

VERMONT'S E-BIKE LAW



VERMONT'S E-BIKE LAW FOR THE ROAD

- » E-bikes are defined as "motor-assisted bicycles." Motor-assisted bicycles are subject to the same laws as human-powered bicycles under Vermont law.
- » Riders of motor-assisted bicycles are not subject to registration and operator's license requirements. Because riders of motor-assisted bicycles do not need to register their bicycles or obtain an operator's license, they are also exempt from insurance requirements.

- » Motor-assisted bicycles are defined as bicycles or tricycles with fully operable pedals and a motor with a power output of 1,000 watts or less and maximum speed of 20 mph.
- » Motor-assisted bicycles may not be ridden on sidewalks.
- » State law does not specifically address the use of motor-assisted bicycles on bicycle paths. Riders should verify that such use is permitted by their local jurisdiction.

* The following Vermont laws are referenced: Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 23 § 4 (45)(B); tit. 23 § 1136; tit. 23 § 800(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.

VERMONT'S E-BIKE LAW FOR TRAILS

- » LOCAL: Consult your local land management agency.
- » STATE: Vermont 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: The majority of public lands managed for recreation in Vermont are under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Forest Service, where eMTBs are considered motorized vehicles and have access to motorized trails. Contact the U.S. Forest Service Eastern Regional Office for more information.

CHECK OUT

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

GREAT eMTB RIDES IN VERMONT

- » **Morrisville Backroads Tour**
Waterbury | 40.5 miles
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Waterbury | 40.5 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

