HERNDON POLICE DEPARTMENT

KNOW YOUR RIDE.
KNOW THE LAW.

E-BIKES • MOPEDS • MOTORCYCLES

A practical guide to riding safely—and legally.

LIVE DIFFERENTLY. | TOWN OF Herndon VIRGINIA

Herndon

HERNDON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Know Your Ride.
Know The Law.





What is an E-Bike?

Virginia law defines an “Electric power-assisted bicycle” (e-bike) as “a vehicle that travels on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground and is equipped with

(1) **pedals that allow propulsion by human power**,

(2) **a seat for the use of the rider**, and

(3) an **electric motor with an input of no more than 750 watts**.”

E-bikes fall into three legal classes

- Class 1- Pedal assist up to 20 MPH
- Class 2- Throttle capable up to 20 MPH
- Class 3- Pedal assist up to 28 MPH

anything that exceeds these standards is not a legal e-bike under Virginia law



Where You Can Ride-

✅ **Roadways:** Permitted; treated as motor vehicle, must obey traffic laws

✅ **Bike lanes:** Permitted

✅ **Sidewalks & trails:** Generally permitted unless prohibited by signs/local rules

How you can Ride-

- Helmet required for riders **under 15**.
- Helmet required for **ALL** riders on Class 3 e-bike.
- Class 3 e-bike riders **under 14** must be accompanied/supervised by someone **18+**
- E-bike motors **cannot be modified** beyond manufacturer specifications

E-Dirt Bikes / Motorcycles



E-dirt bikes are considered motorcycles under Virginia law when equipped with an engine:

- **Greater than 50CC**
- **Greater than 1500 watts**
- **Capable of operating above 35 MPH**

Problematic Indicators:

- **Motor over 750 watts**
- **No functional pedals**
- **Advertised as “off-road”**
- **Capable of speeds beyond e-bike limits**
- **Motorcycle-style frame, controls, or equipment**



E-Dirt Bikes / Motorcycles: Where and How You Can Ride.

- **Where You Can Ride**
- ❌ **Sidewalks:** Not permitted as an e-bike
- ❌ **Bike paths/trails:** Not permitted as an e-bike
- ❌ **Public roads:** Cannot be operated simply as an e-bike
- ✅ **Private Property:** when permitted by the property owner and applicable local rules.
- Must be **registered** and **insured** to be operated on the roadway. Operator must possess driver's license with **Class M endorsement.**
- Helmet required for operator and passenger.

KNOW YOUR RIDE. KNOW THE LAW.

VIRGINIA LAW (TITLE 46.2)

E-BIKES
(from 46.2-100/46.2-904.1)



1. Class 1: Pedal assist up to 20 MPH
2. Class 2: Throttle up to 20 MPH
3. Class 3: Pedal assist up to 28MPH (Helmets required)
- Motor up to 750 watts
- Motor vehicle laws apply if operated on the roadway

MOPEDS
(from 46.2-100)



- < 50cc engine or 1500 watt electric motor
- < 35 MPH Requires ID, 16 or older (46.2-914)
- Requires Helmet for operator and passengers (46.2-915.2)
- Requires Registration (46.2-600)
- May only be operated on the roadway

MOTORCYCLES
(from 46.2-100)



- Defined as motor vehicle
- >50cc engine or 1500 watts **OR** when operated above 35 MPH
- Subject to:
  - License with Class M endorsement (46.2-300/46.2-328)
  - Registration (46.2-600)
  - Insurance (46.2-706)
- Requires Helmet for operator and passengers (46.2-910)

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SAFETY • AWARENESS • ACCOUNTABILITY

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VIRGINIA LAW (TITLE 46.2)

OTHER LOW-SPEED DEVICES
(from 46.2-100)

Motor-driven Cycle



- Gas engine under 125cc
- Seat height less than 24"
- No manufacturer issued VIN
- May **NOT** be operated on a public roadway (46.2-911.1)

Motorized Scooter/Skateboard



- Can have any number of wheels
- Designed for operator to stand or sit
- Powered in whole or in part by an electric motor
- Speeds up to 20 MPH
- May or may not have handlebars
- 14+ Cannot be operated by anyone under 14, unless under direct supervision by someone 18 or older (46.2-908.1)
- Motor vehicle laws apply if operated on the roadway (46.2-908.1)

Electric Personal Mobility Device



- Two wheels, self balancing
- Powered by electric motor
- Speeds up to 20 MPH
- Motor vehicle laws apply if operated on the roadway (46.2-908.1)

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E-Bike Education and Enforcement Efforts (1st Month)

22

OFFICER STOPS

Stops involving e-dirt bikes or motorcycle-class devices

8

IMPOUNDED

Vehicles held, impounded, or towed

10

LESS-SEVERE ACTIONS

Warnings, education, referrals, or other non-seizure outcomes

VERBAL WARNING / EDUCATION

10

CITATION / SUMMONS

8

Two New Recon Interceptor E-Bikes Join HPD's Fleet

NEW FLEET CAPABILITY

2

RECON INTERCEPTOR E-BIKES

STATE GRANT AWARD

Both bikes were obtained through a State Grant award.




EBIKE
Info Session
LEARN. RIDE. CONNECT.
Join us for an informative community conversation about eBikes and how to ride safely and responsibly on our roads and trails.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2026
6:00 PM
HERNDON COMMUNITY CENTER
814 Ferndale Avenue
Herndon, VA 20170
eBikes are changing the way we move.
Let's make sure we're all informed and prepared.
WHAT YOU'LL LEARN:
Laws & Rules: eBike classifications and Virginia laws that apply to eBikes
Roads & Trails: Rules of the road and trail etiquette for safe riding
Resources: Local programs, maps, safety tips, and more
Q & A: Bring your questions—our experts are here to help!
PRESENTED BY
A partnership working together to keep our community safe, informed, and connected.
Herndon
HERNDON POLICE DEPARTMENT
NOVA PARKS
Friends of the W&OD Trail
EBIKE CONNECTIONS
HERNDON PARKS AND RECREATION
Let's keep our roads and trails safer, together!


SESIÓN INFORMATIVA SOBRE EBIKES
Infórmate. Pedalea. Conéctate.
APRENDE. PEDALEA. CONÉCTATE.
Acompáñanos en una conversación comunitaria informativa sobre las ebikes y cómo usarlas de manera segura y responsable en nuestras calles y senderos.
MIÉRCOLES, 9 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 2026
6:00 PM
CENTRO COMUNITARIO DE HERNDON
814 Ferndale Avenue
Herndon, VA 20170
Las ebikes están transformando la forma en que nos movemos.
Asegurémonos de que todos estemos informados y preparados.
LO QUE APRENDERÁS:
Leyes y reglas: Clasificaciones de las ebikes y las leyes de Virginia que se aplican a las ebikes.
Calles y senderos: Reglas de la vía pública y normas de etiqueta en senderos para una conducción segura.
Recursos: Programas locales, mapas, consejos de seguridad y más.
Preguntas y respuestas: Trae tus preguntas—¡nuestros expertos están aquí para ayudarte!
PRESENTADO POR
Una colaboración que trabaja junta para mantener nuestra comunidad segura, informada y conectada.
Herndon
DEPARTAMENTO DE POLICÍA DE HERNDON
NOVA PARKS
Friends of the W&OD Trail
EBIKE CONNECTIONS
HERNDON PARKS AND RECREATION
¡Unámonos para que nuestros caminos y senderos sean más seguros!


VIENNA POLICE DEPARTMENT
&
HERNDON POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESENTS
THE
TWO TOWNS
BIKE
RODEO
FREE
FAMILY
EVENT!
138 CHURCH ST NE
VIENNA, VA 22180
RIDE SMART. RIDE SAFE. HAVE FUN!
SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 26
9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
JOIN US FOR:
CONE COURSE
RULES OF THE ROAD
HELMET FITTING
BRING YOUR OWN BICYCLE
IN COLLABORATION WITH
TREK
VIENNA
Friends of the W&OD Trail
NOVA
PARKS

TOWN OF Herndon

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