



E-Motorbikes/Motorcycles Not Permitted On Trails

Vehicles/Bikes Over 750 Watts Require License, Registration & Insurance

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO-September 6, 2023-The Steamboat Springs Police Department, Routt County Sheriff's Office, and Routt County Riders (RCR) are seeing an increasing number of e-motorcycles/dirt-bikes being ridden on area roadways and trails including by students to schools. Motor vehicles of any kind are not permitted on trails or sidewalks.

Many e-motorbikes can be 1,000 to 18,000 watts and do not have pedals. The watts are well above e-bike standards in Colorado. E-motorbikes are considered vehicles under the law and some popular brands include Light Bee SUR-RON, KTM Freeride E-XC, Segway Dirt eBike X260.



Vehicles exceeding 750 watts and less than 4,446 watts (or 50cc) are considered a [Low Power Scooter](#) (CRS42-1-102 (48.2)). These are required by Colorado law to be operated on roadways or highways only with a valid license, state registration, and must be insured. This type of vehicle is not allowed on trails or sidewalks.

Vehicles exceeding 4,476 watts or 50cc are considered motorcycles/motor vehicles by the Colorado Department of Motor Vehicles (CRS42-1-102(55)). They are not allowed to be ridden on streets or highways across Colorado unless [registered with the Colorado Department of Motor Vehicles](#), endorsed with a driver's license, and insured. In addition, these vehicles are required to have features to be considered roadworthy. They cannot be operated on sidewalks or trails.

Electric bikes, also known as e-bikes, are bicycles with an integrated electric motor not exceeding 750 watts and have pedals. E-bikes are defined by Colorado statute as Class 1, 2, or 3. Only Class 1 or Class 2 can be operated on trails or sidewalks in Steamboat Springs. However, all bicycles/e-bikes must be walked on sidewalks along Lincoln Avenue between 3rd & 12th Streets.

E-bikes fall into [three different classes](#):

- **Class 1:** An electric bicycle that only provides assistance when the rider is pedaling; the motor ceases at 20 mph.
- **Class 2:** An electric bicycle that provides assistance regardless of whether the rider is pedaling; the motor ceases at 20 mph.
- **Class 3:** An electric bicycle that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling; the motor ceases at 28 mph. Class 3 electric bicycles must have a speedometer.

All pedal/standard bicycles and e-bikes:

- All bicycles must follow trail and road laws and etiquette and abide by posted signs and trail closures.
- Maximum speed limit on all trails (including Yampa River Core Path) is 15 mph.
- Any person who is 15 years of age or younger is legally required to wear a protective helmet when operating, or riding as a passenger, on any e-bike or standard bicycle.
- RCR provides a local resource for bike/e-bike users at routtcountryriders.org/bike-commuting/

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