

# Motorized Vehicle Use

## Rules and Regulations



Road, trail, and area users must comply with the Motor Vehicle Use Map as well as all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations. Forest roads are only open to registered vehicles and mopeds in accordance with state law. All other vehicles including “motorized carts”, “low speed vehicles”, “multipurpose off-highway vehicles” and “all-terrain vehicles” are prohibited.

The Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest manages motorized vehicle use under laws set by the State of Georgia. This means that anyone operating a motorized vehicle on a Forest Service road (including dirt/gravel roads) must follow all State vehicle laws and must have a valid driver's license. Roads open to highway legal vehicles must be licensed under State law for general operation on **all public roads** within the State. State law requires all vehicles and drivers to be licensed before operating on public roads.

Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV) that are not licensed for public road use must remain on designated trails marked specifically for OHV use. OHVs may not be operated in a manner that damages or unreasonably disturbs the land, wildlife, or vegetation. Violators of these restrictions are subject to fines of up to \$500 and/or up to six months in prison.

Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUM) maps indicate the National Forest System roads, National Forest System trails, and the areas on National Forest System lands in the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest that are designated by regulation for motor vehicle use. These maps also note the types of vehicles that are allowed on each route or in each area as well as any seasonal restrictions that apply on those routes and in those areas. On the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest, you can only ride on trails designated for the purpose of off-road motorized use. Some trails are restricted for a certain type of use such as only motorbikes or only four-wheel drive vehicles.

Road, trail, and area users must comply with the MVUM map as well as all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations. Forest roads are only open to registered vehicles and mopeds in accordance with state law (O.C.G.A. 40-2-20, O.C.G.A. 40-2-8). All other vehicles including “motorized carts”, “low speed vehicles”, “multipurpose off-highway vehicles”, and “all-terrain vehicles” are prohibited. (O.C.G.A. 40-1-1, O.C.G.A. 40-6-362). Georgia law (O.C.G.A. 40-6-362) restricts operation of multipurpose off-highway vehicles to highways that are part of a **county road system**.

Compliance with these rules is the responsibility of the user. These restrictions are set for safety reasons and to meet the special needs of each type of vehicle. Rules are necessary to make sure your riding adventure on the National Forest is fun, safe, and will continue to provide a quality riding experience. Find maps and learn more at: [www.fs.usda.gov/main/conf/maps-pubs](http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/conf/maps-pubs).