



BICYCLING DEPARTMENT POLICY

PURPOSE:

To provide safe and enjoyable bicycle riding opportunities in St. Louis County Parks.

POLICY:

It is the policy of the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation to provide facilities for various types of bicycle riding and to offer a variety of recreational, competitive, and educational activities and a mode of transportation associated with this sport.

PROCEDURE:

Facilities

1. Cycling is permitted on all public roads in County Parks except Lone Elk County Park.
2. Cycling is permitted on some trails (see Trails Policy).

Rules

1. Cyclists using public roads in County Parks are granted all rights and are subject to all regulations as are drivers of motor vehicles on those roads (Chapter 1210 StLCRO).
2. Regulations relating to the equipment, lighting, reflection and operation of all bicycles shall apply to all public roads and trails in County Parks.

3. Cyclists should ride as far to the right side of public roads as practical except when “taking the lane”. Cyclists should take or occupy the lane when approaching a blind curve or hill, or when the speed of traffic can be maintained.
4. Cyclists must obey all traffic control devices.
5. Cyclists may not ride more than two abreast.
6. On trails, cyclists must yield to other types of users.
7. Per Ordinance 616.175, the use of bicycles, scooters, roller blades, roller skates and skateboards is lawful in parks unless prohibited by other ordinance or law. It shall also be unlawful for a parent or guardian to permit a child under the age of seventeen (17) years to operate or be a passenger on a bicycle, scooter, roller blades, roller skates or skateboard unless the child shall wear protective headgear which properly fits and is fastened securely upon the head of the child. The headgear shall meet or exceed the impact standard for protective bicycle helmets set by the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), the Snell Memorial Foundation or the American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM).

Equipment

1. Brakes must be capable of stopping a bicycle within 25 feet from a speed of 20 MPH.
2. Night Riding:
 - ❖ Headlamps must be white in color and visible from 500 feet ahead. The headlamp may be mounted on the bicycle or carried by the rider.
 - ❖ A rear-facing red reflector of at least two (2) square inches surface area must be visible 600 feet to the rear.
 - ❖ White or amber colored pedal reflectors must be visible from a distance of 200 feet. There must be one such reflector on the front and rear of the pedal, recessed below the pedal surface area.
 - ❖ White or amber side-facing spoke reflectors on the front and rear wheels must be visible from a distance of 300 feet.

3. E-bikes

E-Bike Definition:

E-Bikes shall be Pedelec, meaning a bicycle with an electric motor which assists the rider but only while they are pedaling. The Consumer Product Safety Act regulates the use of low speed electric bicycles to “two-or three-wheeled vehicles with **fully operable pedals** and an electric motor of **less than 750 watts** (1 horse power), whose maximum speed on a paved level surface, when powered solely by such a motor while ridden by an operator, is **less than 20 mph**”

The following rules are applied to the operation of E-Bikes:

- ❖ E-Bikes shall have no more than one rider at a time.
- ❖ The minimum age of an E-Bike operator is 16 years unless supervised by an adult.
- ❖ E-Bikes must not be operated in a dangerous or reckless manner that may jeopardize the safety of the operator, employees, or the general public or that may cause damage to property.
- ❖ The operator of the E-Bike must abide by all rules of the bicycling policy.
- ❖ Saint Louis County Parks reserves the right to limit E-Bike use if such limitation is required to protect the public health, safety and welfare of park users.
- ❖ Saint Louis County Parks accepts no responsibility for transporting the E-Bike to and from any trail.
- ❖ The operator of the E-Bike is responsible for ensuring the device works properly, per manufacturer’s instructions.
- ❖ Saint Louis County Parks accepts no responsibility for providing battery or emergency retrieval of E-Bikes under any circumstances, including, but not limited to, failed power of the device.
- ❖ Saint Louis County Parks accepts no liability for damages to the E-Bike or injury to the operator, whether caused by operator, another trail user or any other circumstance.
- ❖ Saint Louis County Parks accepts no liability for damages caused by the operator of the E-Bike or injury to others caused by the operator of the E-Bike.
- ❖ E-Bikes shall not exceed typical trail speeds based on existing trail conditions.

- ❖ E-Bike operators shall obey all traffic laws.
- ❖ E-Bikes are allowed on all trails open to bicycles.

Effective Date: 02/84

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