



## TOWNSHIP OF ESSA

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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **2021 ATV Pilot Project – Designated Season Ends October 31**

2021-10-19 – May 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 marked the start of a designated ATV Pilot Project which allowed for ATVs to be driven on municipal roads during the designated “season” of May 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Initially Council approved the ATV Pilot Project by passage of By-law 2021-16 for 2021 only, however the Pilot Project was so well received by ATV enthusiasts that Council opted to extend the Project into 2022.

### **What does this mean?**

With fall and winter fast approaching, the last day for ATVs to be driven on roads under municipal jurisdiction in the Township of Essa in 2021 is October 31<sup>st</sup>.

ATVs will be permitted to drive on roads under municipal jurisdiction again in 2022 starting on May 1<sup>st</sup>, when the second designated “season” begins. Council will re-evaluate the merits of the Project at the end of the second designated season, in order to determine the benefits of permitting ATVs on municipal roads.

### **Where can I ride my ATV after October 31<sup>st</sup>?**

ATV/ORVs are a great way to get out and enjoy the beauty of nature. The Township of Essa is home to several beautiful forests and trails and acts as a land bridge between neighbouring municipalities for recreational ATV/ORV riders. Essa is working closely with the County of Simcoe, Ontario Federation of ATV Clubs (OFATV) and Central Ontario ATV Club to expand existing trails through Simcoe County Forests to include ATVs and ORVs.

ATV enthusiasts are encouraged to reach out to the Ontario Federation of ATV Clubs or the Central Ontario ATV club for local trails and memberships.

### **What do I need to drive my ATV on municipal roads?**

Riders utilizing municipal roads must possess, at minimum, a M1/G2 Ontario Licence or equivalent. ATVs/ORVs being used on municipal roads must be licenced for the road and have valid insurance.

When riding ATV/ORV's, it's important to be familiar with the rules that govern ATV/ORV's in Ontario and within the municipality that you are riding in.

Being familiar with your machine and its safe operation is essential. Safety is the number one priority while riding.

### **What about Dirt Bikes?**

Currently dirt bikes are not permitted on any municipal, county or provincial roads unless the dirt bike is equipped with a blue Ontario Licence plate.

Ride safe.