# KENTUCKY'S E-BIKE LAW 30



## **KENTUCKY'S E-BIKE LAW FOR THE ROAD**

- » In Kentucky, an e-bike is defined as "bicycle," so long as the e-bike has operable pedals and can be operated under combined human and motor power. 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 Kentucky laws are referenced: Ky Admin. Reg. 601 § 14:020(1)(a).

### **eMTB GUIDELINES**

- » 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.

#### **CHECK OUT**

- » A map of great eMTB rides at peopleforbikes.org/emtb
- » eMTB "Adventures" at peopleforbikes.org/e-bikes

## **KENTUCKY'S E-BIKE LAW FOR TRAILS**

- » LOCAL: Consult your local land management agency.
- » STATE: The Kentucky Department of Local Government State Parks does not currently have an eMTB policy. 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. Contact the U.S. Forest Service Southern Regional Office, the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area, Mammoth Cave National Park, or the Tennessee Valley Authority for more information.

### **GREAT eMTB RIDES IN KENTUCKY**

- Manchester | 100 miles
- » Redbird Crest Trail System » Sheltowee Trace Sections 19-21 Arvel | 31 miles

#### 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.



#### 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

