

Section 1335 - Snowmobiles

1335.01. Definitions. Subdivision 1. For the purposes of this section the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them.

Subd. 2. "Snowmobile" means a self-propelled vehicle designed for travel on snow or ice or natural terrain steered by wheels, skis, or runners.

Subd. 3. "Owner" means a person, other than a lien holder, having the property in or title to snowmobile entitled to the use or possession thereof.

Subd. 4. "Operate" means to ride in or on and control the operation of a snowmobile.

Subd. 5. "Operator" means every person who operates or is in actual physical control of a snowmobile.

Subd. 6. "Roadway" means that portion of a highway or other thoroughfare improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel, including the shoulder.

Subd. 7. "Street or highway" means the entire right-of-way width between boundary lines of any way or place when any part thereof is open to the use of the public, as a matter of right, for the purposes of vehicular traffic.

Subd. 8. "Right-of-way" means the entire strip of land traversed by a highway or street in which the public owns the fee or an easement for roadway purposes.

Subd. 9. "Safety or deadman" throttle means a device which, when pressure is removed from the entire accelerator or throttle, causes the motor to be disengaged from the driving track.

1335.03. Operation generally. No person shall operate a snowmobile within the limits of the city in any of the following locations unless otherwise specifically permitted or authorized:

- a) upon any public sidewalk or walkway provided or used for pedestrian travel:
- b) on any private property of another without the lawful authority or consent of the owner or lawful tenant or occupant thereof;
- c) upon any publicly owned or controlled lands and frozen waters, including but not limited to, school grounds, park property, playgrounds, recreation areas and golf courses except areas previously listed or authorized for such use by the proper public authority which owns or otherwise controls such areas: or
- d) upon any roadway, street or highway or other thoroughfare in the city unless and except such areas as are designated or established for the operation of snowmobiles thereon by proper resolution of the city council

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the operation of snowmobiles within the city in cases of emergency or while on parade in any duly authorized public celebration of spectacle.

1335.05. Conditions of operation. No person shall operate any snowmobile anywhere within the city:

- a) at any place, while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotics or habit forming drugs;
- b) at a rate of speed greater than reasonable or proper under all the surrounding circumstances;
- c) at any place in a careless, reckless or negligent manner so as to endanger the person or property of another or to cause injury or damage thereto;
- d) so as to tow any person or thing on a public street or highway except through use of a rigid tow bar attached to the rear of the snow mobile;
- e) within 100 feet of any lakeshore, except in channels, or of fishermen, ice house, skating rink or sliding area or where the operation would conflict with the lawful use of property or would endanger other
- f) in a manner so as to create a loud, unnecessary or unusual noise which disturbs, annoys or interferes with the peace and quiet of other persons; or
- g) during the hours of 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

1335.07. Chasing animals forbidden. It is unlawful for any person while operating any snowmobile to hunt, worry, harass, drive, chase, run over or kill any bird or animal, wild or domestic.

1335.09. Operation by youth. No person under 14 years of age shall operate any snowmobile anywhere in the city. A person 14 years of age or older, but less than 18 years of age, may operate a snowmobile if such person has in his immediate possession a valid snowmobile safety certificate issued by the commissioner of natural resources. It is unlawful for the owner of any snowmobile to permit such snowmobile to be operated by any person contrary to the provisions of this subsection.

1335.11. Equipment. It is unlawful for any person to operate a snowmobile any place within the limits of the city unless it is equipped with the following:

- a) standard mufflers which conform to state regulations and are properly attached and in constant operation, and which reduce the noise of operation of the motor to the minimum necessary for operation; no person shall use a muffler cut-out, by-pass, straight pipe or similar device on a snowmobile motor, and the exhaust system shall not emit or produce a sharp popping or cracking sound;

- b) brakes adequate to control the movement of and to stop and hold the snowmobile under any conditions of operation;
- c) a safety or so-called "deadman" throttle in operating condition, so that when pressure is removed from the accelerator or throttle, the motor is disengaged from the driving track;
- d) at least one clear lamp attached to the front, with sufficient intensity to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 100 feet ahead during the hours of darkness under normal atmospheric conditions and be so aimed that glaring rays are not projected into the eyes of an oncoming vehicle operator; by at least one red tail light having a minimum candle power of sufficient intensity to exhibit a red light plainly visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear during the hours of darkness under normal atmospheric conditions; the equipment to be in operation condition when the vehicle is operated between the hours of one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise or at times of reduced visibility; and
- e) reflective material at least 16 square inches on each side, forward of the handlebars, so as to reflect or beam light at a ninety degree angle.

1335.13. Leaving snowmobile unattended. A person leaving a snowmobile in a public place shall lock the ignition, and remove the key.

1335.15. Application of other laws. The provisions of this chapter apply to the operation of snowmobiles upon streets and highways in the city.