

39-02-2015

Because there is a direct connection to the spread of non-native invasive plant species from traffic on unimproved rights-of-way or ditches outside the regular traveled portion of the road by UTV/ATV use and because shoulder riding on town roads is allowable under DNR rules unless disallowed by local ordinance if properly signed and because there is generally no local police enforcement of such ordinances on town roads, shoulder-riding by ATVs/UTVs should be disallowed on town roads in the state of Wisconsin as a matter of rule. Further, because ATVs/UTVs are used for off-road travel, they in particular gather and distribute aggressive weed seeds such as Spotted knapweed, Garlic mustard, Crown Vetch, Leafy spurge, Wild Parsnip, Japanese hedge parsley to name only a few, which commonly grow in fallow fields, woodland trails and rights-of-way. DNR has recognized this statewide risk in its PUB-LE-500 2014 referring to serious economic, environmental, and human health concerns, but its self-monitoring suggestions such as 'cleaning your ATV/UTV before and after use' and 'properly dispose of soil, seeds, or plant parts from cleaning' are unrealistic, impractical, and ineffective.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Conservation Congress should work with the DNR to change the rule from allowing All-Terrain Vehicles & Utility-Terrain Vehicles to operate on unimproved town road rights-of-way, shoulders and ditches in the state of Wisconsin to disallowing All-Terrain Vehicles & Utility-Terrain Vehicles to operate on unimproved town road rights-of-way, shoulders and ditches in the state of Wisconsin.

Shelley Hamel
N8973 4th Avenue
Westfield WI 53964
(608) 296-2866
Marquette

Signature:  _____