



Greenwood Police Department

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Safety and Legal Notice

With the popularity of electric bicycles (e-bikes) and electric scooters (e-scooters) increasing, (including complaints about them) the Greenwood Police Department would like to inform the community about the legal parameters and remind everyone of the safety considerations surrounding these devices.

- E-bikes and e-scooters are generally subject to the same rules of the road as bicycles:
 - Riders must obey traffic signs, signals, and ride responsibly.
- No driver's license, registration, or insurance is required for lawful e-bikes or e-scooters in Wisconsin
- Wisconsin defines e-bikes as having fully operational pedals and a motor of 750 watts or less.
 - **Devices that have a motor greater than 750 watts are not considered legal e-bikes, and may be considered motor vehicles (requiring registration, license, and insurance).**
- Wisconsin recognizes three classes of e-bikes. Riders under 16 years old may NOT operate a Class 3 e-bike.
 - Class 1: Pedal-assist only with a maximum assisted speed of 20 mph.
 - Class 2: Pedal-assist or throttle, both capping out at 20 mph.
 - Class 3: Pedal-assist only with a maximum assisted speed of 28 mph (often requires the rider to be 16 or older and wear a helmet.
- E-scooters cannot be operated on any public roadway, trail, or sidewalk, at a speed greater than 15 mph. (ref. WI Statute 346.94(18s))
- Riders operating on the roadway should ride as close as practicable to the right-hand side of the roadway unless conditions require otherwise.
- During hours of darkness, bikes, e-bikes, and e-scooters must have a white front light visible from at least 500 feet and a red rear light or adequate reflector.

The Greenwood Police Departments wants everyone to be safe. Ride responsibly, wear a helmet and watch out for pedestrians and traffic.

Chief Andrew C. Kohnert