

Title 10 ► Chapter 2

Bicycles and Play Vehicles

10-2-1	Definitions
10-2-2	Lighting and Other Equipment
10-2-3	Rules of the Road
10-2-4	Regulation of Skateboards, Roller Skates, In-Line Skates, Rollerblades, and Roller Skis
10-2-5	Use of Motor Assisted Scooters
10-2-6	General Bicycle Regulations
10-2-7	Penalties
10-2-8	Registration and Licensing of Bicycles

Sec. 10-2-1 Definitions.

The following definitions shall be applicable in this Chapter:

- (a) **Bicycle.** Every device propelled by the feet acting upon pedals and having wheels, any two (2) of which are not less than fourteen (14) inches in diameter.
- (b) **Bicycles' Lane.** That portion of a roadway set aside for exclusive use of bicycles and so designated by appropriate signs and markings by the responsible governing body.
- (c) **Bike Route.** Any bicycle lane, bicycle way or highway which has been duly designated by the responsible governing body and identified by appropriate signs and markings.
- (d) **Bicycle Way.** Any path or sidewalk, or portion thereof, designated for the use of bicycles by the responsible governing body.
- (e) **Carrier.** Any device attached to a bicycle designed for carrying articles.
- (f) **In-Line Skates.** Skates with wheels arranged in a single line rather than in pairs.
- (g) **Play Vehicles.** Any coaster, skateboard, roller skates, sled, toboggan, in-line skates, roller skis, scooter, electric-driven scooter, unicycle or toy vehicle upon which a person may ride.
- (h) **Right-of-Way.** The right of one vehicle or pedestrian to proceed in a lawful manner in preference to another vehicle or pedestrian approaching under such circumstances of direction, speed and proximity as to give rise to danger of collision unless one grants precedence to the other.
- (i) **Roller Skates.** A pair of shoes with a set of wheels attached for the purpose of moving by alternate action of the legs.
- (j) **Roller Skis.** A pair of narrow strips of wood, metal, or plastic curving upward in the front with a set of wheels attached for the purpose of moving by alternate action of the legs.

10-2-1

- (k) **Skate Board.** A toy consisting of a short, oblong board with a pair of wheels at each end, ridden in a standing position.

Sec. 10-2-2 Lighting and Other Equipment.

No person shall operate a bicycle upon a highway unless equipped as required in Sec. 347.81, Wis. Stats.

Sec. 10-2-3 Rules of the Road.

The provisions of Chs. 346 and 347, Wis. Stats., and applicable Village ordinances shall govern the operation of bicycles and play vehicles where appropriate. Every person driving a bicycle or play vehicle upon a roadway shall be granted all the rights and shall be subject to all the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle by the laws of the State declaring rules of the road applicable to vehicles or by the traffic ordinances of the Village applicable to the driver of the vehicle, except as to those provisions of laws and ordinances which by their nature can have no application.

Sec. 10-2-4 Regulation of Skateboards, Roller Skates, In-Line Skates, Rollerblades and Roller Skis.

- (a) **Regulations.** It shall be unlawful for any person to use, operate, or ride a skate board, roller skates, roller skis, in-line skates, or any other type of play vehicle in any of the following areas:
 - (1) On any Village streets, or state/county trunk highways, except while crossing a roadway at a crosswalk.
 - (2) On any sidewalk in a business district. For purposes of this Section, a business district shall be defined as any area primarily commercial in nature.
 - (3) On any public parking lot;
 - (4) On any municipally-owned property; and
 - (5) On private property, unless permission has been granted by the owner, lessee, or person in charge of that property.
- (b) **Yield to Pedestrians.** Operators or riders of skateboards, roller skates, in-line skates, roller skis, roller skis, or other play vehicles shall yield the right-of-way to other pedestrians using Village sidewalks, and shall not otherwise endanger or interfere with normal pedestrian traffic on those sidewalks.
- (c) **Play Vehicles Not To Be Pulled By Moving Vehicles.** No person riding upon any coaster, roller skates, skateboard, roller ski's, sled, toboggan, or play vehicle shall attach the same or himself/herself to any vehicle upon a roadway.

Sec. 10-2-5 Use of Motor Assisted Scooters.

(a) **Definitions.**

- (1) As used in this Section, "motor assisted scooter means a self-propelled device with:
 - a. Two (2) wheels in tandem in contact with the ground during operation;
 - b. A braking system capable of stopping the device under typical operating conditions;
 - c. An electric or gas motor not exceeding forty (40) cubic centimeters;
 - d. An unoccupied weight of less than seventy-five (75) pounds;
 - e. A deck designed to allow a person to stand or sit while operating the device; and
 - f. The ability to be propelled by human power alone.
- (2) Included in this definition are devices commonly known as motor- or electric-assisted scooters, mini-motorcycles, and pocket bikes.

(b) **Exception.** This Section does not include "personal assistive mobility devices" as defined in Section 340.01(15pm), Wis. Stats.

(c) **Prohibition on Use in Certain Places.** No person may operate or ride a motor assisted scooter in any of the following places:

- (1) On a public highway, street, road or alley;
- (2) On any public property where signs prohibit it;
- (3) On any designated bicycle path/way with the power unit in operation; or
- (4) On any private property unless written permission has been received from the owner, lessee or person in charge of that property. Written permission must be carried with the person operating the motor assisted scooter on that property during such use.

(d) **Sidewalk Use Limited.** It shall be unlawful for operators of motor assisted scooters to use Village-owned sidewalks with the power unit in operation provided they shall ride in a careful and prudent manner and with due regard under the circumstances for the safety of all persons using the sidewalk. Such operators shall yield the right of way to pedestrians using sidewalks and shall not otherwise endanger or interfere with pedestrian traffic on those sidewalks.

(e) **Crosswalk Exception.** This Section shall not apply to or restrict a person from riding upon a motor assisted scooter while crossing a roadway at a crosswalk.

Sec. 10-2-6 General Bicycle Regulations.

(a) **Parental Responsibility.** No parent or guardian of any child shall authorize or knowingly permit such child to violate any of the provisions of Sections 10-2-3, 10-2-4 and this Section.

(b) **Street Operation.**

- (1) Unless preparing to make a left turn, every person operating a bicycle upon a roadway carrying two-way traffic shall ride as near as possible to the right edge of the

- unobstructed traveled roadway. On one-way roadways, the operator of the bicycle shall ride as near as possible to the right edge or left edge of the unobstructed traveled roadway. Every person operating a bicycle upon a roadway shall exercise due care when passing a standing vehicle or one proceeding in the same direction, allowing a minimum of three (3) feet between his/her bicycle and the vehicle.
- (2) Every person when operating a bicycle upon a roadway shall ride such bicycle in single file.
 - (3) It shall be unlawful for any person riding upon a bicycle to cling to or attach himself/herself or the bicycle to any other moving vehicle upon a street or highway.
 - (4) No bicycle shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped. Infant seats are permitted if securely attached to the frame at the top mount and to the axle and frame at the rear bottom mount and if provided with hand holds, foot rests, foot guards and safety belt. The use of a back pack for carrying an infant is permitted. Persons are not permitted to be located on a bicycle in front of the operator of the bicycle.
 - (5) No person operating a bicycle shall carry any package, bundle or article which prevents the safe operation of the bicycle with at least one hand on the handlebars at all times.
 - (6) No rider of a bicycle shall remove both hands from the handlebars or feet from the pedals, or practice any acrobatic or fancy riding on any street.
 - (7) Whenever a usable path for bicycles has been provided adjacent to a roadway, bicycle riders shall use such path and shall not use the roadway.
 - (8) No person may operate a bicycle or moped upon a roadway where a sign is erected indicating that bicycle riding is prohibited.
- (c) **Bicycle Parking.** No bicycle shall be parked in front of or adjacent to any commercial establishment unless the bicycle is parked on the sidewalk parallel to the street and as close as possible to the curb. No person shall leave a bicycle at such a place or in such a way as to create a hazard to pedestrians, automobile operators or to anyone else.
 - (d) **Required Equipment.** Every bicycle, when operated upon a highway, shall be equipped with a brake adequate to control the movement of and to stop such vehicle whenever necessary. Such brake shall be maintained in good working order at all times. The use of bicycle lights is required during hours of darkness — a front white light, rear red light and reflectors.
 - (e) **Bicycles Not to be Pulled by Moving Vehicles.** No person riding upon a bicycle shall cling or attach himself/herself or his/her bicycle to any other moving vehicle upon a street or highway, nor shall the operator of any such bicycle tow or draw any coaster wagon, sled, person on roller skates, toy vehicles or any other similar vehicle on such highway.
 - (f) **Speed.** No person shall operate a bicycle at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under existing conditions or in excess of any posted speed limit.
 - (g) **Bicycle Operation While Hearing Obstructed.** No person may operate a bicycle upon a highway while such operator is using any audio device attached directly to ear or ears of

such operator that materially impairs the ability of such operator to hear traffic signals or warnings.

- (h) **Mopeds Prohibited on Bicycle Ways.** No person may ride a moped or motor bicycle with the power unit in operation upon a bicycle way.
- (i) **Riding Bicycle on Bicycle Lane.**
 - (1) Unless two-way traffic is authorized by the Village Board on any portion of a roadway which it has set aside as a bicycle lane and appropriate traffic signs are installed, every person operating a bicycle upon a bicycle lane shall ride in the same direction in which vehicular traffic on the lane of the roadway nearest the bicycle lane is traveling.
 - (2)
 - a. Unless otherwise provided under Subsection (i)(2)b below, a person operating a bicycle may enter or leave a bicycle lane only at intersections or at driveways adjoining the bicycle lane.
 - b. A person may leave a bicycle at any point by dismounting from the bicycle and walking it out of the lane. A person may enter a bicycle lane at any point by walking his/her bicycle into the lane and then mounting it.
 - (3) Every person operating a bicycle upon a bicycle lane shall exercise due care and given an audible signal when passing a bicycle rider proceeding in the same direction.
 - (4) Every operator of a bicycle entering a bicycle lane shall yield the right-of-way to all bicycles in the bicycle lane. Upon leaving a bicycle lane, the operator of a bicycle shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles and pedestrians.
- (j) **Riding Bicycle on Bicycle Way.**
 - (1) Every person operating a bicycle upon a bicycle way shall:
 - a. Exercise due care and give an audible signal when passing a bicycle rider or a pedestrian proceeding in the same direction.
 - b. Obey each traffic signal or sign facing a roadway which runs parallel and adjacent to a bicycle way.
 - (2) Every person operating a bicycle upon a bicycle way open to two-way traffic shall ride on the right side of the bicycle way.
 - (3) Every operator of a bicycle entering a bicycle way shall yield the right-of-way to all bicycles and pedestrians in the bicycle way.

Cross-Reference: Section 12-1-1.

Sec. 10-2-7 Penalties.

The following penalties shall be applicable for violations of this Chapter:

- (a) **Persons 12 Years Old and Younger.**
 - (1) **First Offense.** A warning letter shall be sent to the parent or guardian of the child requiring the parent's signature and return of the warning letter to the Village.

- (2) **Second Offense (within one year).** Forfeiture of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00), plus costs.
- (b) **Persons Over Age 12.**
 - (1) **First Offense.** A warning letter shall be sent to the person requiring signature and return of the warning letter to the Village.
 - (2) **Second Offense (within one year).** Forfeiture of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00), plus costs.
- (c) **Miscellaneous Provisions.**
 - (1) Any person sixteen (16) years of age or older who shall violate any provision of this Chapter may be issued a Uniform Traffic Citation and be subject to the penalties provided by the Uniform State Traffic Deposit Schedule.
 - (2) All violations shall be determined based on the preceding twelve (12) month period to establish which violation has occurred.
 - (3) Any parent or guardian of any child who authorizes or knowingly permits such child to violate any of the provisions of this Chapter may be subject to the provisions of Sections 346.77 and 346.82(1), Wis. Stats.

State Law Reference: Secs. 346.78 and 340.01(43m)(a) and (d), Wis. Stats.

Sec. 10-2-8 Registration and Licensing of Bicycles.

- (a) **Registration of Bicycles.** No Village resident, regardless of age, shall operate a bicycle upon any street within the Village unless the bicycle shall have been properly registered and licensed as hereinafter provided.
- (b) **Registration.** Registration shall be made by filing with the Police Department, the name and address of the owner, together with a description of the bicycle on forms provided by said Department and paying a registration fee as prescribed in Section 1-3-1. Registration shall be valid for as long as such person continues to own the bicycle. Registration shall be serially numbered and kept on file in said Department as a police record. Upon such registration, the said Department shall cause an identification tag to be issued to the bicycle registered, serially numbered to correspond to the registration number. Such tag shall remain affixed to the bicycle unless removed by said Department for cause. In case of theft or loss, a duplicate tag shall be issued for a fee as prescribed in Section 1-3-1.
- (c) **Registration Transfer.** Upon transfer, if the new owner is a resident of the Village of Elk Mound, the bicycle shall be re-registered for a fee as prescribed in Section 1-3-1.
- (d) **Bicycles To Be In Safe Mechanical Condition.** The Police Department shall refuse to register any bicycle found to be in unsafe mechanical condition or not equipped as herein required.
- (e) **Cancellation or Registration.** The Police Department may cancel the registration of and remove the identification license from, or impound for not to exceed thirty (30) days, any

bicycle being operated upon any street in the Village in an unsafe manner, or in violation of any State law or local ordinance; and such cancellation of registration and removal of license or impoundment, shall be in addition to the other penalties provided hereunder.

- (f) **Changes of Ownership.** Within ten (10) days after any bicycle registered hereunder shall have changed ownership, or been dismantled and taken out of operation, such information shall be reported to the Police Department by the person in whose name the bicycle has been registered. The license shall be removed from the bicycle and deleted from the registration files.

