

## **SECTION 1130 SNOWMOBILES**

(amended 01/02/13)

### 1130.01 DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Section, the terms defined herein shall have the meaning ascribed to them.

- Subd. 1. "Person" includes an individual, partnership, corporation, the state and its agencies and subdivisions, and any body of persons, whether incorporated or not.
- Subd. 2. "Snowmobile" means a self-propelled vehicle designed for travel on snow or ice steered by skis or runners.
- Subd. 3. "Owner" means a person, other than a lien holder having the property in or title to snowmobile entitled to the use or possession thereof.
- Subd. 4. "Operate" means to ride in or on and control the operation of a snowmobile.
- Subd. 5. "Operator" means every person who operates or is in actual physical control of a snowmobile.
- Subd. 6. "Deadman Throttle" or "Safety Throttle" means a device which when pressure is removed from the engine accelerator or throttle, causes the motor to be disengaged from the driving mechanism.
- Subd. 7. "Natural Terrain" means areas other than roadways or driveways (private or public), parking lots and other areas the surface of which has been intentionally modified for motor vehicle operation thereon.
- Subd. 8. "City of Wabasha" and all references in this Section thereto shall only apply to the area within the corporate limits of the City of Wabasha North and East of the following boundaries: U.S. Highway #61 and 12th Street extended Westerly to a point where it would intersect with New Highway #61 and extended Easterly to the Easterly boundary of the corporate limits of the City of Wabasha.

### 1130.03 MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE REQUIRED.

Except as herein specifically permitted an authorized, it is unlawful for any person to operate a snowmobile or not licensed as a motor vehicle within the limits of the City of Wabasha:

- Subd. 1. On the portion of any right of way of any public highway, street, road, trail or alley used for motor vehicle travel, except that a snowmobile may operate upon the most right hand lane of a municipal street or alley and may in passing or making a left turn operate on other lanes which are used for vehicle traffic in the same direction, for purposes of going to or returning from a non-highway area of permissible operation, by the most direct route. Snowmobiles may also be operated upon the ditch bottom or the outside bank of trunk, county state-aid and county highways where such highways are so configured within the corporate limits.
- Subd. 2. On a public sidewalk provided for pedestrian travel.
- Subd. 3. On boulevards within any public right of way.
- Subd. 4. On private property of another without specific permission of the owner or person in control of said property.

Subd. 5. On any other public place except as may be specifically permitted by other provisions of the City Ordinances.

1130.05 CROSSING BY SNOWMOBILE.

A snowmobile may make a direct crossing of a street or highway, except an interstate highway or freeway provided:

Subd. 1. The crossing is made at an angle of approximately 90 degrees to the direction of the street or highway and at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing.

Subd. 2. The snowmobile is brought to a complete stop before crossing the shoulder or main traveled way.

Subd. 3. The driver yields the right of way to all oncoming traffic which constitutes an immediate hazard.

Subd. 4. In crossing a divided street or highway, the crossing is made only at an intersection of such street or highway with another public street or highway.

Subd. 5. If the crossing is made between the hours of one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise or in conditions of reduced visibility, only if both front and rear lights are on.

1130.07 TRAFFIC ORDINANCES APPLY.

City Traffic Ordinances shall apply to the operation of snowmobiles upon streets and highways, except for those relating to required equipment, and except those which by their nature have no application.

1130.09 INTERSECTIONS.

No snowmobile shall enter any intersection without yielding the right of way to any vehicles or pedestrians at the intersection, or so close to the intersection as to constitute an immediate hazard.

1130.11 PERSONS UNDER 18.

Subd. 1. 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 the operator of a snowmobile. A person 14 years of age or older, but less than 18 years of age, may operate a snowmobile on streets and highways as permitted under this Section and make a direct crossing of such streets and highways only if he has in his immediate possession a valid snowmobile safety certificate issued by the Commissioner, as provided by M.S.A. Section 84.872.

Subd. 2. It is unlawful for the owner of a snowmobile to permit the snowmobile to be operated contrary to the provisions of this Section.

1130.13 UNLAWFUL ACTS.

It is unlawful for any person to operate a snowmobile not licensed for highway use when operating on natural terrain within the limits of the City of Wabasha.

Subd. 1. At any place, while under the influence of alcohol or drugs as defined in M.S. 169.121, which is hereby incorporated herein by reference.

- Subd. 2. At a rate of speed greater than 20 miles per hour.
- Subd. 3. At any place in a careless, reckless, or negligent manner or heedlessly in disregard of the rights or safety of others, or in a manner so as to endanger or be likely to endanger or cause injury or damage to any person or property.
- Subd. 4. During the hours from 10:00 P.M. to 8:00 A.M. of any day, except that during said prohibited hours of operation, such operation shall be permitted when returning to the City of Wabasha for the purpose of following the most direct practical route possible from a point outside the limits of the City of Wabasha to the residence of the operator or passenger, and except during the prohibited hours of operation such operation shall be permitted for the purpose of leaving the City of Wabasha by the most direct practical route possible to go to a specific destination outside of the City of Wabasha.
- Subd. 5. So as to tow any person or thing except through use of a rigid tow bar attached to the rear of the snowmobile.
- Subd. 6. Within 100 feet of any fisherman, pedestrian, skating rink or sliding area where the operation would conflict with use or endanger other persons or property.

1130.15 REQUIRED EQUIPMENT.

It is unlawful for any person to operate a snowmobile any place within the limits of the City of Wabasha unless it is equipped with the following:

- Subd. 1. Standard mufflers which are properly attached and which reduce the noise of operation of the motor to the minimum necessary for operation. No person shall use a muffler cutout, by-pass, straight pipe or similar device on a snowmobile.
- Subd. 2. Brakes adequate to control the movement of and to stop and hold the snowmobile under any condition of operation.
- Subd. 3. A safety or so-called "deadman" throttle in operating condition.
- Subd. 4. When operated between the hours of one-half hour after sunset to one-half 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 and under normal atmospheric conditions. Such head lamp shall be so aimed that glaring rays are not projected into the eyes of an oncoming snowmobile operator. It shall also be equipped with at least one red tail lamp having a minimum candlepower of sufficient intensity to exhibit a red light plainly visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear during hours of darkness under normal atmospheric conditions.
- Subd. 5. Snowmobiles shall fly a pennant flag of red or blaze material, of a size not less than 12 inches by 12 inches by 9 inches, at a height of not less than 6 feet from ground level at any time when the vehicle is operated on public streets.
- Subd. 6. Reflective material at least 16 square inches on each side, forward of the handlebars, or steering device of a snowmobile and at the highest practical point on any towed object, as to reflect light at a ninety degree angle.

1130.17 UNATTENDED VEHICLE.

Every person leaving a snowmobile on a public place shall lock the ignition, remove the key and take the same with him/her.

1130.19 EMERGENCY OPERATION.

Notwithstanding any prohibitions in this Section, a snowmobile may be operated on a public thoroughfare in an emergency during the period of time when, and at locations where, snow upon the roadway renders travel by automobile impractical.

1130.21 ANIMALS.

It is unlawful to intentionally drive, chase, run over or kill any animal with a snowmobile.