

# E-Bikes & E- Scooters in Our Community

Presented by:  
Orchard Park Police

A guide for riders, parents, and residents  
Based on New York State law and local regulations



# Agenda

Electric Bicycle

Electric Scooter

Rules of the Road

Safety

Where can you not ride?

Common Violations

# Goals for the community

1.

Increase Awareness

2.

Promote safe riding habits

3.

Educate Parents on supervision, purchasing considerations, and rider responsibilities

4.

Explain the legalities involving E-bikes & E-Scooters

# The problem

Not e-bikes/ e-scooters themselves, but the overall main concern is unsafe operations, lack of supervision, and lack of understanding of the rules of the road.



# What is an E-bike?



*Electric Bicycle  
with working  
pedals and motor  
under 750 watts.*

## 3 CLASSES

Class 2:  
Throttle Allowed (up to  
20 mph)

Class 1:  
Pedal Assist only ( up  
to 20 mph)

Class 3:  
NYC ONLY  
("Solely within a city having a  
population of one million or  
more...")








# What is an E-Scooter?



Electric Scooter  
with handlebars  
and electric  
motor

Maximum speed  
of 15 mph

Must follow  
vehicle and  
traffic law

|   | E-Bike Class 1  | E-Bike Class 2  | E-Bike Class 3  | Moped Class C   | Moped Class B   | Moped Class A   | E-Scooter   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | <i>Pedal assist</i>   | <i>Throttle with pedals</i>   | <i>Throttle with pedals</i>   | <i>Limited use motorcycle</i>   | <i>Limited use motorcycle</i>   | <i>Limited use motorcycle</i>   | <i>Under 100 pounds</i>   |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| How fast can I go?                                  | 20 MPH  | 20 MPH  | 25 MPH  | 20 MPH  | 30 MPH  | 40 MPH  | 15 MPH  |
| Do I need a Driver's License?                       | No (must be 16)   | No (must be 16)   | No (must be 16)   | Yes   | Yes   | Yes (plus M endorsement)  | No  |
| Does it need a license plate?                       | No  | No  | No  | Yes   | Yes   | Yes   | No  |
| Does it need a Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)? | No  | No  | No  | Yes   | Yes   | Yes   | No  |
| Do I need to register it with the DMV?              | No  | No  | No  | Yes   | Yes   | Yes   | No  |
| Can I ride in bike lanes?                           | Yes   | Yes   | Yes   | No  | No  | No  | Yes   |
| Can I ride in vehicle lanes?                        | Yes*  | Yes*  | Yes*  | Yes**   | Yes**   | Yes**   | Yes*  |
| Can I ride on bridges?                              | Yes (only in bike lanes)  | Yes (only in bike lanes)  | Yes (only in bike lanes)  | Yes† (only in vehicle lanes)  | Yes† (only in vehicle lanes)  | Yes† (only in vehicle lanes)  | Yes (only in bike lanes)  |
| Can I ride in park drives and greenways?            | Yes   | Yes   | Yes   | No  | No  | No  | Yes   |
| Do I need to wear a helmet?                         | Recommended (Yes, if working)   | Recommended (Yes, if working)   | Yes   | Recommended   | Yes   | Yes   | Recommended   |



## COMMON VIOLATIONS

V&T § 1110. Obedience to and required traffic-control devices. [a] Every person shall obey the instructions of any official traffic-control device applicable to him placed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, unless otherwise directed by a traffic or police officer, subject to the exceptions granted the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle in this title.

\*OBEY TRAFFIC SIGNALS & SIGNS\*

**VTL 1225** – Avoiding intersection or traffic control device

**VTL 1229-a** – Use on state highways in prohibited

**VTL 375-24a** – More than one earphone

**VTL 1232-b** – More than one person at a time than the number for which it is designed for

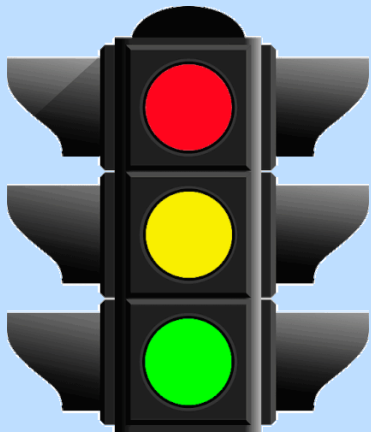
**VTL 1232-a** – “shall not ride other than upon or astride a permanent and regular seat attached thereto, nor shall he ride with his feet remove from the pedals”

**VTL 1234-a** – Right side of roadway, near the right-hand curb or edge

**VTL 1234-b** – Not ride more than two abreast, single file when being overtaken

**VTL 1234-c** – Full stop before entering the roadway from a “private road, driveway, alley or over a curb”

## Rules of the Road





# Rules of the Road



## COMMON VIOLATIONS

- **VTL 1236-a** – White lamp on front for a distance of 500 ft, red or amber for a distance of 300 ft. At least one of these lights shall be visible for 200 ft from each side.
- **VTL 1236-b** – Bell or other device capable of giving a signal audible for a distance of at least 100 ft
- **VTL 1236-c** – Brakes that skid on dry, level, clean pavement
- **VTL 1236-d** – Reflective tires or reflectors in spokes of each wheel.

# Youth , Enforcement & Laws that Apply

VTL 1238-8a - A police officer shall only issue a summons for a violation of subdivision two, five, or five-a of this section by a person less than fourteen years of age to the parent or guardian of such person if the violation by such person occurs in the presence of such person's parent or guardian and where such parent or guardian is eighteen years of age or more. Such summons shall only be issued to such parent or guardian, and shall not be issued to the person less than fourteen years of age. [FOR HELMET LAWS]

VTL 1242-2. No person less than sixteen years of age shall operate a bicycle with electric assist. The failure of any person to comply with the provisions of this subdivision shall not constitute contributory negligence or assumption of risk, and shall not in any way bar, preclude or foreclose an action for personal injury or wrongful death by or on behalf of such person, nor in any way diminish or reduce the damages recoverable in any such action

\*UNDER 16 is PROHIBITED BY LAW\*

Other laws that apply:

No parks- VTL 1242-A  
No Public walking paths- 1242-a  
No Sidewalks- 1242-5A

# Parents & Youth Riders

- Must be at least 16 years old to operate an e-bike in NYS
- Parents may be held responsible for certain violations
- Know local rules before riding



# Orchard Park Village Code & intersection with VTL



- § Local Law 179-6 - Penalties for offenses Violations of this chapter shall be subject to a \$50 fine for the first violation, up to \$100 for a second violation, and up to \$250 for each subsequent violation. **In the event that the violator is less than 18 years old, a summons shall be issued to the parent and/or guardian.** The Police Department of Orchard Park shall be responsible for the enforcement of this chapter and **shall have the authority to seize any skateboard, electric scooter, motorized scooter, and electric bicycle used in violation of this chapter.** The Chief of Police shall determine the period of time that the skateboard, electric scooter, motorized scooter and electric bicycle **shall be held pending completion of the investigation and prosecution of any violators of this chapter until otherwise directed by order of a court of competent jurisdiction.**

# Orchard Park Village Code & intersection with VTL



179-4.1 - A – E-scooters, motorized scooters, e-bikes must wear helmets

179-4.1 - B – At least 16 years of age to operate

179-4.1 – C – Not permitted at any time on public sidewalks

179-4.1 – D – Not permitted at any time in the lane of traffic in the Village of Orchard Park when operated in a negligent or careless manner.

179-4.1-E - Electric scooters, motorized scooters, and electric bicycles are prohibited from exceeding 15 mph while operating in the Village.

179-4.1-F – Lights after sunset

179-4.1-H – Can't park on sidewalks “unless appropriately placed within a bicycle rack that may be present”. Cannot be parked “in a manner that interferes with pedestrian use of a sidewalk”

•179-4.1-I – Yield ROW to pedestrians at all times

# Breaking it down for Village rules:

Helmet required

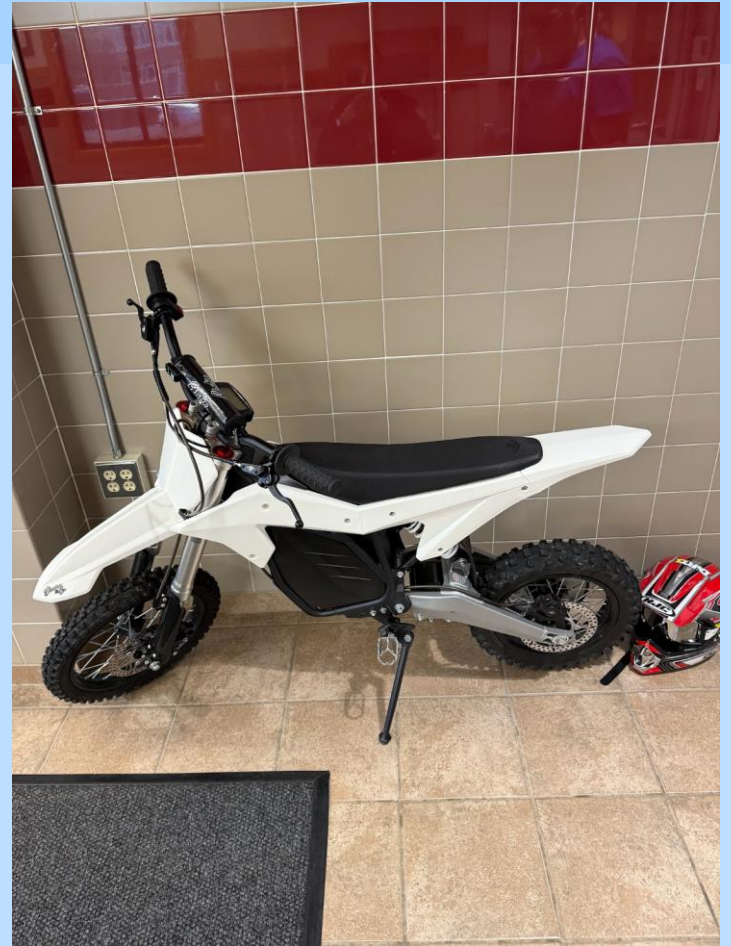
Minimum age: 16

No riding on sidewalks

Maximum speed: 15 mph in the Village

Always yield to pedestrians

Common E-Bike  
seen throughout  
town that is not  
legal. WHY?



# Ride Smart & Ride Safe

Respect others

Follow the law

Be visible

Help keep our  
community safe

Educate others

# Thank you

## Orchard Park Police

4295 S. Buffalo St, Orchard Park  
New York, 14127  
716-662-6444 (Non-emergency line)

