The Wautoma Fire Department is hosting a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Snowmobile Safety Certification Course on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 14 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Wautoma Fire Department, 568 S. Fair Street, Wautoma.

Certified safety instructors from the Waushara County Sheriff's Department, K-9 Deputy Walter Zuehlke, Deputy Martin Weasner, and Detective Sergeant Jim Lietz will be teaching the class.

Anyone who operates an ATV on public riding areas - e.g. trails, frozen waters, routes, permitted county and/or forest lands, etc. - who is at least age 12 years of age and who was born on or after Jan. 1, 1988 must have completed a safety certification course. ATV operators must carry their safety certification card and they must display it to law enforcement officers when requested.

Anyone is eligible to take the class and receive a safety education completion certificate. For children under 12 years of age, the certificate does not become valid until the child reaches 12. Students with special needs must contact the instructor at least two weeks in advance of the course to request special accommodations.

Any person who is born on or after Jan. 1, 1985 and who has reached the age of 12 must have completed and received a snowmobile safety certificate in order to operate a snowmobile in Wisconsin. The certificate must be carried while operating the snowmobile and displayed to a law enforcement officer upon demand.

This does not apply to the operation of snowmobiles upon lands owned or leased by the operator's parent or guardian. Leased lands do not include lands leased by an organization of which said operator or the operator's parent or guardian is a member.

No person under the age of 12 may operate a snowmobile unless the person is accompanied either by a parent or guardian or by a person over 18 years of age. Accompanied means to be on the same snowmobile as the operator.

New Requirement: All Recreational Safety Students must now provide a DNR Customer ID Number to your instructor before completing any safety class. If a student does not have a DNR Customer ID Number, one can be obtained by calling DNR's Customer Service at 1-888-936-7463 between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m.

The class is open to enrollment to 30 students. Parents/guardians are welcome to attend in addition to the 30 students.