

KNOW SOMEONE WITH AN ELECTRONIC BICYCLE OR SCOOTER?

Know the Rules Before Riding!

Electronic bicycles (e-bikes) and electric scooters are becoming increasingly popular throughout our community. Understanding Wisconsin laws and City of Dodgeville ordinances helps keep everyone safe while preventing unnecessary violations.

PARENTS AND GUARDIANS: Under Wisconsin Statute §346.77, no parent or guardian may knowingly authorize or permit a child to violate the bicycle and play vehicle regulations contained in Wisconsin Statutes §§346.78–346.804 and §347.489.

This guide provides a brief overview of important laws and local ordinances. For complete information, please review the applicable Wisconsin Statutes or contact the Dodgeville Police Department at (608) 930-5228.

What qualifies as an Electronic Bicycle (E-Bike)?

Electric bicycles are bicycles that are equipped with fully operative pedals and an electric motor of 750 watts or less. Electric bicycles can provide motor assist up to 20 mph if operated by a throttle or up to 28 mph if assisting a pedaling rider and stop providing power when the bicycle reaches 28 MPH. Wisconsin recognizes three classes of Electronic Bicycles:

CLASS 1: Pedal-assist to 20 mph **CLASS 2:** Throttle-assist to 20 mph **CLASS 3:** Pedal-assist to 28 mph

STATE LAWS:

- **Obey ALL traffic signs and signals, INCLUDING STOP SIGNS! Wis. Stat. §346.02(4)(a)**
- **Ride as close as practicable to the right side of the roadway**, except when passing another vehicle, preparing for or making a left turn, or avoiding hazards. Riders may use the far-left lane on one-way streets with two or more lanes. **Wis. Stat. §346.80(2)(a)**
- **Exercise due care when passing parked or moving vehicles.** When passing a parked school bus (not displaying flashing warning lights) or a motor bus, riders must allow **at least three feet of clearance.** **Wis. Stat. §346.80(2)(c)**
- **Yield the right-of-way to pedestrians. Wis. Stat. §346.02(4)(a)**
- **Use proper lighting during hours of darkness** (½ hour after sunset until ½ hour before sunrise) or if visibility is limited. Requires a white front light and red rear light or reflector. **Wis. Stat. §347.489(1)**

Additional Requirements

- Riders may ride **no more than two abreast** and only when doing so does not impede the normal movement of traffic. **Wis. Stat. §346.80(3)(a)**
- **No person under 16 years of age may operate a Class 3 electronic bicycle. Wis. Stat. §346.806(4)**

Electric scooters are generally required to follow many of the same traffic rules as bicycles.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE/BACK



City of Dodgeville Ordinances

Electronic Bicycles Are NOT Allowed on Sidewalks

City Ordinance Sec. 7.135- Electronic bicycles **may not be operated on ANY sidewalk** within the City of Dodgeville.

Sidewalk Restrictions in the Business District

City Ordinance Sec. 7.13

The following are **not permitted on sidewalks in the BUSINESS DISTRICT**:

- Bicycles (Including Electronic Bicycles)
 - Rollerblades
 - Roller skates
 - Skateboards
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Electronic Bicycles in City Parks

Electronic bicycles **may not be operated in City parks while using motor assistance**. Except when:

- ☒ The e-bike is being pedaled **without motor assistance**.
 - ☒ The e-bike is being operated on a **park road open to motor vehicle traffic**.
 - ☒ The e-bike is being used as a **reasonable accommodation for a person with a disability**, as required by state or federal law.
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Ride Smart. Ride Safe.

- Follow ALL traffic laws and ordinances.
- Watch for pedestrians.
- Wear a helmet.
- Be courteous to others.

Working Together to Keep Dodgeville Safe

Following these laws and ordinances helps make our streets, sidewalks, parks, and trails safer for everyone.

Still have questions? Call the Dodgeville Police Department (608) 930-3238