

# NEW JERSEY'S E-BIKE LAW



## NEW JERSEY'S CLASS 1 AND 2 E-BIKE LAW FOR THE ROAD

- » New Jersey designates two classes of low-speed electric bicycles:
  - Class 1: Bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the e-bike reaches 20 mph.
  - Class 2: Bicycle equipped with a throttle-actuated motor, and that ceases to provide assistance when the e-bike reaches 20 mph.
- » Class 1 and 2 e-bikes are regulated like bicycles. The same rules of the road apply to both e-bikes and traditional bicycles.

- » Class 1 and 2 e-bikes are not subject to the registration, licensing or insurance requirements that apply to motor vehicles.
- » Class 1 and 2 e-bikes may ride on bicycle paths.
- » A local government can restrict where class 1 and 2 e-bikes are allowed to ride. When in doubt, check local rules and regulations.
- » Bicycles cannot be operated on a sidewalk intended for pedestrian use, except if expressly allowed.

\*The following New Jersey laws are referenced: N.J. Rev. Stat. § 39:1-1, P.L.1951; c.23, Title 39.

## NEW JERSEY'S CLASS 3 E-BIKE LAW FOR THE ROAD

- » Class 3 e-bikes are defined as motorized bicycles.
- » A motorized bicycle is not subject to the same rules of the road as traditional bicycles.

- » There is a 15 year age minimum for motorized bicycle use.
- » Motorized bicycle riders must carry an operator's license and are subject to registration and insurance requirements.

\*The following New Jersey laws are referenced: N.J. Rev. Stat. § 39:4-14.3.

## eMTB GUIDELINES

- » On federal, state, county and local trails, e-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.

## NEW JERSEY'S E-BIKE LAW FOR TRAILS

- » LOCAL: Consult your local land management agency.
- » STATE: The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection does not currently have an eMTB policy. Contact the department for the most up to date information. PeopleForBikes is monitoring this policy and will update this document as needed.
- » FEDERAL: There is little federal land managed for recreation in New Jersey. However, for reference, eMTBs are considered motorized vehicles and have access to motorized trails on federal lands.

## CHECK OUT

- » A map of great eMTB rides at [peopleforbikes.org/emtb](http://peopleforbikes.org/emtb)
- » eMTB "Adventures" at [peopleforbikes.org/e-bikes](http://peopleforbikes.org/e-bikes)

## GREAT eMTB RIDES IN NEW JERSEY

- » Delaware River Gravel Ride | Hopewell Township | 60 miles
- » Pottersville Gravel Ride | Tewksbury | 13.4 miles



## Learn more at [PeopleForBikes.org/e-bikes](http://PeopleForBikes.org/e-bikes)

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

## With an e-bike, 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, e-bikes are regulated under antiquated laws primarily aimed at combustion engine vehicles such as mopeds or scooters. PeopleForBikes and the Bicycle Product Suppliers Association are clarifying state laws governing the use of e-bikes in the U.S. Every state's law is different, but the objective is to ensure that low-speed e-bikes are regulated similarly to traditional, human-powered bicycles.

