

E-BIKE FAQ's

DO I NEED TO WEAR A HELMET WHILE RIDING AN E-BIKE?

Yes. Any person using an e-bike is recommended to wear a helmet. *Riders 14 years and younger,* and riders of Class 3 e-bikes are required to wear a helmet. (§ 46.2-904.1)(Sec. 7-50).

IS THERE A SPEED LIMIT WHILE RIDING?

Virginia Beach City and state codes don't establish a universal speed limit for e-bike users. However, Virginia Beach City Code (Sec 7-60) requires all cyclists, including e-bike riders, to operate safely and responsibly. This means avoiding reckless riding, maintaining a reasonable speed, and never endangering anyone's life, limb, or property.

DO I NEED TO YIELD TO PEDESTRIANS WHILE RIDING?

Yes. Virginia Beach City Code requires all bicycle and e-bike operators to yield to pedestrians, to provide an audible signal before passing, and dismount when necessary to avoid contact. (Sec. 7-59.)

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GET TO KNOW E-BIKES

In Virginia, an electric bike (eBike) is a defined as a vehicle with a seat, pedals, no more than three wheels, and an electric motor that's 750 watts or less. Virginia recognizes e-bikes as fitting into the following three classes:

Class 1

 Pedaling required with electric assist up to 20 mph.



Class 2

- Self-propelled, no pedaling required.
- Electric assist up to 20 mph.



Class 3

- Motor assisted pedaling.
- Electric assist up to 28 mph.
- Must be 14 years of age to operate legally.
- Helmet required by law.
- Speedometer required.

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750 Watts Plus

E-Bikes with motors that produce more than 750W or exceed 28 mph with pedal assist, may be considered a motorized vehicle which could be subject to stricter regulations.

Download the VBParkFinder App to find bike trails and paths across the city



This brochure does not address the use or operation of Other Power-Driven Mobility Devices (OPMDs) by individuals with mobility disabilities.







WHERE CAN I RIDE MY E-BIKE?

	Bicycles	Class 1 e-bikes	Class 2 e-bikes	Class 3 e-bikes	Street Legal Low-Speed Vehicles	Motorized Vehicles
Shared Use Paths	50	1	% 2	% 3		
Off-road mountain bike trails	5 0	F 1	%	5 3	0	
State parks. ¹	50	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	% 2	0		
Federal parks. ¹	50	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	% 2	1 3		
Sidewalk	5 0	5 0	5 2	3		
Bike Lane	50	Ø 1	5 2	3		
Street ²	50	Ø 1	5 2	(7) (3)	SPEED LIMIT 35	000
Interstate						000
Town Center Sidewalks ³	0	0		0	0	
RESORT AREA Oceanfront	5					
Bike Path	010	S	O	O	\bigcirc	\odot
Oceanfront Boardwalk & Sidewalks ³					0	
Atlantic Ave (May-Oct)	50	0	0		0	

- 1. Not regulated by City of Virginia Beach. Regulations vary by agency and land management unit. Check each park for specific regulations. 2. LSV's only permitted on roads with a speed limit of 35 or under.
- 3. E-bikes, like regular bicycles, are prohibited on all sidewalks in the Oceanfront Resort Area and at Town Center.

The Americans with Disabilities Act states that e-bikes used as a Power Assisted Mobility Device due to a mobility disability can be used anywhere pedestrians can walk.

DO'S



Do - Wear a helmet.



Do - Ride with traffic.



Do - Give pedestrians the right of way.



Do - Obey stop signs, all traffic controls, and posted speed limits.



Do - Use hand signals when turning or stopping.



Do - Use required lights and reflectors to ensure you can be seen in low light.



Do - Park at appropriate bicycle racks.

DONT'S



Don't - Use cell phones while riding.



Don't - Wear headphones while riding.



Don't - Transport passengers.



Don't - Ride while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.