ELECTRIC VEHICLE QUICK REFERENCE

Start Here

Does it have a motor?

NO (human power only)

YES

BICYCLE
No Motor.
Can ride on roadway.
City of La Crosse registration required.

IN-LINE SKATES
Aka: Rollerblades.
Can ride on roadway.

PLAY VEHICLE
Examples: Skateboard, roller skates, unicycle, or toy vehicle.
Cannot ride in roadway.*

Can ride on sidewalks, except downtown.
**Play Vehicle: 12 yrs and younger can be on downtown sidewalks with adult supervision.*

Wis. Stat. § 340.01(5)
Sec. 34-68, 44-220 to 44-225

Wis. Stat. § 340.01(24m)
Sec. 44-198(c) and (d)

Wis. Stat. § 340.01(43m)
Sec. 44-198(b)

Is it designed to be operated primarily by human power?

Does it have a throttle?

Is it designed to be operated by an electric or gas motor?

Is it a motorized play vehicle?

CLASS 1 E-BIKE

Pedal-assist only **(max 20 mph)**
No throttle
No license or moped license required.
City of La Crosse registration required.
Can use bicycle facilities, trails, and paths (where bicycles are allowed).

CLASS 3 E-BIKE

Pedal-assist only **(max 28 mph)**
City of La Crosse registration required.
Everything in Class 1 E-Bike description plus:
16+ age restriction per Wis. Stat. 346.806(4).

E-Bike classes defined in Wis. Stat. § 340.01(15ph)
Sec. 34-68

CLASS 2 E-BIKE

Throttle-assisted **(max 20 mph)**
May have pedal assist too
No license or moped license required.
City of La Crosse registration required.
Can use bicycle facilities, trails, and paths (where bicycles are allowed, throttle off on sidewalks and bike trails).

E-SCOOTER

Handlebars and electric motor, less than 100 lbs.
Typically has a throttle **(max 20 mph)**
Most MV road rules apply.
No license, moped license, or registration required.
Max speed on roadways (incl. bike lanes, paths, or trails) is 15 mph.
Must maintain reasonable speed on sidewalks.

Wis. Stat. § 340-01(15ps)
Sec. 44-199

EPAMD

Self-balancing, 2-non-tandem device designed to transport one person **(max 15 mph)**
Examples: Segways
No license, moped license, or registration required.
Prohibited on trails, and grassy areas at Riverside Park, Hixon, Forest Hills, City parks.

Wis. Stat. § 340.01(15pm)
Sec. 44-200

MOPED

Has pedals or foot controls **(max 30 mph)**
Requires driver's license.
Registration and insurance required.
Must use roadways (not bike lanes, paths, or trails).

Wis. Stat. § 340.01(29m)

MOTOR BICYCLE

Bicycle to which a power unit has been added **(30 mph)**
Pedals are independent of the added power unit.
Requires driver's license.
Must use roadways (not bike lanes, paths, or trails).

Wis. Stat. § 340.01(30)

MOTORIZED PLAY VEHICLE

Devices with gas or electric motor.
Examples: Minibikes, battery-powered ride-on cars.
Can be self propelled.
Not defined by WI state statute. Not registerable with DOT.
Cannot be operated on any street, sidewalk, or public property in the City.

Sec. 44-198(f)

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

State Law Highlights

- Municipalities may require bicycle and motor bicycle registration per **Wis. Stat. § 349.18(2).**
- Insurance required for motor vehicles (MVs) per **Wis. Stat. § 344.62**.
- Reasonable and prudent limits; conditions requiring reduced speed per **Wis. Stat. § 346.57(2)** and **§ 346.57(3)**; see also **Wis. Stat. § 346.803**, **Wis. Stat. § 346.805**)
- Motorized play vehicle means a play vehicle as defined in **Wis. Stat. § 340.01(43m)** that is powered by an internal combustion engine or electric motor that is capable of propelling the device with or without manual human propulsion. Motorized play vehicle shall include, but not be limited to, mini-bikes, go-carts, and motorized skateboards. Motorized play vehicle shall not include a vehicle that can be legally registered by the State of Wisconsin and legally operated on a highway, an electric bicycle as defined under **Wis. Stat. § 340.01(15ph)**, an electric personal assistive mobility device as defined under **Wis. Stat. § 340.01(15pm)**, or an electric scooter as defined under **Wis. Stat. § 340.01(15ps)**.

List of State Laws

- **346.78.** Play vehicles not to be used on roadway.
- **346.79.** Special rules applicable to bicycles.
  - **346.79(5).** No person may ride a moped or motor bicycle with the power unit in operation upon a bicycle way.
- **346.80.** Riding bicycle, electric scooter, or electric personal assistive mobility device on roadway.
- **346.803.** Riding bicycle, electric scooter, or electric personal assistive mobility device on bicycle way.
  - **346.803(4).** "Except as provided in § 349.236(1)(bm) and 349.237, a person may operate an electric personal assistive mobility device, or an electric scooter at a speed not to exceed 15 miles per hour, upon any bicycle path."
- **346.804.** Riding bicycle on sidewalk.
- **346.805.** Riding electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device on sidewalk.
- **346.806.** Special rules applicable to electric bicycles.
  - **346.806(4).** "No person under the age of 16 years may operate a class 3 electric bicycle. A person under the age of 16 years may ride as a passenger on a class 3 electric bicycle that is designed to accommodate passengers."
- **347.489.** Lamps and other equipment on bicycles and other vehicles and devices.
- **346.02(12).** Applicability to electric scooters and electric personal assistive mobility devices.
  - An electric scooter and an electric personal assistive mobility device shall be considered a vehicle for purposes of… [deleted for space], except those provisions which by their express terms apply only to motor vehicles or which by their very nature would have no application to electric scooters or electric personal assistive mobility devices.

City of La Crosse Ordinances

- **Sec. 34-68.** Bicycles, electric personal assistive mobility devices, electric scooters and other vehicles restricted in City parks
- **Sec. 44-198.** Play vehicles, in-line skates, and motorized play vehicles regulated
- **Sec. 44-199.** Electric Scooters
- **Sec. 44-200.** Electric personal assistive mobility devices (EPAMD)
- **Sec. 44-220.** Definitions (includes bicycle, electric bicycle classes)
- **Sec. 44-223.** Operating Rules (includes riding on sidewalks)
- **Sec. 44-221.** Enforcement.
- **Sec. 44-222.** Registration required.
- **Sec. 44-234.** Use of bicycle lanes and ways.
- **Sec. 44-225.** Bicycle parking.

Trail and Path Use

- All classes of e-bike allowed, but throttle use is prohibited.
- Any/all motor vehicles prohibited, including mopeds, motorbikes, motorcycles, and more.
- E-scooters and EPAMDs are prohibited on natural surface trails or any natural or undeveloped land but can use most paved trails (restrictions are in **Sec. 34-68(d)(1) & (2)**.

EXAMPLES OF E-BIKES & HIGH SPEED ELECTIC VEHICLES

E-BIKES
(Class 1, 2, 3)

Common features:
- Has operable pedals
- Designed to be powered primarily by human power
- Motor assists to 20 mph for Class 1 and 2
- Motor assists to 28 mph for Class 3
- Class 2 has a throttle (but also may have pedal assist)

Hybrid e-bike
(battery may be visible or built into the frame)

Road e-bike

Mountain e-bike
(allowed on trails with throttle off)

Cargo e-bikes
(accommodates multiple passengers)

HIGH SPEED ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Common features:
- No operable pedals; motor can propel the bike without pedaling
- Capable of speeds greater than 28 mph
- Does NOT meet Wisconsin definition of “bicycle” Wis. Stat. § 340.01(5)

JackRabbit OG2 Pro
(max speed 20 mph)

Freego Nova 3 Pro
(max speed 55 mph)

Kooz HP120E Electric Motorcycle for Kids (max speed 10 mph)

Heybike Villian
(max speed 45 mph)

Juiced Nomadix
(max speed 60 mph)

Super73-R Adventure Series SE
(max speed 20 mph)