



MEDIA RELEASE

Ashwaubenon Adopts New Ordinance Regulating Bicycles, Electric Scooters, and Similar Vehicles

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 1, 2025

ASHWAUBENON, WI — On July 22, 2025, the Village Board of Ashwaubenon approved Ordinance No. 07-1-25, a comprehensive update to local regulations concerning bicycles, electric scooters, and other small-motorized vehicles.

The ordinance repeals and recreates Article 7 of the Village Code and provides updated definitions, operating rules, and enforcement measures for a wide range of vehicles, including electric bicycles, scooters, mopeds, and low-speed vehicles. The changes are intended to improve public safety, encourage responsible use of shared spaces, and reflect regulations under state law.

Key provisions of the ordinance include:

- **Bicycle and Electric Bicycle Registration:** Electric bicycles kept and operated in the Village must now be registered with the Public Safety Department. A one-time registration fee applies, and a registration tag must be displayed. The registration requirements for electric bicycles are now the same as bicycles in the Village.
- **Electric Scooter Use and Rental Restrictions:** The operator of an electric scooter is expected to follow the rules of the road in a similar way to a bicycle. Electric scooters are prohibited on roads with speed limits over 30 mph (unless a bike lane is present) and may not be operated on Oneida Street or Holmgren Way. Use of short-term commercial rental scooters is also prohibited in the Village.
- **Sidewalk and Trail Access:** Bicycles (including electric bicycles) and electric scooters are permitted on sidewalks and trails but must exercise due care, yield to pedestrians, and use audible signals when passing.
- **Helmet Requirements:** Children under age 16 must wear a properly fitted helmet when operating or riding on bicycles, electric bicycles, or electric scooters in public areas. The requirement also applies to skateboards, rollerblades, and scooters used at skate parks.

- **Vehicle Restrictions:** Use of mopeds, ATVs, utility vehicles, and similar vehicles are still prohibited on sidewalks, trails, Village parks, and public property unless otherwise allowed by state law.
- **Neighborhood Electric Vehicles and Low-Speed Vehicles:** These vehicles are not permitted for use on public roads or highways in Ashwaubenon.

It's also important to note that **not all electric-powered bicycles or scooters sold today meet Wisconsin's legal definitions**. Only those that meet the specific requirements under state law are allowed to be operated in the Village. Devices that fall outside those definitions are not permitted for use on public roads, sidewalks, or trails.

Violations of the ordinance are subject to enforcement through warnings, citations, and fines. Enforcement will vary based on the age of the individual and the severity of the offense. The ordinance also outlines parental responsibility for minors.

"With the growing use of electric scooters and bicycles, this ordinance updates our local rules to align with state law and provide clear guidance for how these devices should be used in public spaces," said Village Manager Joel Gregozeski. "It's important that both users and parents understand the rules of the road and follow all applicable laws."

The Village of Ashwaubenon is now one of the few municipalities that require individuals under age 16 to wear helmets while bicycling or using an electric scooter. "It's about keeping people safe—especially kids—and making sure shared spaces like streets, sidewalks, and trails are used responsibly and respectfully," said Village President, Mary Kardoskee.

Residents with questions or needing to register a bicycle or electric bicycle can contact the Public Safety Department or visit the Village's website for more information.

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Media Inquiries: Contact the Village of Ashwaubenon Village Manager, Joel Gregozeski at (920) 492-2301 or jgregozeski@ashwuabenon.gov for further information.

A copy of the Municipal Code can be found at the Village's website:
<https://municrm.ashwaubenon.gov/cache/codebook/7-7.pdf>