



# LESSONS LEARNED

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Northern Region Safety & Occupational Health

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## ATV GOING ON A RIDE WITHOUT RIDER



A trails crew seasonal was in the process of maintaining a portion of a trail. As he was riding to his work area, his ATV clipped the uphill side of the trail edge on a narrow portion of the trail. This tipped the ATV and it began to slowly roll over. The rider jumped off to the downhill side and attempted to stop the rolling motion. He quickly realized he could not stop the ATV and jumped away to the front side to avoid getting hit or pinned. The ATV gained momentum and continued rolling downhill approximately 60 feet before it came to rest upright on a ledge. The ATV, a six year old Honda Foreman 500, it was seriously damaged and will not be repaired. No persons were hurt or injury.

### RIDER INFORMATION

ATV rider was properly trained during seasonal orientation. (ATV certification course from ASI trained instructor.) Individual also had approximately 6 years of ATV experience on the farm at home. All required PPE was worn.

### ACCIDENT FACTORS

1. ATV was not in optimum condition. Frame had been previously welded (at least twice) and suspension was becoming loose.
2. Front tire alignment was off making steering more difficult.
3. Weather and fatigue were not factors. Conditions were sunny and dry, and rider was alert.
4. Speed, approximately 5-7 mph, was not a factor.

### LESSONS LEARNED

1. Ensure that equipment is in safe operating condition before attempting to use, red tag equipment until repaired or disposed of.
2. Consider trail conditions (narrow, steep, e.g.) before attempting to traverse with an ATV/UTV. Hike to destination if you need to.
3. Use alternative methods for trail maintenance if an ATV is not safe to use in that terrain.
4. Use only equipment that is in good condition.
5. Never weld frames.

***JOURNEY TO NO HARM***