

E-BIKES IN MASSACHUSETTS

RIDE SMART. BE SAFE.

Electric bikes (E-Bikes) combine pedal power with electric power. The motor propels you up hills and helps you cover longer distances. They are heavier, accelerate quicker, and move faster than pedal bikes.



CLASS ONE



CLASS TWO



CLASS THREE



E-MOTO/MOPED

				
Power				
Min Age	N/A	N/A	TBD	16+
Max Speed	20 MPH	20 MPH	28 MPH	28-65 MPH
Helmet Required	16 & Under			
Type		Bike		Vehicle
Pedal Assist				
Throttle			Varies	
Ride On Sidewalk		NO		NO



SPEED

2x your speed;
4x your STOPPING DISTANCE



MASS

2x your weight;
2x your STOPPING DISTANCE



CONDITIONS

When weather & road conditions change, BIKING ABILITIES can change



BRAKING ABILITY

Age, experience, & braking force impact your STOPPING POWER



REACTION TIME

Distractions, such as phones, music, & fatigue, delay your RESPONSE TIME

E-BIKE SAFETY IS A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

WHAT RIDERS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES CAN DO

LEARN to Ride an E-Bike

E-Bikes handle **differently** than pedal-powered bikes—**practice** in a safe area first.

E-Bikes are **heavier, faster**, and belong on **the road** with other vehicles.

Throttle-powered E-Bikes can **accelerate** quickly.

Start **slow** and stay in **control**.

FOLLOW Rules of the Road

Everyone on the road: bikes, cars, trucks, and buses, **follow the same rules**.



RESPONSIBILITY

Understand which E-Bike is **best** for your family members.

Keep in mind, most bike shops only **service** what they **sell**.

Parents/guardians, please ensure cyclists under the age of 18 are **supervised**.

Protect your **head**; helmets are required for anyone 16 years of age or younger.

REMEMBER it's the LAW¹

E-Bikes are for **road use only**; sidewalk riding is not permitted.

A **permanent label** listing class, top assisted speed, and motor wattage is required.

Riders **16 years of age or younger** are required by law to wear a helmet.

Agencies may **regulate** bike paths after providing **notice**.

Bicycles operated by anyone **under 18** in **violation** of the law may be **impounded** by the police or town Select Board for up to **15 days**.

¹ Massachusetts General Laws Ch. 85, § 11B ¾(b), (c), (f)–(g), and 2(iii).