

FLORIDA'S ELECTRIC BICYCLE LAW



FLORIDA'S ELECTRIC BICYCLE LAW FOR THE ROAD

- » Electric bicycles are regulated like bicycles. 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.
- » Florida designates three classes of 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 electric bicycle reaches 20 mph.
 - Class 2: Bicycle equipped with a throttle-actuated motor, that ceases to provide assistance when the electric bicycle reaches 20 mph.

- Class 3: Bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the electric bicycle reaches 28 mph.
- » Class 1, 2 and 3 electric bicycles may be ridden wherever bicycles are allowed including bicycle paths and multi-use paths.
- » All operators and passengers of an electric bicycle under 16 years of age are required to wear a helmet.
- » A city, town or state agency that has jurisdiction can restrict where electric bicycles are allowed. When in doubt, check for local rules and regulations.

* The following Florida laws are referenced: Fla. Stat. §261.03, 316.008, 316.027, 316.2065, 316.20655

eMTB GUIDELINES

- » On federal, state, county 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.

CHECK OUT

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

FLORIDA'S ELECTRIC BICYCLE LAW FOR TRAILS

- » **LOCAL:** Consult your local land management agency.
- » **STATE:** The Florida Department of Environmental Protection allows Class 1 electric bicycles wherever traditional bicycles are allowed. Some State Parks may restrict electric bicycle access on mountain bike trails based on local discretion. Contact your local State Park for their most up to date electric bicycle policy. PeopleForBikes is monitoring this policy and will update this document as needed.
- » **FEDERAL:** The majority of public lands managed for recreation in Florida 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 Southern Regional Office for more information.

GREAT eMTB RIDES IN FLORIDA

» **Alafia River State Park**
Lithia | 8.5 miles

» **Oleta River State Park**
North Miami Beach | 17 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