

CHAPTER 440
Snowmobiles

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CROSS REFERENCES

Michigan Vehicle Code - see M.C.L.A. Secs. 257.1 et seq.; TRAF. Ch. 412
 Traffic rules and regulations generally - see M.C.L.A. Secs. 257.601 et seq., 257.634 et seq.
 Uniform Traffic Code - see M.C.L.A. Secs. 257.951 et seq.; TRAF. Ch. 410
 Motorized scooters - see TRAF. Ch. 431
 Off-road vehicles - see TRAF. Ch. 450
 Golf carts - see TRAF. Ch. 451

440.01 DEFINITIONS.

As used in this chapter:

- (a) "Highway" or "street" means the entire width between the boundary lines of every way publicly maintained when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel.
- (b) "Operate" means to ride in or on and to control the operation of a snowmobile.
- (c) "Operator" means any person who operates or is in actual physical control of a snowmobile.
- (d) "Owner" means any person, other than a lienholder, having title to a snowmobile and entitled to the use or possession thereof.
- (e) "Person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, the State and any of its agencies or subdivisions, and any body of persons whether incorporated or not.

- (f) "Roadway" means that portion of a highway improved, designated or ordinarily used for vehicular travel. If a highway includes two or more separate roadways, the term roadway refers to any such roadway separately, but not to all such roadways collectively.
- (g) "Snowmobile" means any motorized vehicle designed for travel primarily on snow or ice and steered by wheels, skis or runners.
(Ord. 407A. Passed 12-21-72.)

440.02 PROHIBITED OPERATION.

No person shall operate a snowmobile under the following circumstances within the Village:

- (a) On private property without express permission to do so from the owner or occupant of such property;
- (b) On public property without express provision or permission to do so by the proper public authority;
- (c) While under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotic drugs, barbitol or any derivative of barbitol;
- (d) In a manner so as to create loud, unnecessary or unusual noise so as to disturb or interfere with the peace and quiet of other persons;
- (e) In a careless, reckless or negligent manner so as to endanger the safety of any person or the property of any other person;
- (f) During the hours from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise without displaying a lighted headlight and a lighted tail light; or
- (g) Without having such snowmobile registration as is required by State statute, except that this provision shall not apply to the operation of a snowmobile on private property by the owner of such private property or a member of his or her immediate family.
(Ord. 407A. Passed 12-21-72.)

440.03 PERMITTED OPERATION.

(a) Between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. snowmobiles may be operated within the Village limits at a speed not to exceed twenty miles per hour.

(b) Between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. of the following day, snowmobiles may be driven on Village streets only to reach areas beyond the Village limits and then only at a speed not to exceed fifteen miles per hour leaving and returning. The route shall be the most direct route from the operator's residence.

(d) A snowmobile may be operated on the roadway or shoulder when necessary to cross the Pigeon River Bridge, if the snowmobile is brought to a complete stop before entering the bridge in order to yield the right of way to highway moving vehicles.

(e) Snowmobile operators shall at all times yield the right of way to pedestrians and vehicular traffic.

(f) Snowmobiles may be operated upon a public highway or street when a duly constituted law enforcement officer of the Village has authorized such operation because of an emergency and because conventional motor vehicles cannot be used for transportation due to snow or other extreme highway conditions.

(Ord. 407A. Passed 12-21-72.)

440.04 EQUIPMENT REQUIRED.

All snowmobiles operated within the Village shall have the following equipment:

- (a) Mufflers which are properly attached and which reduce the noise of operation of the vehicle to the minimum noise necessary for operating the vehicle, and no person shall use a muffler cut-out, by-pass or similar device on such vehicle;
- (b) Adequate brakes in good working condition and at least one headlight and one tail light; and
- (c) A safety or so-called "dead-man" throttle in operating condition. A safety or dead-man throttle is defined as a device which causes the motor to be disengaged from the driving track when pressure is removed from the accelerator or throttle.

(Ord. 407A. Passed 12-21-72.)

440.05 UNATTENDED VEHICLES.

No owner or operator of a snowmobile shall leave or allow a snowmobile to be or remain unattended on public property while the motor is running or with the keys for starting the vehicle left in the ignition.

(Ord. 407A. Passed 12-21-72.)

440.06 REGISTRATION AND OPERATOR REQUIREMENTS.

Snowmobiles must be registered and operators must be licensed in conformity with current State law.

(Ord. 407A. Passed 12-21-72.)

440.07 EMERGENCIES.

In the event of an emergency, the Township Fire Department, the Police Department, doctors and any other persons engaged in emergency tasks shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter while proceeding to and coming from such emergency.

(Ord. 407A. Passed 12-21-72.)

440.08 TRAFFIC REGULATIONS.

Each person operating a snowmobile shall strictly observe all traffic signs and signals and all other traffic rules and regulations applicable thereto and shall obey the orders and directions of any police officer of the Village authorized to direct or regulate the traffic.

(Ord. 407A. Passed 12-21-72.)

440.09 AUTHORITY OF COUNCIL TO RESTRICT OPERATION.

Council may, by resolution, prohibit the operation of snowmobiles within the right of way of public roads or streets or on other Village property when, in its opinion, the public safety and welfare require it.

(Ord. 407A. Passed 12-21-72.)

440.10 CONFLICT OF LAWS.

In the event of a conflict between any of the provisions of this chapter and a provision of the Uniform Traffic Code for Cities, Townships and Villages, the provision of the Uniform Traffic Code for Cities, Townships and Villages shall control.

440.99 PENALTY.

Whoever violates or fails to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter is responsible for a civil infraction and shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00).