

# E-BIKE LAWS



The Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota's advocacy is at the heart of our work. Sign up for action alerts to take action in support of safe streets for everybody, everywhere in Minnesota.

**Minnesota's e-bike laws were last updated in 2021.** State Senator Scott Dibble and Representative Steve Elkins authored the House (HF32) and Senate bills, which passed with little discussion and bipartisan support. The updates went into effect on August 1, 2021. BikeMN was the lead organization in support of these e-bike updates for 2021.



## Minnesota Statutes Chapter 169.011 (definitions)

**"Class 1 electric-assisted bicycle"** means an electric-assisted bicycle equipped with an electric motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.

**"Class 2 electric-assisted bicycle"** means an electric-assisted bicycle equipped with an electric motor that is capable of propelling the bicycle without the rider pedaling and ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.

**"Class 3 electric-assisted bicycle"** means an electric-assisted bicycle equipped with an electric motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 28 miles per hour.

Prior to 2012, E-Bikes had to be licensed and insured like mopeds, but in 2012, 20-mph e-bikes became bicycles. **In 2021, the major change was to create three classes of e-bike definitions:**

## OPERATING RULES - MINNESOTA STATUTES CHAPTER 169.222

**A person may operate a class 1 or class 2 electric-assisted bicycle** with the motor engaged on a bicycle path, bicycle trail, or shared-use path unless prohibited under section 85.015, subdivision 1d; 85.018, subdivision 2, paragraph (d); or 160.263, subdivision 2, paragraph (b), as applicable.

**A person may operate a class 3 electric-assisted bicycle** with the motor engaged on a bicycle path, bicycle trail, or shared use path unless the local authority or state agency having jurisdiction over the bicycle path or trail prohibits the operation.

**The local authority or state agency having jurisdiction** over a trail that is designated as nonmotorized, and that has a natural surface tread made by clearing and grading the native soil with no added surfacing materials, **may regulate the operation of an electric-assisted bicycle.**



**FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON OPERATING A BICYCLE AND ALL CLASSES OF E-BIKES ON THE STREETS AND ROADS IN MINNESOTA, PLEASE LOOK UP MINNESOTA STATUTES CHAPTER 169.222.**