

TITLE 10 • CHAPTER 2

Bicycles and Play Vehicles

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Sec. 10-2-1 Definitions.

The following definitions shall be applicable in this Chapter:

- (a) **Bicycle.** Every device propelled by the feet acting upon pedals and having wheels, any two (2) of which are not less than twenty (20) inches in diameter.
- (b) **Bicycles Lane.** That portion of a roadway set aside for exclusive use of bicycles and so designated by appropriate signs and markings by the responsible governing body.
- (c) **Bike Route.** An area, street or trail designated by the governing body and identified by appropriate signs and markings.
- (d) **Bicycle Way.** Any path or sidewalk, or portion thereof, designated for the use of bicycles by the responsible governing body.
- (e) **Carrier.** Any device attached to a bicycle designed for carrying articles.
- (f) **In-Line Skates.** Skates with wheels arranged in a single line rather than in pairs.
- (g) **Play Vehicles.** Any coaster, skateboard, roller skates, sled, toboggan, in-line skates, roller skis, scooter, electric-driven scooter, unicycle or toy vehicle upon which a person may ride.
- (h) **Right-of-Way.** The right of one vehicle or pedestrian to proceed in a lawful manner in preference to another vehicle or pedestrian approaching under such circumstances of direction, speed and proximity as to give rise to danger of collision unless one grants precedence to the other.
- (i) **Roller Skates/Roller Blades.** A pair of shoes with a set of wheels attached for the purpose of moving by alternate action of the legs.
- (j) **Roller Skis.** A pair of narrow strips of wood, metal, or plastic curving upward in the front

with a set of wheels attached for the purpose of moving by alternate action of the legs.

- (k) **Skate Board.** A toy consisting of a short, oblong board with a pair of wheels at each end, ridden in a standing position.

Sec. 10-2-2 Lighting and Other Equipment.

No person shall operate a bicycle upon a highway unless equipped as required in Sec. 347.81, Wis. Stats.

Sec. 10-2-3 Rules of the Road.

The provisions of Chs. 346 and 347, Wis. Stats., and applicable Village of Fall River Ordinances shall govern the operation of bicycles where appropriate. Every person driving a bicycle upon a roadway shall be granted all the rights and shall be subject to all the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle by the laws of the State declaring rules of the road applicable to vehicles or by the traffic ordinances of the Village applicable to the driver of the vehicle, except as to those provisions of laws and ordinances which by their nature can have no application.

Sec. 10-2-4 Regulation of Skateboards, Roller Skates, In-Line Skates, Rollerblades and Roller Skis.

- (a) **State Laws Adopted.** Specifically adopted by reference are the following statutes regulating in-line skates and play vehicles, as amended:
- 349.235 Authority to Restrict Use of In-line Skates on Roadway
 - 349.94 In-Line Skates on Roadway
 - 340.01(24m) Definition on “In-Line Skates”
 - 340.02(43m)(b) Play Vehicles Does Not Include In-Line Skates
- (b) **Use Regulated.** It shall not be lawful for any person in the Village of Fall River to operate or ride a skateboard, roller skates, rollerblades, in-line skates, or roller skis (“play vehicles”) in any of the following places:
- (1) On any Village streets, except while crossing a roadway at a crosswalk.
 - (2) In any public parking ramp or parking lot.
 - (3) On private property, unless permission has been received from the owner, lessee or person in charge of that property.
- (c) **Yield to Pedestrians.** Operators or riders of skateboards, roller skates, roller skis, roller blades, in-line skates, or other play vehicles shall yield the right-of-way to other pedestrians using Village sidewalks, and shall not otherwise endanger or interfere with normal pedestrian traffic on those sidewalks.
- (d) **Play Vehicles Not to be Pulled by Moving Vehicles.** No person riding upon any coaster, roller skates, skateboard, roller skis, sled, toboggan, roller blades, in-line skates, or play vehicle shall attach the same or himself/herself to any vehicle upon a roadway.
- (e) **Traffic Law Compliance.** Any person riding on or propelling themselves by means or use of any skateboard, roller skates, rollerblades, in-line skates, roller skis or other similar device,

on any street within the corporate limits of the Village of Fall River shall obey all lawful traffic laws, rules and regulations.

- (f) **Improper Devices.** No persons shall erect, maintain or use any ramp, scaffold, jump or other device used for the purpose of skateboarding, roller skating, roller skiing, roller blading, in-line skating or using other like devices, except on private property with the consent of the owner.

Sec. 10-2-5 Use of Motor Assisted Scooters.

- (a) **Definitions.** As used in this Section, “motor assisted scooter” means a self-propelled device with:
 - (1) Two (2) wheels in tandem in contact with the ground during operation;
 - (2) A braking system capable of stopping the device under typical operating conditions;
 - (3) An electric motor not exceeding forty (40) cubic centimeters;
 - (4) An unoccupied weight of less than seventy-five (75) pounds;
 - (5) A deck designed to allow a person to stand or sit while operating the device; and
 - (6) The ability to be propelled by human power alone.
- (b) **Exception.** This Section does not include “personal assistive mobility devices” as defined in Section 340.01(15pm), Wis. Stats.
- (c) **Rules of Operation.** The rules of operation of motor assisted scooters shall have the same rules as governed under Section 10-2-6(b), General Bicycle Regulations, Street Operation. In addition:
 - (1) Operators must wear a safety helmet during operation.
 - (2) Operators shall obey all traffic signs and use proper signals.
- (d) **Prohibition on Use in Certain Places.** No person may operate or ride a motor assisted scooter in any of the following places:
 - (1) On a State highway
 - (2) On any public property;
 - (3) On any designated bicycle path/way with the power unit in operation; or
 - (4) On any private property unless written permission has been received from the owner, lessee or person in charge of that property. Written permission must be carried with the person operating the motor assisted scooter on that property during such use.
- (e) **Sidewalk Use Limited.** It shall be unlawful for operators of motor assisted scooters to use Village-owned sidewalks with the power unit in operation. Operators on sidewalks shall yield to pedestrians at all times.

Rev. 26 0708

Sec. 10-2-6 General Bicycle Regulations.

- (a) **Parental Responsibility.** No parent or guardian of any child shall authorize or knowingly permit such child to violate any of the provisions of Sections 10-2-3, 10-2-4 and this Section.
- (b) **Street Operation.**
 - (1) Unless preparing to make a left turn, every person operating a bicycle upon a roadway

carrying two-way traffic shall ride as near as possible to the right edge of the unobstructed traveled roadway. On one-way roadways, the operator of the bicycle shall ride as near as possible to the right edge or left edge of the unobstructed traveled roadway. Every person operating a bicycle upon a roadway shall exercise due care when passing a standing vehicle or one proceeding in the same direction, allowing a minimum of three (3) feet between his bicycle and the vehicle.

- (2) Every person when operating a bicycle upon a roadway shall ride such bicycle in single file.
 - (3) It shall be unlawful for any person riding upon a bicycle to cling to or attach himself/herself or the bicycle to any other moving vehicle upon a street or highway, nor shall the operator of any such bicycle tow or draw any coaster wagon, sled, person on roller skates, skateboards, roller blades, roller skis, toy vehicles or any other similar vehicle on such highways and sidewalks.
 - (4) No bicycle shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped. Infant seats are permitted if securely attached to the frame at the top mount and to the axle and frame at the rear bottom mount and if provided with hand holds, foot rests, foot guards and safety belt. The use of a back pack for carrying an infant is permitted. Persons are not permitted to be located on a bicycle in front of the operator of the bicycle.
 - (5) No person operating a bicycle shall carry any package, bundle or article which prevents the safe operation of the bicycle with at least one hand on the handlebars at all times.
 - (6) No rider of a bicycle shall remove both hands from the handlebars or feet from the pedals, or practice any aerobatic or fancy riding on any street. No person shall operate a bicycle upon the streets and sidewalks of the Village of Fall River without having manual control of the handlebars or operate a bicycle in any other manner which necessitates the element of unusual extraordinary skill and involves unnecessary risk.
 - (7) Whenever a usable path for bicycles has been provided adjacent to a roadway, bicycle riders shall use such path and shall not use the roadway.
 - (8) No person may operate a bicycle or moped upon a roadway where a sign is erected indicating that bicycle riding is prohibited.
- (c) **Bicycle Parking.** No bicycle shall be parked upon any street or public way except in an upright position in bicycle stalls, which are provided therefor. Until such time as sufficient stalls are provided to meet the demand therefor, which determination shall be made by the Police Department, bicycles may be parked in an upright position, parallel to the curb line. No person shall leave a bicycle at such a place or in such a way as to create a hazard to pedestrians, automobile operators or to anyone else.
- (d) **Required Equipment.** Every bicycle, when operated upon a highway, shall be equipped with a brake adequate to control the movement of and to stop such vehicle whenever necessary. Such brake shall be maintained in good working order at all times.
- (e) **Bicycles Not to be Pulled by Moving Vehicles.** No person riding upon a bicycle shall cling or attach himself/herself or his/her bicycle to any other moving vehicle upon a street or highway, nor shall the operator of any such bicycle tow or draw any coaster wagon, sled, person on roller skates, toy vehicles or any other similar vehicle on such highway.

- (f) **Speed.** No person shall operate a bicycle at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under existing conditions or in excess of any posted speed limit.
- (g) **Operation on Sidewalks.** Bicycles are allowed to be operated on the sidewalks in the Village of Fall River but operators shall yield to pedestrians at all times. This includes training bicycles with wheels sized twenty (20) inches or under.
- (h) **Bicycle Operation While Hearing Obstructed.** No person may operate a bicycle upon a highway while such operator is using any audio device attached directly to ear or ears of such operator that materially impairs the ability of such operator to hear traffic signals or warnings.
- (i) **Mopeds Prohibited on Bicycle Ways.** No person may ride a moped or motor bicycle with the power unit in operation upon a bicycle trail.
- (j) **Riding Bicycle on Bicycle Lanes.**
 - (1) Unless two-way traffic is authorized by the Village Board on any portion of a roadway which it has set aside as a bicycle lane and appropriate traffic signs are installed, every person operating a bicycle upon a bicycle lane shall ride in the same direction in which vehicular traffic on the lane of the roadway nearest the bicycle lane is traveling.
 - (2)
 - a. Unless otherwise provided under Subsection (k)(2)b below, a person operating a bicycle may enter or leave a bicycle lane only at intersections or at driveways adjoining the bicycle lane.
 - b. A person may leave a bicycle at any point by dismounting from the bicycle and walking it out of the lane. A person may enter a bicycle lane at any point by walking his/her bicycle into the lane and then mounting it.
 - (3) Every person operating a bicycle upon a bicycle lane shall exercise due care and give an audible signal when passing a bicycle rider proceeding in the same direction.
 - (4) Every operator of a bicycle entering a bicycle lane shall yield the right-of-way to all bicycles in the bicycle lane. Upon leaving a bicycle lane, the operator of a bicycle shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles and pedestrians.
- (k) **Riding Bicycle on Bicycle Way.**
 - (1) Every person operating a bicycle upon a bicycle way shall:
 - a. Exercise due care and give an audible signal when passing a bicycle rider or a pedestrian proceeding in the same direction.
 - b. Obey each traffic signal or sign facing a roadway which runs parallel and adjacent to a bicycle way.
 - (2) Every person operating a bicycle upon a bicycle way open to two-way traffic shall ride on the right side of the bicycle way.
 - (3) Every operator of a bicycle entering a bicycle way shall yield the right-of-way to all bicycles and pedestrians in the bicycle way.
- (l) **Yield to Pedestrians.** Operators or riders of skateboards, roller skates, roller skis, or other play vehicles shall yield the right-of-way to other pedestrians using Village sidewalks, and shall not otherwise endanger or interfere with normal pedestrian traffic on those sidewalks.

Sec. 10-2-7 Bicycle Registration.

- (a) No bicycle shall be operated upon any of the streets of the Village of Fall River without

having a registration tag therefor, and unless said bicycle is properly registered and has displayed thereon its registration. Registration tags shall be provided by the Village.

- (b) Applications for registration shall be made by the owner to the Police Department on forms provided by the Village. Said applications shall contain name, age, address of the owner, and parents' name, a description of the bicycle including the serial number thereof, and if said bicycle has no serial number, the Police Department shall assign one to it. Said application shall contain such other information as the Village shall deem pertinent.
- (c) Upon such application and payment of the registration fee as prescribed in Section 1-3-1, the Police Department shall license said bicycle which shall be effective for two (2) years, and shall permit such bicycle to be operated upon the streets and highways of the Village as herein provided. The Village shall keep a record of the date of issuance of such license, to whom issued and the number thereof. A copy of said application shall be kept on record or filed in the office of the Village Clerk-Treasurer or such other places as the Village Board may designate.
- (d) Every person who transfer the title of any bicycle shall notify the Police Department and provide the name and address of the buyer, the date of the transfer and the name of the seller. The new owner of such bicycle shall apply for transfer of registration thereof within seven (7) days of such transfer. A fee as prescribed in Section 1-3-1 shall be paid for the registration of such transfer, said fee shall be paid by the transferee making such application.

Sec. 10-2-8 Bicycle Penalties.

The following penalties shall be applicable for bicycle violations:

- (a) Any person sixteen (16) years of age or older who shall violate any provision of this Chapter may be issued a Uniform Traffic Citation and be subject to the penalties provided by the Uniform State Traffic Deposit Schedule.
- (b) Any person fourteen (14) years of age through fifteen (15) years of age who shall violate any provisions of this Chapter may be issued a citation and be subject to the penalties provided by the Deposit Schedule and, upon conviction thereof, may be required to forfeit not more than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00), together with the cost of the prosecution and, in default of such payment, the Court may suspend the child's operating privileges, as defined in Sec. 340.01, Wis. Stats., for not less than thirty (30) days nor more than ninety (90) days.
- (c) Any person under fourteen (14) years of age who shall violate any provision of this Chapter may be issued a special Bicycle Violation Warning Notice along with the following additional actions:
 - (1) First to third offense in one (1) year: A warning letter sent to the parent or guardian.
 - (2) Fourth and subsequent offense in the same year: Referral to the Juvenile Court System.
- (d) All violations shall be determined based on the preceding twelve (12) month period to establish which violation has occurred.
- (e) Upon violation of this Section and upon issuance of a citation, law enforcement officers shall have the authority to confiscate the skateboard, roller skates, in-line skates, rollerblades, roller ski of any person found to be a minor and shall retain the same at the Police Department until the forfeiture is paid and further may require that the parent or legal guardian of said

minor appear in person or contact the Police Department by other means before releasing the confiscated item to said minor.

- (f) Any parent or guardian of any child who authorizes or knowingly permits such child to violate any of the provisions of this Chapter may be subject to the provisions of Sections 346.77 and 346.82(1), Wis. Stats.

Sec. 10-2-9 Play Vehicle Penalties.

The following penalties shall be applicable for play vehicle violations:

- (a) Any person fourteen (14) years of age and over who shall violate any provisions of this Chapter may be issued a citation and be subject to the penalties provided by the deposit schedule and, upon conviction thereof, may be required to forfeit not more than Twenty- five Dollars (\$25.00), together with the costs of prosecution.
- (b) Any person under fourteen (14) years of age who shall violate any provisions of this Chapter may receive an officer's report warning notice along with the following additional actions:
 - (1) First offense in one (1) year: a warning letter sent to the parent or guardian.
 - (2) Second or third offense in the same year: the play vehicle may be impounded by law enforcement authorities.
 - (3) Fourth and subsequent offense in the same year: mandatory referral to the Juvenile Court System.
- (c) Any parent or guardian of any child who authorizes or knowingly permits such child to violate any of the provisions of this Chapter may be subject to the provisions of Secs. 346.77 and 346.82(1), Wis. Stats.