamie County designated pursuant to  
46 Wis. Stat. § 23.33(8)(c), is subject to the following rules of operation:  
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- (i) Any operator or passenger shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws, orders, regulations, restrictions, and rules, including those outlined in Wis. Stat. § 23.33 and Wis. Admin. Code NR § 64. All ATV/UTV rules of operation outlined in Wis. Stat. § 23.33(3) and NR§64 are adopted and incorporated in this Ordinance.
- (ii) Operators may only operate on a designated ATV/UTV route signed in accordance with Wis. Stat. § 23.33(8)(e).
- (iii) *Speed Limits.*
  - a. Operators on ATV/UTV routes shall observe a speed limit not to exceed 35 miles per hour or the posted speed limit on the roadway, whichever is less.
- (iv) Operators shall ride in single file in the roadway. Roadway is defined in the same manner as defined in Wis. Stat. s. 340.01(54).
- (v) Operators may not operate an ATV or UTV on an ATV/UTV route at any time before or after Operating Hours. Operating Hours are designated as sunrise and sunset.
- (vi) All ATVs and UTVs must operate with fully functional headlamps, tail lamps, and brake lights.
- (vii) Every ATV or UTV shall be equipped, maintained, and operated to prevent excessive or unusual noise. No person shall operate an ATV or UTV on an ATV/UTV Route unless the vehicle is equipped with a muffler or other effective noise-suppressing system in good working order and in constant operation.

(c) *Enforcement.*

- (i) Any act that is required or is prohibited by any statute or administrative code provision incorporated herein by reference is required or prohibited by this Code.
- (ii) An officer of the state traffic patrol under s. 110.07 (1), inspector under s. 110.07 (3), conservation warden appointed by the department under s. 23.10, county sheriff or municipal peace officer has authority and jurisdiction to enforce this section and ordinances enacted in accordance with this section.
- (iii) No operator of an all-terrain vehicle or utility terrain vehicle may refuse to stop after being requested or signaled to do so by a law enforcement officer or a commission warden, as defined in s. 939.22 (5).

(d) *Penalties.*

(i) Any forfeiture for a violation of State Statute or Administrative Code adopted by reference in this Ordinance shall conform to the forfeiture permitted to be imposed for violation of said statutes or code provisions as set forth therein.

(ii) Any violation of a section of this Ordinance without a penalty specified by statute or administrative code shall be punishable as provided in Outagamie County Ordinance 1-10.

(6) *Severability.* The provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed severable and it is expressly declared that Outagamie County would have passed the other provisions of this ordinance irrespective of whether or not one or more provisions may be declared invalid. If any provision of this ordinance or the application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance and the application of such provisions to other person's circumstances shall not be deemed affected.

BE IT FINALLY ORDAINED, that the Outagamie County Clerk be directed to forward a certified copy of this ordinance to the Outagamie County Sheriff and Municipal Code Corporation for inclusion in the Outagamie County Code of Ordinances.

Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of October 2020

Duly and officially adopted by the County Board on: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Board Chairperson County Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Vetoed: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Executive