

Town of Readsboro

Snowmobile Ordinance

Section 1 – Authority: Under the authority granted in 24 VSA Chapter 59 and 23 VSA 3210, the Selectboard of the Town of Readsboro hereby adopts the following civil ordinance regulating the manner and location of operation of snowmobiles within the Town.

Section 2 – Purpose: The purpose of this ordinance is to protect public health, safety and properties.

Section 3 – Definitions: For the purpose of this ordinance, the following words or phrases shall be defined as follows:

- a) Operate – includes an attempt to operate and shall be construed to cover all matters and things connected with the presence and use of snowmobiles within the Town of Readsboro whether they be in motion or at rest
- b) "Snowmobile" means a self-propelled vehicle intended for off-road travel primarily on snow, having a curb weight of not more than 793.783 kg (1,750 lbs.); driven by track or tracks in contact with the snow; and steered by a ski or skis in contact with the snow. The maximum width of a snowmobile shall be no more than 48 inches. An all-terrain vehicle converted to operate with tracks shall not be considered to be a snowmobile.
- c) VAST – Vermont Association of Snow Travelers
- d) Trails Maintenance Assessment (TMA) – Permit issued by VAST granting use of Vermont snowmobile trails on Public and private land
- e) Town Highway – all town roads and rights of way within the Town of Readsboro

Section 4 – Other Laws: This ordinance is in addition to all State laws regulating the operation of snowmobiles. All snowmobiles must be registered and operated according to the requirements of 23 VSA 3206, including but not limited to valid registration, TMA and insurance.

Section 5 – Signage/Trail Maintenance: Placement and maintenance of all trail signs regulating snowmobile operation at crossings of trails over highway, and Town highways or rights of way which have been opened to snowmobile traffic by the Selectboard shall be maintained by community volunteers. Any trail maintenance on a Town Highway or Right of way will be approved by the Selectboard, DPW Superintendent, or a designated representative of the Selectboard prior to commencing.

Section 6 – Town Highways/Rights of way: All specified highways and rights of ways listed on "Attachment A" herein, within Town limits. The Selectboard will have the authority to add and/or subtract specified town highways or rights of ways from "Attachment A" providing action is at a duly warned regular Selectboard meeting.

Section 7 – Speed Limits: Under 23 V.S.A. § 3206 Section 17(A) No person shall drive a snowmobile on the Statewide Snowmobile Trail System or a public right-of-way, open to snowmobiling, at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions, having regard for the actual and potential hazards there existing. In every event, speed shall be controlled as necessary to avoid collision with any person, vehicle, snowmobile, or other object on or adjacent to the snowmobile trail.

Section 8 – Single file; Racing, Sidewalks: Snowmobile travel on town highways and rights of way which have been opened for their use shall be single file, racing shall be prohibited. Travel on sidewalks is strictly prohibited.

Section 9 – Curfew: All snowmobile traffic on specified Town Highways and Rights of way will have a curfew of 10 pm to 6 am.

Section 10 – Enforcement: Any Law Enforcement Agency shall be the enforcement officers. They shall issue complaints and may be the appearing officer at any hearing.

Section 11 – Severability: If any section of this ordinance is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such finding shall not invalidate any other part of this ordinance.

Section 12 – Effective Date: This ordinance shall become effective 60 days after its adoption by the Town of Readsboro Selectboard. If a petition is filed under 24 VSA 1973, that statute shall govern the effective date of this ordinance.

Raymond J Eilers
Raymond J Eilers (Feb 4, 2021 16:07 EST)

Feb 4, 2021

Raymond Eilers, Chair

Date

David Marchegiani
David Marchegiani (Feb 5, 2021 20:06 EST)

David Marchegiani

Joseph Berard
Joseph Berard (Feb 6, 2021 12:11 EST)

Joseph Berard

Adoption History

1. Agenda item at Regular Selectboard meeting held on: 11/13/19
2. Read and Approved at Regular Selectboard meeting on 11/13/19 and entered into the minutes of said meeting which were approved on 11/13/19.
3. Posted in public places on 11/19/19
4. Published in newspaper of general circulation on 11/21/19
5. Other actions (petitions, etc) 2/3/21 - revision of Snowmobile Definition

"Attachment A"

1. West Hill Road from Wiley Mountain Road to "Blueberry Patch"
2. "Old Road" on Jarvis Hill to Depot Street to Main St/Route 100.
3. Main Street/Route 100 to Tunnel St.
4. Tunnel Street to Railroad Alley.
5. Railroad Alley through Town sand pit, crossing Branch Hill to Readsboro Store.
6. Main Street/Route 100 from Lions Club Parking to Readsboro Store.
7. Branch Hill from O'Hearns to Readsboro Store.
8. Lower Section of Ruba Road.
9. Road crossings as needed.

"Attachment B" (1/22/2020)

1. Daubney Drive.
2. Case Lane.
3. Howe Pond Road from Daubney Drive to Goldmine Road.
4. Goldmine Road to Ross Road.
5. Ross Road from Goldmine Road to Trail Head.
6. Smith Road from Class 4 to TH # 17.

"Attachment C" (11/25/2020)

1. Williams Road.
2. Rue Madeline from Tom Deckers to LT # 1.
3. Goldmine Road from Ross Road to the powerline.

