

Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Compliance & Enforcement

With the passage of SB 379, the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle (OHV) law changed the requirements of non-residents who need to purchase a non-resident permit. The new law now recognizes a non-resident operating an OHV is in compliance with New Mexico if that person:

is currently in compliance with another state's off-highway vehicle registration, user fee or similar law or rule demonstrated by certificate of registration, permit or similar evidence...(66-3-1004.C NMSA 1978).

However, if a non-resident is from a State that has not established OHV registration or a user fee, then the non-resident must purchase New Mexico's Off-Highway User permit. States that have no registration program and no use fee are:

Alabama	Kansas	South Carolina
Alaska	Kentucky	South Dakota
Florida	Mississippi	Tennessee
Georgia	Nebraska	Virginia
Hawaii	Nevada	West Virginia
Illinois	North Carolina	

A non-resident with an OHV from one of these states must purchase either the 2 year non-registered permit sticker for \$48.00 or the 90 day permit sticker for \$18.00 prior to operate on New Mexico's public lands.

A non-resident from the remaining states need not purchase New Mexico's permit as long as they can provide valid proof that they have a current registration, user fee or something similar to one of these from their resident state. If they cannot provide valid proof then they must purchase the 2 year non-resident permit sticker or the 90 day permit sticker.

As a reminder, New Mexico residents will be in compliance with this new law if they have a valid Off-highway Motor Vehicle registration. This will be visible by either the display of OHV license plate with a sticker that has not expired or by producing a registration issued by the Motor Vehicle Division.