



E-bike Safety

Know the Rules. Ride Responsibly.

What is an E-bike?

An Electric Bike (E-bike) has a built-in electric motor that assists the rider while pedaling. Depending on the class, it may also provide power through a throttle.



Assist up to 20 mph with NO throttle



Assist up to 20 mph WITH a throttle



Assist up to 28 mph with NO throttle



Throttle assist up to 20 mph; pedal assist up to 28 mph

Four Legal Classes of E-bikes in Minnesota

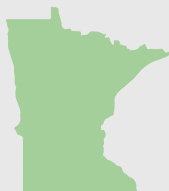
Know the Rules.

E-bike/E-scooter riders must follow the same traffic laws as bicyclists.

A city or county may restrict e-bikes and e-scooters on local paths/trails. Check the regulations before riding.



**Scan to Review
MN Statute 169.222:
Operation of Bicycle**



Legal Age

12+ years old

15+ years old

Helmet

Required Under 18

Recommended

Roads



Paths/Trails



Sidewalks



DNR Trails



Ride Responsibly.

Ride safe and smart: it protects you and everyone sharing the road.



Air in the tires



Battery fully charged



Brakes working



Chain/crank working



Helmet/reflective gear



Texting/headphones



Obey **all** traffic laws.



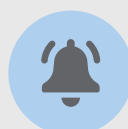
Yield to pedestrians.



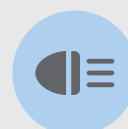
Ride in **same** direction as traffic flow.



Use hand signals for stops/turns.



Pass on **left**: ring a bell or call out first.



Use a head-light at night.

Is it an E-bike or an Illegal E-moto?

E-bike FAQs

Two-wheeled electric vehicles that reach speeds of 30 mph or more are NOT legal e-bikes! These are classified as electric motorbikes (e-motos), and are illegal to operate on public roads and trails in Minnesota.

E-BIKES



- Legal, safe, and quiet
- Functioning pedals
- Marked as one of the Four Legal Classes
- Maximum motor power of 750W
- Components certified by UL or similar
- Maximum speed of 20 mph or 28 mph
- Electric assist built in or professionally added after market

VS

E-MOTOS



- Illegal, dangerous, and often loud
- Non-functioning pedals – “just for show”
- Not classed or goes faster than 28 mph
- Sold outside of retail regulations
- Electric or gas powered
- May not have a limit on top speed or the governor has been altered in some way

What Should I Know Before Buying an E-bike for My Child?

- **Legal Age to Ride:** If your child is age 15 or older, they can legally ride an e-bike.
- **Buy Local:** A bike shop ensures your new e-bike is properly fitted and serviced.
- **Test Ride First:** Visit a local bike shop to test ride different models. Look for:
 - Adjustable seats and handlebars.
 - Lightweight models (easier to drive).
 - Step-through frames (easier for mounting and dismounting).
- **Reputable Retailers:** Avoid buying from third-party sellers online. Their e-bikes may not be legal or safe. Look for:
 - Is the retailer only selling e-bikes?
 - Is there clear descriptions of classes?
 - Is a warranty provided and do they have local shops for bike repair?
- **Riding to School:** Review your school's bike policy. Some schools have their own e-bike rules for students.

Where Can I Find More E-bike Info?



MINNESOTA SAFETY COUNCIL
CHAPTER OF  nsc

minnesotasafetycouncil.org

