



PENNSYLVANIA'S ELECTRIC BICYCLE LAW FOR THE ROAD

- » Electric bicycles are defined as “pedalcycles with electric assist,” so long as the electric bicycle’s motor is under 750w, has a maximum speed of 20mph on a level surface when powered by the motor source only, weighs no more than 100 lbs and has operable pedals. The same rules of the road apply to both electric bicycles and human-powered bicycles
- » Electric bicycles are not subject to the registration, licensing or insurance requirements that apply to motor vehicles.

- » Helmets are not required. No person under 16 years of age may operate an electric bicycle.
- » Electric bicycles are allowed wherever bicycles or “pedalcycles” are allowed.
- » Electric bicycles are allowed on sidewalks but restrictions may apply. When in doubt, check for local rules and regulations

*The following Pennsylvania laws are referenced: Senate Bill 997; 75 Pa. Cons. Stat. §102, 3508, 3514.

eMTB GUIDELINES

- » On federal, state, country and local trails, electric mountain bike (eMTB) access varies significantly.
- » Generally, any natural surface trail that is designated as open to both motorized and non-motorized uses is also open to eMTBs.
- » eMTBs may not be allowed on trails managed for non-motorized activities.
- » Do not ride your eMTB in areas where the local rules are unclear. Ride legally and only on authorized trails to show that mountain bikers are responsible trail users.
- » When in doubt, ask your local land manager about access to specific trails. Local land rules change frequently.

PENNSYLVANIA'S ELECTRIC BICYCLE LAW FOR TRAILS

- » LOCAL: Consult your local land management agency.
- » STATE: According to the Pennsylvania Bureau of State Parks, electric bicycles are permitted only where other motorized vehicles are permitted. Class 1 electric bicycles are allowed on trails open to mountain bikes on State Forest property. Contact the department for the most up to date information. PeopleForBikes is monitoring this policy and will update this document as needed.
- » FEDERAL: The majority of public lands managed for recreation Pennsylvania are under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Forest Service, where eMTBs are considered motorized vehicles and have access to motorized trails. Contact the U.S. Forest Service Eastern Regional Office for more information.

CHECK OUT

- » A map of great eMTB rides at peopleforbikes.org/emtb
- » eMTB “Adventures” at peopleforbikes.org/electric-bikes

GREAT eMTB RIDES IN PENNSYLVANIA

- » **Rattling Creek**
Lykens | 22.3 miles

- » **Moraine Full Meal Deal**
Harlansburg | 12.5 miles

With an electric bicycle, bicyclists can ride more often, farther, and for more trips.

Electric bicycles are designed to be as safe as traditional bicycles, do not compromise consumer safety, and benefit bicyclists who may be discouraged from riding a traditional bicycle due to limited physical fitness, age, disability or convenience.

In many states, electric bicycles are regulated under antiquated laws primarily aimed at combustion engine vehicles such as mopeds or scooters. PeopleForBikes is clarifying state laws governing the use of electric bicycles in the U.S. Every state’s law is different, but the objective is to ensure that low-speed electric bicycles are regulated similarly to traditional, human-powered bicycles.



Learn more at PeopleForBikes.org/electric-bikes

- » Blogs and webinars
- » Electric bicycle laws around the country
- » Electric bicycle statistics and research
- » Buying guide
- » Retailer materials
- » eMTB management resources