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.

In Kansas, an e-bike is defined as an “electric assisted bicycle,” so long as the e-bike’s motor is under 1,000w, has a maximum speed of 20mph and has operable pedals. 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.

Helmets are not required and there is no age minimum for e-bike use. E-bikes are allowed on sidewalks and bike paths.

The following Kansas laws are referenced: Kan. Stat. §§ 8-1489, 8-1592B.

KANSAS’ E-BIKE LAW FOR THE ROAD

» In Kansas, an e-bike is defined as an “electric assisted bicycle,” so long as the e-bike’s motor is under 1,000w, has a maximum speed of 20mph and has operable pedals. The same rules of the road apply to both e-bikes and human-powered bicycles.

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» The following Kansas laws are referenced: Kan. Stat. §§ 8-1489, 8-1592B.

KANSAS’ E-BIKE LAW FOR TRAILS

» LOCAL: Consult your local land management agency.

» STATE: Kansas State Parks allows Class 1 and 2 e-bikes wherever bicycles are permitted. Contact the department for the most up to date information. PeopleForBikes is monitoring this policy and will update this document as needed.

» FEDERAL: The majority of public lands managed for recreation in Kansas are under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Forest Service, where eMTBs are considered motorized vehicles and have access to motorized trails. Contacts the U.S. Forest Service Eastern Regional Office for more infomration.

GREAT eMTB RIDES IN KANSAS

» Ride 2 Paradise 40 Miler
  Russell | 43 miles

» Turkey Trail
  Elkhart | 10 miles

A map of great eMTB rides at peopleforbikes.org/emtb

eMTB “Adventures” at peopleforbikes.org/e-bikes

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