

Stop  
Off  
Road  
Nuisance

# Thinking of letting bikers ride on your land?



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## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW!

Do you have a spare piece of land or a field? Are you thinking of allowing off-road vehicles to ride on it? If so you need to read this fact-sheet very carefully and consider all of the information. It will provide you with details and restrictions you may not have previously considered. This is information that you need to know and cannot afford to ignore.

As well as the actual lasting damage to your field that these bikes may cause, there are a few important issues that you **MUST** think about:

### Insurance

You need to ensure that you conform to health and safety regulations and have public liability insurance pursuant to the Occupiers Liability Act 1957 (as amended). Otherwise, in case of an accident, the riders could hold **YOU** responsible. The owners of the Reebok football stadium were fined £90,000 in September 2005 for breaching health and safety regulations when, although riding illegally on private land, a boy was killed after his off-road motorcycle collided with a metal chain on the car park.

### Noise

It is possible that off-road motorcycle noise could cause a statutory nuisance within the provisions of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. If noise levels exceed environmental regulations **YOU** will be held responsible for any action as the owner of the land.

### Wildlife

You could be in breach of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 by allowing bikers to ride on your land if they cause damage to, or negatively impact upon, any local wildlife as a result.



### Riding times

Currently the Government permits private landowners to use their land for use with off-road vehicles for a total of 14 days a year. Once you have used up the 14 days allocation you must wait until the following year before allowing off-road bikes onto your field again. If you are found to be breaking these rules there will be consequences.

**Don't assume that it's easy... there are a lot of things you need to think about**

For more information on using your land as a bike track please contact your local council who will need to assess your application before deciding whether to grant permission for your proposal. They will also be able to provide more information on the necessary steps to take and what is required of you as the landowner.