With an e-bike, bicyclists can ride more often, farther, and for more trips.

Electric bicycles are designed to be as safe as traditional bicycles, do not compromise consumer safety, and benefit bicyclists who may be discouraged from riding a traditional bicycle due to limited physical fitness, age, disability or convenience.

In many states, e-bikes are regulated under antiquated laws primarily aimed at combustion engine vehicles such as mopeds or scooters. PeopleForBikes is clarifying state laws governing the use of e-bikes in the U.S. Every state’s law is different, but the objective is to ensure that low-speed e-bikes are regulated similarly to traditional, human-powered bicycles.

**CONNECTICUT’S E-BIKE LAW FOR THE ROAD**

- E-bikes are regulated like bicycles. The same rules of the road apply to both e-bikes and human-powered bicycles.
- E-bikes are not subject to the registration, licensing, or insurance requirements that apply to motor vehicles.
- Connecticut designates three classes of e-bikes:
  - Class 1: Bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the e-bike reaches 20 mph.
  - Class 2: Bicycle equipped with a throttle-actuated motor, that ceases to provide assistance when the e-bike reaches 20 mph.

**CONNECTICUT’S E-BIKE LAW FOR TRAILS**

- On federal, state, county and local trails, e-mountain bike (eMTB) access varies significantly.
- Generally, any natural surface trail that is designated as open to both motorized and non-motorized uses is also open to eMTBs.
- eMTBs may not be allowed on trails managed for non-motorized activities.
- Do not ride your eMTB in areas where the local rules are unclear. Ride legally and only on authorized trails to show that mountain bikers are responsible trail users.
- When in doubt, ask your local land manager about access to specific trails. Local land rules change frequently.

**eMTB GUIDELINES**

- Local: Consult your local land management agency.
- State: The Connecticut State Parks Division allows Class 1 e-bikes on multi-use trails. Contact the department for the most up to date information. PeopleForBikes is monitoring this policy and will update this document as needed.
- Federal: On federal lands, eMTBs are considered motorized vehicles and have access to motorized trails. However, Connecticut has minimal federal lands and fewer, if any, where mountain biking is allowed.

**GREAT eMTB RIDES IN CONNECTICUT**

- Pachaug State Forest
  - Preston City | 25 miles
- Thomaston Dam OHV Trails
  - Thomaston | 4 miles

Learn more at PeopleForBikes.org/e-bikes

- Blogs and webinars
- E-bike laws around the country
- E-bike statistics and research
- Buying guide
- Retailer materials
- eMTB management resources