

Village of Canal Flats

BYLAW NO. 273, 2025

Being a Bylaw to regulate the Use of All-Terrain Vehicles Within the Village of Canal Flats.

WHEREAS, pursuant to s. 8(3)(b) and s. 62 of the *Community Charter*, SBC 2003 c. 26, Council has authority to regulate, prohibit and impose requirements with respect to persons, property, things, and activities that are in, on or near public places;

AND WHEREAS, pursuant to s. 36 of the *Community Charter*, Council has authority to regulate and prohibit in relation to all uses involving a highway;

AND WHEREAS, pursuant to s. 15(2)(b) of the *Community Charter*, Council has authority to adopt a standard, code, or rule enacted under a law of British Columbia or another jurisdiction, with any changes considered appropriate;

NOW THEREFORE Council of the Village of Canal Flats, in the Province of British Columbia, duly assembled enacts as follows:

1. Citation

This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as the "Village of Canal Flats Off-highway Recreational Vehicle Regulation Bylaw, No. 273, 2025".

2. Definitions

"Certified Training Course" means a training course recognized by the **Village** as providing education and training to operators, who must be at least 15 years of age, of **off-highway recreational vehicles** and provides the trainee with a certificate of completion.

"Council" means the Council of the **Village**.

"Village" means the Village of Canal Flats.

"Driver's Licence" means a licence to operate a motor vehicle issued by a governmental body with the authority to regulate and administer vehicle licensing within its jurisdiction.

"Highway" includes all public streets, roads, ways, lanes, bridges, and any other public way designed for and regularly used by motorized vehicles licensed by the Province.

"Licence Plate" means a decal or other identifying marker that is issued by the **Village** to be attached to the **off-highway recreational vehicle**.

"Multi-use Recreation Trail" means a trail designed for and designated by the **Village** as a recreational trail for walking, hiking, biking, skiing, and **off-highway recreational vehicle** use.

"Off-highway Recreational Vehicle" means a motorized vehicle used for recreational purposes and includes a snowmobile, as defined in the Snowmobile Regulations under the *Motor Vehicle (All Terrain) Act*, a 4-wheeled all-terrain vehicle (also known as a quad), a 3-wheeled all-terrain vehicle, a 2-wheeled mini-bike, a 2-wheeled dirt bike, motorcycles when used off road, dune-buggies, go-karts, and mopeds or any other motorized vehicle that does not comply with the Motor Vehicle Act; but does not include a 4x4 vehicle designed for **highway** use.

“Registered Owner” means the owner of the **off-highway recreational vehicle** as registered with the **Village**.

“Unregistered Vehicle” means an **off-highway recreational vehicle** that was not registered with the **Village**.

3. Operation of Off-highway Recreational Vehicles within the Village

3.1 No person shall operate an **off-highway recreational vehicle** in the **Village** except as authorized by this bylaw.

3.2 The owner of an **off-highway recreational vehicle** operating within the **Village** must:

- (a) carry third party liability insurance coverage of at least \$1,000,000 for the vehicle and rider;
- (b) register the vehicle with the **Village** and obtain the **licence plate** upon payment of the fee specified in Schedule “A” and showing proof of required insurance;
- (c) exhibit a current **licence plate** on the vehicle in a clearly visible location, either front or back of the vehicle.

3.3 The **registered owner** or operator of an **off-highway recreational vehicle** within the **Village** must:

- (a) hold a valid **driver’s licence**, or if between 15 and 17 years of age hold a certificate of completion of a **certified training course** or be accompanied by an adult of at least 25 years of age who holds a valid **driver’s licence**, or if under 13 years of age be accompanied by a parent who holds a valid **driver’s licence** or an adult of at least 25 years of age who holds a valid **driver’s licence**;
- (b) ensure that the vehicle exhibits the **licence plate** in a clearly visible location as required pursuant to subsection 3.2 (c);
- (c) not operate the **off-highway recreational vehicle** unless insured and proof of insurance is with the operator, in accordance with subsection 3.2(a);
- (d) not operate the **off-highway recreational vehicle** anywhere within the **Village**, except on a **multi-use recreation trail**;
- (e) only use the **multi-use recreation trail** system for access to out of town trails or Forest Service Roads;
- (f) dismount the **off-highway recreational vehicle** to cross a **highway**, unless authorized to ride across the **highway** with a permit issued by the RCMP;
- (g) yield the right of way to all other vehicles and persons on the **highway**;
- (h) not exceed a speed of 30 kilometres per hour on a **multi-use recreational trail**;
- (i) operate the vehicle on the right-hand side of any **multi-use recreational trail**; and
- (j) not operate the **off-highway recreational vehicle** in a careless, reckless, or negligent manner so as to endanger or cause injury to a person or property or so as to cause a nuisance.

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- 3.4 The operator of an **off-highway recreational vehicle** and all passengers must wear a safety helmet approved by the Canadian Standards Association.
- 3.5 The **Village** hereby designates the trails indicated on Schedule "C" as **multi-use recreation trails**.

4. Exemptions

- 4.1 Police, fire, ambulance, search and rescue or other emergency vehicles operated by emergency response personnel engaged in the execution of their emergency response duties;
- 4.2 Persons acting at the request of emergency response personnel during an actual or apparent emergency condition;
- 4.3 Off-Road Vehicles owned and operated by local, provincial or federal governments if use is within the scope of their duties;
- 4.4 A community event, program or project exempted in writing by Council, notwithstanding the requirements of the Transportation Act and required permits for use on highways.

5. Penalty

- 5.1 Any person who contravenes any provision of this Bylaw, or who suffers or permits any act or thing to be done in contravention of any provision of this Bylaw, or who neglects to do or refrains from doing anything required to be done by any provision of this Bylaw, commits an offence punishable on summary conviction and is subject to a fine not less than \$250 and not more than \$10,000.
- 5.2 Each day that a violation exists or is permitted to exist is deemed to be a separate offence against this Bylaw.
- 5.3 This Bylaw may be enforced by means of a ticket in the form prescribed for the purpose of section 264 of the *Community Charter*.
- 5.4 Pursuant to section 264(1)(b) of the *Community Charter*, the Village Administrator, the Village's Bylaw Enforcement Officers, and members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police are designated to enforce this Bylaw.
- 5.5 Pursuant to section 264(1)(c) of the *Community Charter*, the words or expression in Column 1 of Schedule "A" to this Bylaw designate the offence committed under the Bylaw section number appearing in Column 2 opposite the respective words or expression.
- 5.6 Pursuant to section 265(1)(a) of the *Community Charter*, the fine amount in Column 3 of Schedule "A" to this Bylaw is the fine amount that corresponds to the section number and words or expression set out in Columns 2 and 1 opposite the fine amount.
- 5.7 Council hereby delegates to the Village's Chief Administrative Officer the authority to refer any disputed tickets to the Provincial Court.

6. Severability

If any section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph or clause of this Bylaw is for any reason held to be invalid by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision does not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the Bylaw.

7. Effective Date

The Off-highway Recreational Vehicle Regulation Bylaw No. 273, 2025 comes into effect upon adoption.

INTRODUCED AND READ a first time this 13th day of April, 2026.


READ a second time this 13th day of April, 2026.

READ a third time this 13th day of April, 2026.

RECONSIDERED AND FINALLY ADOPTED this 11th day of May, 2026.



Mayor Mark Doherty



Corporate Officer

CERTIFIED a true and correct copy of
"Village of Canal Flats Off-highway Recreational
Vehicle Regulation Bylaw No. 273, 2025"

Corporate Officer

Schedule A

License Plate Fee \$50
Annual Registration Fee \$10

Schedule B – Offence Section and Penalty

Bylaw Offence	Section	Penalty
First offence in calendar year: Operate an Off-Road vehicle in the Village of Canal Flats public place outside multi-use trail	3.2	\$250
Second offence in calendar year: Operate an Off-Road vehicle in the Village of Canal Flats public place outside multi-use trail	3.2	\$500
Third or more Offences in calendar year: Operate an Off-Road vehicle in the Village of Canal Flats public place outside multi-use trail	3.2	\$500 per offence
All offence: Wearing of helmet in accordance with Section 3.4	3.4	\$250

Schedule C – Multi-use Recreational Trail Map

