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4-H ATV SAFETY COURSE ROLLS INTO SAUGERTIES

SAUGERTIES, NY Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County 4-H Youth Development Program will offer youth and parents the opportunity to learn more about all terrain vehicles (ATV) safety thanks to a grant awarded by National 4-H Council as part of the 4-H ATV Safety Grant Program, a collaboration among local 4-H Programs, the national 4-H Youth Development Program and the ATV Safety Institute (ASI).

This three part course will take place at H.I.T.S. in Saugerties, NY beginning on Thursday, July 12th, 6-8pm, Friday, July 13th, 6-8pm. Followed by a Safety Fair Saturday July 14th, 8-12pm, and closing with a Graduation on the following Saturday July 21st, 6-8pm. Youth from ages 10-17 must pre-register no later than June 29th. Space is limited to 25 youths, based on a paid first come, first serve basis. The fee is \$10. You can request a registration form by contacting Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County 4-H Youth Development Program at 845-340-3990 or Jorge Castagnola at 845-246-6573. This ATV Safety course is in cooperation with H.I.T.S., Saugerties Police Department, Local ATV Dealers, and SAGE. Guest speakers from local law enforcement agencies will also be attending.

There has been a substantial increase of ATV riders over the last 10 years nationally. There are many riders in our area, and this course will help to educate them, which in turn can help prevent accidents from happening said Dave Rothe, 16 year old 4-H Youth ATV Coordinator.

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County 4-H Youth Development is one of 21 4-H Programs in 13 states nationwide to receive a 4-H ATV Safety Grant in 2007. Three youths and four adults from Cornell Cooperative Extension in Ulster County's 4-H Youth Program will also attend a national 4-H ATV Safety training.

Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

4-H ATV Safety - sponsored by ASI - builds awareness for safe riding practices as the popularity of all-terrain vehicles continues to rise in the United States. The program brings awareness to kids and parents about the risks of riding an ATV and how to avoid injury by wearing the proper safety gear, determining safer places to ride, and making sure the ATV is the proper size for its rider. 4-H ATV Safety strongly encourages youth and adults to complete a four hour ASI Rider Course and any state certification requirements before they ride an ATV. The ASI Rider Course certifies that participants have taken an ATV safety course; it does not certify them to become hands-on ATV safety riding instructors.

Visit www.atv-youth.org for more information about 4-H ATV Safety. 4-H is a community of more than 6.5 million young people across America learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills. National 4-H Council is the national, private sector, non-profit partner of the 4-H Youth Development Program and its parent, the Cooperative Extension System of the United States Department of Agriculture. Learn more about 4-H at www.4husa.org

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County 4-H Youth Development Program Issue Leader Patti Zellmer can be contacted at 845-340-3990 or email: psz2@cornell.edu