



Franklin, WI New Municipal Ord 87: Bicycles, E-Bicycles, and Electric Scooters



ARTICLE I: BICYCLES



BICYCLE: Every vehicle propelled by the feet or hands acting upon pedals and having wheels any two of which are not less than 14 inches in diameter.

MANDATORY REGISTRATION

- **REQUIRED** for all bicycles on city streets & alleys.
- **ISSUE:** Franklin Bicycle License Sticker

RULES OF THE ROAD



Ride
SINGLE FILE



Stay as far to the
RIGHT as practical.



Yield to
PEDESTRIANS



OBEY ALL
TRAFFIC LAWS.

SIDEWALK RIDING

Permitted with "due care," **EXCEPT**
in **BUSINESS DISTRICTS**.

Always yield to pedestrians.

ARTICLE II: ELECTRIC BICYCLES & SCOOTERS

E-BIKE CLASSIFICATIONS (Max 750w)



E-bikes are treated as bicycles.
NO special registration needed.

ADDITIONAL E-BIKE REGULATIONS

Electric bicycles must have a motor of 750 watts or less and comply with federal regulations (16 CFR Part 1512). Any Vehicle that does not qualify as an electric bicycle must be registered.

ELECTRIC SCOOTER REGULATIONS



- Prohibited on roadways posted over 25 MPH.
- Prohibited on **SIDEWALKS** (if 16 or older)
- Permitted on bicycle ways & recreation trails.

SAFETY & AGE REQUIREMENTS



MANDATORY HELMETS
for riders under 16 years of old (all vehicles).

AGE REQUIREMENTS
Minimum age to operate a class 3 e-bike is 16.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

FRANKLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF FRANKLIN MUNICIPAL CODE

E-BIKES vs. E-MOTORCYCLES

WISCONSIN LAW: KNOW THE DIFFERENCE

E-BIKE (ELECTRIC BICYCLE)

Wis. Stat. § 340.01(15ph)



FULLY OPERATIVE PEDALS
Required



ELECTRIC MOTOR
750 WATTS OR LESS (Max)

E-BIKE CLASSES & SPEED LIMITS

CLASS 1



PEDAL-ASSIST ONLY

Motor ceases at
20 MPH

CLASS 2



THROTTLE-ASSIST
(Can operate without pedaling)

Motor ceases at
20 MPH

CLASS 3



PEDAL-ASSIST ONLY

Motor ceases at
28 MPH



TREATED AS A BICYCLE, NOT A MOTOR VEHICLE

No license or registration required.
Generally allowed wherever traditional bicycles are allowed (roadways, bike lanes, paths).

ELECTRIC MOTORCYCLE

(or High-Speed E-Bike >28 mph)



MAY NOT HAVE FUNCTIONAL PEDALS
or designed primarily for motor use



MOTOR POWER
Exceeds 750 WATTS or



SPEED
Can exceed 28 MPH on throttle alone

HOW THEY ARE CLASSIFIED



MOPED (Wis. Stat. § 340.01(29m))
2-wheeled vehicle that is not an e-bike, has a power source, and has a top speed of 30 mph or less.

SPEED
≤ 30 MPH



MOTORCYCLE (Wis. Stat. § 340.01(32))
Any motor vehicle, other than a moped or motorized bicycle, with a power source and a top speed > 30 mph.

SPEED
> 30 MPH



TREATED AS A MOTOR VEHICLE

Requires license, registration, and insurance.
Must follow motorcycle/moped laws (helmet requirements, equipment, etc.).

KEY DIFFERENCES AT A GLANCE

PEDALS



REQUIRED
Must have fully operative pedals

NOT REQUIRED
May not have functional pedals

POWER



750 WATTS OR LESS (Max)

CAN EXCEED 750 WATTS

SPEED



MOTOR CEASES AT 20-28 MPH

CAN EXCEED 28 MPH on throttle

LICENSE / REGISTRATION



NO LICENSE OR REGISTRATION REQUIRED

LICENSE, REGISTRATION & INSURANCE REQUIRED

WHERE YOU CAN RIDE



WHERE BICYCLES ARE ALLOWED

WHERE MOTOR VEHICLES ARE ALLOWED



When in doubt, check Wisconsin statutes or contact your local DMV.

Sources: Wis. Stat. §§ 340.01(15ph), 340.01(29m), 340.01(32), 325.335(1)(q) and Wisconsin Department of Transportation



Wisconsin Department of Transportation
dotwi.gov