



Sept. 2, 2020 Contact: Ryan Mielke Director of Public Affairs (915) 521-7656 rmielke@umcelpaso.org (915) 493-5235

Press Advisory: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UMC AND YAMAHA TEAM UP FOR YOUTH ATV SAFETY COURSE

EL PASO, Texas – University Medical Center of El Paso in conjunction with Yamaha Outdoor Access Initiative and ATV Safety Institute, invites all youth riders (ages 12 - 15) to take the ATV RiderCourse, Saturday, Sept. 26, at San Felipe Park near Cattleman's Steakhouse.

- FREE Helmet and Goggles (ages 12-15)
- Morning and Afternoon Classes Available
- Space is limited, Register Today!

Contact Carol Smith by phone: 830-612-3607 or email: txteamm1@gmail.com for details on how to register and other important information.

The ATV RiderCourse, taught by certified ASI Instructors, provides a fast-paced, half-day, hands-on training session that includes: starting and stopping, quick turns, riding on hills, emergency stops and swerves and riding over obstacles.

Students will also learn about protective gear, local regulations, places to ride and environmental concerns.

The course was made possible through a grant \$9,972 awarded to University Medical Center of from Yamaha Motor Corporation, U.S.A as part of its Outdoor Access Initiative (<u>www.yamahaoai.com</u>). This grant allows UMC to provide evidence-based ATV safety education and primary injury prevention in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the American College of Surgeons for Level 1 Trauma Centers. UMC will also advocate for the development of properly planned ATV trails to foster safer year-round outdoor recreation which is currently extremely limited within our county for off-highway vehicles. This program was conceptualized from the research findings of UMC surgeons Alan H. Tyroch, M.D., FACS, FCCM, Professor, Chair of Surgery department at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, and Trauma Medical Director of General Surgery, Trauma/Surgical Critical Care at UMC; along with Susan F. McLean, MD, Professor, at TTUHSC, Surgical Critical Care Director of General Surgery, Trauma/Surgical Critical Care, at UMC. They recommend all youths consistently wear proper safety gear when riding ATVs to prevent and minimize potential traumatic brain injuries.

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