



Lakeville Police Department Office of the School Resource Officer



Subject: Important Information about E-Bike Laws and Safety

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I want to take a moment to remind you about Massachusetts laws related to electric bicycles (E-bikes). If you're considering purchasing an E-bike for your child, please review the information below before making a decision.

Understanding the different classes of E-bikes, age requirements, and where they can legally be ridden helps keep everyone safe and informed. As always, my priority is your child's safety—both on and off the road.

Massachusetts E-Bike Laws

E-Bike Classes

- **Class 1:** Pedal-assist only (motor provides assistance while pedaling, limited to 20 mph maximum).
- **Class 2:** Throttle-assist (can propel without pedaling, limited to 20 mph maximum).
- **Class 3:** Throttle with higher speeds (20 + mph). If the motor power exceeds 20 mph, it is no longer considered an E-bike. It becomes classified as an electric dirt bike, moped, or motorized scooter. Riders must have a permit or license in Massachusetts.

Age Requirements

- Riders must be **at least 16 years old** to operate a **Class 3 E-bike**.
- No one under 16 may operate an E-bike with a throttle or higher-speed assist (Class 3).

Helmet Requirements

- **Helmets** are required for all riders under 16 and **strongly recommended** for everyone.
- **Class 3 operators** must wear a **motorcycle-compliant helmet**.

Where They Can Ride

- **Class 1 and 2 E-bikes** are allowed on most roads and bike paths unless posted otherwise.
- **Class 3 E-bikes** are **not allowed** on bike paths.
- **No E-bikes** (of any class) are allowed on **sidewalks**.
- Riders must follow **all traffic laws**.

Registration and Licensing

- **Class 3 E-bikes** require **registration**, a **permit or license**, and **insurance**.

Safety Reminder:

It's always a good idea to wear reflective or light-colored clothing while riding a bicycle or E-bike. If you decide to allow your child to have an E-bike, please discuss the rules of the road with them.

Thank you for helping keep our community safe.

SRO Bartholomew