

Section 620 - Snowmobiles

620.01 Definition. For the purpose of this Section the terms defined in this Section shall have the meaning ascribed to them:

Subd. 1 Person. “Person” shall include an individual, partnership, corporation, the state and its agencies and subdivisors, and any body of person, whether incorporated or not.

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

Subd. 3 Owner. “Owner” shall mean a person other than a lien holder having the property in or title to a snowmobile, or entitled to the use or possession thereof.

Subd. 4 Operate. “Operate” shall mean to ride in or on and control the operation of a snowmobile.

Subd. 5 Operator. “Operator” shall mean every person who operates or is in actual control of a snowmobile.

Subd. 6 Roadway. “Roadway” shall mean that portion of a highway improved, designed or ordinarily used for vehicular travel.

Subd. 7 Street. “Street” shall mean a public thoroughfare, roadway, alley or trail used for motor vehicular traffic which is not interstate, trunk county state aid, or county highway.

Subd. 8 Right of Way. “Right of way” shall mean 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. “Safety or Deadman Throttle” shall be defined as a device which when pressure is removed from the engine, accelerator or throttle, causes motor to be disengaged from the driving track.

620.02 Location. Except as specifically permitted and authorized in this Section, it shall be unlawful for any person to operate a snowmobile within the limits of the City:

- A. On the portion of the right of way of any public highway, street, road, trail or alley used for traffic of motor vehicles, except the most right hand lane which is then available for traffic in the same direction. Snowmobiles may also be operated upon the ditch bottom where lawfully so posted or the outside bank of a trunk, county state aid, and county highways where the highways are so configured within the corporate limits.
- B. On a public sidewalk provided for pedestrian travel.
- C. On boulevards within the public right of way.
- D. On private property of another without the specific permission, of the owner or persons in control of the property.
- E. Upon any school grounds except as permission is expressly obtained from the

responsible school authorities.

F. Upon any public place except as may be specifically permitted other than permitted by other provisions of the City ordinances.

620.03 Method of Operation. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a snowmobile within the limits of the City:

A. On streets as permitted by this Section at a speed exceeding 15 miles per hours.

B. During the hours from 10:30 P.M. to 7:30 A.M. Sunday to Thursday and from 12:00 A.M. to 7:00 A.M. on all other days, unless going directly to or from destination of recreation or employment.

C. At anyplace while under the influence of alcohol or drugs as defined in Minnesota Statutes 169.121, which shall be hereby incorporated in this Section by reference.

D. At a rate of speed greater than reasonable or proper under all the surrounding circumstances.

E. At anyplace in a careless, reckless, or negligent manner, or heedlessly in disregard of rights or safety of others, or in a manner thereof to endanger or be likely to endanger or cause injury or damage to any person or property,

F. So as to tow any person or thing in a public street or highway except through use of a

rigged tow bar attached to the rear of the snowmobile.

G. Within 100 feet of any fisherman, pedestrian, or any skating rink or sliding area where the operation would conflict with use or endanger other persons or property.

H. During the hours from 7:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon Sunday within 150 feet of any church or house of worship.

620.04 Passengers. It shall be unlawful to operate a snowmobile within the limits of the City with more than one passenger.

620.05 Street Crossings. A snowmobile may make a direct crossing of a street or highway, except an interstate street or highway, provided that:

A. The crossing is made at a angle of approximately 90 degree to the direction of the street or highway and at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing.

B. The snowmobile is brought to a complete stop before crossing the shoulder or main roadway.

C. In crossing any uncontrolled intersection, the snowmobile is brought to a complete stop and the operator shall then yield the right-of-way to any vehicle or pedestrian at the intersection or so close to the intersection so a to constitute an immediate hazard.

D. The driver yields the right of way to all oncoming traffic which constitutes an

immediate hazard.

E. In crossing a divided street or highway, the crossing is made only at an intersection of the street or highway with another public street or highway.

F. If the crossing is made between the hours of one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise or in condition of reduced visibility only if both front and rear lights are on.

620.06 Traffic Regulations. City traffic ordinances and Code provisions shall apply to the operation of snowmobiles upon streets, except for those relating to required equipment, and except those by which their nature have no application.

620.07 Persons Under 18. No person under 14 years of age shall operate on streets or the roadway surface of highways or make a direct crossing of a trunk, county state aid, county highway, or city street as to the operator of a snow mobile. A person 14 years of age or older, but less than 18 years of age, may operate a snowmobile on streets and highway as permitted under this Section and may make direct crossings on the streets and highways only if he or she has in his or her immediate possession a valid snowmobile safety certificate issued by the commissioner as provided by Minnesota Statute 84.872, Subdivision 2. It shall be unlawful for the owner of a snowmobile permit the snowmobile to be operated contrary to the provisions of this Section.

620.08 Equipment. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a snowmobile any place within the limits of the City unless it shall be equipped with the following:

- A. Standard mufflers which shall be properly attached and which reduce the noise of operation of the minimum necessary for operation. No person shall use a muffler cut off, bypass, straight or similar device on a snowmobile motor.

- B. Brakes adequate to control the movement of and to stop and hold the machine under any conditions of operations.

- C. Safety or so called "deadman" throttle in operating condition.

- D. When operated between the one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise or at times of reduced visibility, 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. The head lamps shall be so aimed that glaring rays shall not be projected into the eyes of an oncoming snowmobile operator, It shall also be equipped with at least one red tail lamp 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.

- E. A pennant or flag of red or blazed material of a size not less than twelve inches by twelve inches by nine inches at a height of not less than six feet from the ground level at any time when the machine is operated on public streets.

- F. Reflective material at least sixteen square inches on each side forward on the handlebars so as to reflect lights at a ninety degree angle.

620.09 Locking Ignition. Every person leaving a snowmobile on a public place shall lock the ignition and remove the key and take the same with them.

620.10 Animals. It shall be unlawful to intentionally drive, chase, run over or kill any animal with a snowmobile.

620.11 Violations. Violation of any of the provisions of this Section 620 shall be a misdemeanor.