

SUFFERING FROM THE MISUSE OF OFF-ROAD BIKES?

CALL 01926 415000

Are off-road bikes making your life a misery?

Call Warwickshire Police, report the incident and provide the following details:

- Description of who is riding the bike.
- Where the bike is being used.
- When is it being used (time of day e.g. evening, daytime, weekend).
- Details about the vehicle (e.g. make, model, colour).
- Who owns the vehicle (if known).

All information will remain confidential.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

To report an incident contact your local police on

02476 641111 Nuneaton Police Station

01827 718092 Atherstone Police Station

If you have information about a crime but wish to remain anonymous please contact

CRIMESTOPPERS ON 0800 555 111

To find out more about motorcycle sport or for details of local clubs, events and competitions, contact:

The Auto Cycle Union on **01788 566400** or
write to ACU, British Motorcycle Sport & Leisure,
ACU House, Wood Street, Rugby, CV21 2YX.

Warwickshire Police and Warwickshire County Council will not tolerate the reckless use of off-road vehicles as they cause alarm, harassment, distress and pose a real danger to people living in Warwickshire.

For more information log on to
www.warwickshire.police.uk or
www.safer-neighbourhoods.co.uk





OFF-ROAD BIKES

...THE FACTS

DID YOU KNOW?

Over the last few years, there has been an increase in the use of off-road vehicles in Warwickshire.

To tackle this problem, we would like to raise your awareness of the dangers associated with off-road vehicles and the anti-social way in which they are being used.

If you own an off-road vehicle, are considering buying one, or are suffering because of one, then it is important that you read this leaflet and understand the legal requirements for riding off-road vehicles.

Off-road vehicles include:
quad bikes, electric scooters,
go-peds and trials bikes.



Important Facts:

Riding an off-road vehicle in a park, public place or on common land is an offence and can be dangerous. Ensure that you know how to ride safely and within the law.

- Unless the vehicle is specifically made for use on the road, you can only ride it on private land.
- Any vehicle that is used on the road, will need the following legal documents:
 - Driving licence/Test certificate (and certificate of basic training for off-road bikes).
 - Road Fund licence/Tax disc.
 - Insurance.
 - M.O.T certificate.
- The rider must be wearing appropriate and legal protective clothing and equipment.
- The Road Traffic Act can be applied if off-road vehicles are used in public places, used in an anti-social way or driven carelessly.

RIDE YOUR BIKE LEGALLY

- You can only ride on private land if you have written permission from the landowner.
- The vehicle must be transported to the location safely and legally – on a trailer; NOT driven on the road.

POLICE POWERS

Under the Road Traffic Act, anyone caught riding an off-road vehicle in an anti-social way can be prosecuted.

If caught riding illegally you could face:

Legal Action

- A fine or imprisonment.
- Your vehicle seized.
- Prosecution (resulting in the loss of your driving licence and disqualification from driving).
- Vehicle potentially crushed

Civil Action

- Anti-social behaviour proceedings (ASBOs).
- Harassment proceedings.
- Tenancy proceedings.

BUYING AN OFF-ROAD BIKE

If you are thinking of buying an off-road bike, remember that there are hidden costs and dangers...

- If you purchase a new bike make sure you have the appropriate and legal protective clothing and equipment.

Buying second-hand bikes

There are an increasing number of motorcycles/scooters stolen in Warwickshire each year. If you are buying a second-hand bike, make sure you:

- Seek proof of identity.
- Obtain a receipt.
- Have all relevant documentation.
- Check the bike is fit for purpose.

REMEMBER:

If the price appears too good to be true it probably is. Buying a second-hand bike may seem like a bargain, but you could end up being prosecuted for handling stolen goods. Check out all the facts!

If you or your child want to ride an off-road bike on public land, you need to follow the Road Traffic Act and ensure the vehicle and you are legally covered.

GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS

Please consider any decisions you make about buying motorcycles, scooters or quad bikes for your children carefully. Remember, off-road bikes are not toys and must be used in strictly controlled conditions, using all the appropriate safety equipment.

You may be committing an offence yourself if you allow your child to use the vehicle anywhere other than on private land which you have written permission to use.