

## 2023 ATV Survey Results

6. Should the current ATV Ordinance be amended?

Yes 114

No 107

7. Should the Ordinance be more restrictive?

Yes 61

No 160

8. Should the Ordinance be less restrictive?

Yes 84

No 137

9. Should ATV use be limited to Waterford Residents?

Yes 88

No 133

10. An Opportunity for Motorized Recreation on Town Roads

Not important 83

Somewhat important 27

Important 18

Very important 12

Extremely important 32

11. Safety of Homeowners/Pedestrians/Automobile Travelers

Not important 1

Somewhat important 8

Important 27

Very important 32

Extremely important 104

12. Noise, Traffic, Speed

Not important 4

Somewhat important 8

Important 30

Very important 30

Extremely important 100

### 13. Means of Transportation

Not important 74

Somewhat important 26

Important 31

Very important 20

Extremely important 21

### 14. Physical Damage/Impact of Use on Town Roads (wear & tear, ruts)

Not important 11

Somewhat important 17

Important 36

Very important 35

Extremely important 73

### 15. Access areas which are already open to ATV use (example: neighboring towns, trails, class IV roads)

Not important 61

Somewhat important 24

Important 38

Very important 17

Extremely important 32

### 16. Please Share Any Additional Comments/Concerns:

This town doesn't need the extra burden of dealing with ATVs - we pay enough in taxes.

- 1 They are "off road vehicles" for a reason. Don't trash our town. Go to Groveton or Berlin see the mess!!
- 2 I don't foresee any problems
- 3 Prior to any changes enforcement and road maintenance and signage need to be budgeted and planned for.
- 4 I think that residents should be allowed to access roads for agricultural and homesteading purposes when ATVs are used in place of tractors.

- 5 I do not think ATVs should be using the roads summer or winter. Disagree with use on town roads. Physical damage on my land last winter.
- 6 ATV use should be allowed and should be registered and follow the rules of road. It should be like a motorcycle.
- 7 Means of Transportation - Somewhat Important for Farm Use. We have talked with friends in neighboring towns who are unhappy with ATV in their towns.
- 8 More enforcement  
I am in favor of my farmer using an ATV to access her fields or find stray cows. However, I am very concerned with the lack of policing enforcement. I have repeatedly seen unregistered
- 9 ATVs on Waterford roads, driving at fast rates of speed by unhelmeted and questionably underaged drivers. I wonder if there is insurance on these vehicles.
- 10 Opportunity for Motorized Recreation on Town Roads - Town roads are NOT a place for recreation! How will complaints be dealt with?
- 11 It's not ATVs that are a problem but the trucks and cars flying up and down Old County Rd North doing 60-70 mph .... something bad is going to happen....
- 12 ATV use is good for ATV parts + suppliers helps commerce. ATVs are fun. Common sense to keep accidents minimal. Follow speed limit signs.
- 13 I feel state laws should be enforced to a greater degree. I am seeing young people on unregistered ATVs, no helmets and no adult supervision.
- 14 No ATVs should be on roads. Trailer it to an ATV area.
- 15 The current ordinance needs to be enforced much better.
- 16 ATV drivers should be 18 years old, have driver's licenses and insurance. They need to respect owners of property and roads they are using.  
I see no benefit to the town to open ATV use to non-residents. We don't have stores or gas
- 17 stations. Non-residents would just drive through. I also feel it would be an undue burden on our emergency services. Residents would care more about the rules.
- ATV use on Class 2, 3 & 4 roads is very important to first responders and the Waterford
- 18 Ridge Runners Snowmobile Club. Open the roads for a 3 yr trial period ... no better test exists.
- I have been meaning to write to the Town of Waterford and sing the praises of the Road
- 19 Crew. They are amazing! You should give other towns (like Danville) lessons! Thank you so much.
- Allowing ATVs on Waterford Town roads would give access for the residents to access areas
- 20 already open to ATV use. People will not be just coming here to ride on roads - that's not where the fun is found.
- I feel that the people who want to ride ATVs on roads in Waterford should have to register
- 21 their ATVs with the town. Also - roads should only be open to ATVs in Spring/Summer/Fall - not winter.
- Look at other towns. What are their problems or solutions? Ask Selectmen in Concord.
- 22 Possible solution to require ATV club like snowmobile club - need enforcement of speed. Safety #1, no damage to roads.
- 23 ATVs used in normal use should not be any different than the use of farm equipment, horses or motorcycles or snow machines. It's the people operating them that makes it good or bad.

- 24 Allow 4 wheeler on roads. Dump truck, logging trucks and snowplow trucks make 10 times the noise than a 4 wheeler + make a lot more damage also.
- 25 Allow on road
- 26 Allow on road
- 27 Allow four wheelers to operate on roads
- 28 Allow on road
- 29 Enforcement of current ordinance is a top priority
- 30 Farmers should be able to access barns/fields, etc. with ATV
- 31 I will be closing my property to VAST trail that goes through my property if ATV are allowed on our roads.
- 32 If the ATV is registered in Vermont and insured it's no different than a motorcycle.
- 33 Until we allow and control ATV on the waterfront town roads we will always have an issue.
- 34 Until we allow and control ATV on the Waterford town roads we will always have an issue.  
I would like to be able to haul brush down my road in our Polaris without being considered a  
35 scofflaw! It might be nice to drive it to get the mail + maybe to the beach as well. Lofty dreams?  
The current ordinance is not being enforced. Permitting more use is the wrong approach.
- 36 Enforce the current ordinance to protect current tax payers/property owners. ATV/UTV trespass across our property is a weekly occurrence as they access town roads.  
This activity should be banned for any ATV on all roads (town or maintained by residents on a class 4 road.) This is a huge issue because of safety concerns for my family when walking in town roads, biking, or crossing these roads. We already have speeding & reckless driving on our roads, & adding ATV traffic (and inviting ATV greater public on our roads) begs the  
37 question Who pays for enforcement? How do we generate \$ to pay for enforcement and damage caused by ATVs? A huge mess in muddy conditions. We have a traffic ordinance and an ATV ordinance that is being ignored by the public (and Select Board) now.  
Enforcement needs to be solved NOW.  
ATV use should be banned on all public roads. That applies to residents and nonresidents.
- 38 ATV use on public roads is a significant risk to health, safety and the public welfare. ATV use should be banned on any public road that is used as the access to a person's home, whether or not the town maintains the road.  
We have no problem with ATV use in town highways - but there needs to be a speed limit  
39 like all other towns who open their roads. If roads are opened it will alleviate much damage to private property. Open your closed minds.
- 40 It is extremely important to us that this ATV access NOT be granted.  
Only licensed operators?? I didn't see anything in the ordinance concerning the age of the  
41 ATV traveler. They should be required to know the laws of the road. Safety the biggest concern.
- 42 Appropriate the \$ needed to enforce the existing prohibition.  
Living on Lower Waterford Road (just three doors down from the library) we witness many  
43 an ATV driver already using the roads; many at high speeds with no regard for neighbors, noise or nuisance. We believe a change to the current ordinance would only make the situation more dire.

44 Enforce what we have. ATV use by residents for work related use such as hauling sap, wood,  
or any other use that might be otherwise done by a small trader should be allowed.

Recreational use on town roads is a Pandora's box best left closed. Absolutely opposed to it.

45 As a direct result of the fact that there is little to no enforcement in Waterford, I'm afraid  
everyone will be in harm's way. Children, pedestrians, riders. This sort of resulting harm is  
not insignificant and can include death or serious injury.

46 Believe that not all roads should be open. That anyone wanting to operate on town roads  
should have some skin in the game by organizing a club to help with non-road trails,  
enforcement and other related costs.

47 No to the ATVs because there are always a few that ruin it for everyone else and there will be  
no way to police them. Also - there will inevitably be kids getting hurt. In towns like Gorham  
and Stratford, NH ATVs are allowed on the roads but that is a large part of their local  
economy, that is not the case in Waterford.

48 We get more noise, road damage and dangerous behavior from yahoos in cars - ATVs are not  
the problem. Whatever is decided, enforcement is key.

49 Safety, noise, speed, road damage which are caused by unenforced existing laws for cars &  
trucks are no different than unenforced ATV use. ATVs should be allowed, but enforcement  
of both ATV as well as cars & trucks should be done. If limiting to residents helps allow less  
restrictions then it would be fine to limit to residents only.

50 It has been my experience that when 4 wheelers are on the road - they think they own the  
road! I just met one recently and he was speeding and right in the middle of the road! And  
probably most of them aren't even legal. They have no concern for others on the road! They  
belong on TRAILS.

51 I think it is about time to let ATVs ride the roads in Waterford. Give the tax payers a little  
freedom to have some fun with their families and friends. I have 160 acres to access my  
property I need to ride the road for a few hundred yards.

52 Please lower speed in front of Stiles Pond for us to exit and most import wildlife, turtles birds  
deer etc. Thank you for understanding.

53 ATVs should not be allowed on any Waterford roads for safety and liability concerns. Until  
they pay the same vehicle insurance they should not use the roads. Same for bicycles.

54 Fewer regulations

55 I'm opposed to recreation that relies on limited resources and especially to those that impact  
air quality and climate.

56 With 30 years of law enforcement, I can say without a doubt, that the sooner Waterford  
designated particular roads and travel corridors to allow for the lawful operation, the sooner  
the ATV issue will resolve. Otherwise, this entire process is a waste, and the Selectboard will  
continue to hear complaints. This should not be an all or nothing issue. It just needs to be  
managed reasonably. ATVs are here to stay.

57 (People) speeding on Higgins Hill Rd is extreme! There has been increased sheriff presence  
but I am concerned with any ATV traffic and the safety of the operators/riders mixing with  
the speeders. Proper signage should be considered.

58 My Honda 520 side by side is used for moving lawn mower, etc. It is not used only for  
recreation. It is registered and insured. I think it is reasonable to be used on Waterford town  
roads as long as registration, insurance and safety laws are maintained.

59 This is what's needed to use Old County Rd S to get to Shadow Lake Rd and Concord trails.  
We register our vehicle with state + trails to be able to use roads.

60 Class 4 roads should be marked (signs) where they begin and end. If Class 4 roads are not  
marked where they end, ATVs continue onto private property. It is not fair for property  
owners on class 4 roads to incur the expense of maintaining those roads due to unnecessary  
behavior by off road vehicles (registered and non-registered, 4 wheelers, snowmobiles, etc.)

61 I had kids running ATVs up and down our road - exceeding speeds, no helmet and total  
disregard for kids or pets.

62 Banned - restrict both kinds of recreation vehicles. Public nuisance - ATVs.

I believe the ordinance should be less restrictive in a sense that allows ATVs on all town  
63 roads but I also believe strict enforced speed limits should be put in place to keep people  
riding under control.

We live right on RT 18 where the speed limit is posted at 50 mph. We have seen ATVs  
driven by young girls looking about age 12 driving on art 18 as fast as the machine could go  
64 with no helmets and transporting younger children also. We have also seen two young men  
about 30 years old each on an ATV driving with no helmets with a small toddler sitting in  
front of each man.

65 I walk on Shadow Lake Rd frequently. My main concerns are speed & excessive noise of  
most, not all, but most of the ATVs I encounter. Road safety is also very important for me.

269 Suitor Rd needs a speed sign. Some go over 50 at times. 25 mph would be great for all  
66 dead end roads. Someone is going to get hurt. This road is used by pedestrians walking  
jogging dog walking children.

67 If you have an ATV use it on your own property.