

# ALABAMA'S E-BIKE LAW



## ALABAMA'S E-BIKE LAW FOR THE ROAD

- » In Alabama, an e-bike is defined as a “motor-driven cycle.” As a motor-driven cycle, e-bikes are not subject to the same rules of the road as traditional bicycles.
- » E-bike riders must carry an operator's license and are subject to registration requirements. E-bikes are not subject to insurance requirements.

- » Helmets are required and there is a 14 year age minimum for e-bike use. E-bikes are not allowed on sidewalks and bike paths.

\* The following Alabama laws are referenced: Ala. Code §§ 32-1-1.1, 885-1-1-.5, 32-5A-245, 32-12-41.

## 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.

## ALABAMA'S E-BIKE LAW FOR TRAILS

- » LOCAL: Consult your local land management agency.
- » STATE: The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs or Alabama State Parks do not currently have an eMTB policy. Contact the departments 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. Most of Alabama's federal lands are managed by the Forest Service, with 667,000 acres of public land stretching across 17 counties. Contact the U.S. Forest Service Southern Regional Office for more information.

## CHECK OUT

- » A map of great eMTB rides at [peopleforbikes.org/emtb](http://peopleforbikes.org/emtb)
- » eMTB “Adventures” at [peopleforbikes.org/e-bikes](http://peopleforbikes.org/e-bikes)

## GREAT eMTB RIDES IN ALABAMA

- » **Flint Creek Multi-Use Trails** Danville | 15 miles
- » **Kentuck ORV Trails** Anniston | 23 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](http://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

