

City of Shorewood

Snowmobile Rules and Regulation

December 1 - March 31

THIS FACT SHEET CONTAINS IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SNOWMOBILERS AND PEDESTRIANS, SKIERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS WITHIN THE CITY OF SHOREWOOD.



SAFETY

Safety is the key concern. In 1996, a city wide survey of Shorewood residents identified concern for safety with respect to snowmobiling--especially along the LRT trail. In traveling along City streets, snowmobilers must be very aware of potential hazards when encountering pedestrians or other vehicles.

ENFORCEMENT

The South Lake Minnetonka Police Department will have police officers in squads and on a snowmobile patrolling the city. Officers will take action on every violation observed. This may include impounding snowmobiles if the violation warrants it. The Police Department will coordinate enforcement efforts with other agencies.

The police snowmobile is equipped with emergency lights, radar and a radio. If any questions or problems arise while you are snowmobiling in the City, you are encouraged to either flag down the police officer or call 911 for assistance.

YOUTH LAWS

It is unlawful for any person under fourteen years of age to operate a snowmobile on streets, highways, public lands, or frozen water or to make a direct crossing of a street unless accompanied by a parent or guardian. A person fourteen years of age or older, but less than twenty years of age, may operate a snowmobile on streets, highways, certain public land and frozen waters, only if they have in their immediate possession a valid snowmobile safety certificate issued by the commissioner of Natural Resources.

PROPERTY OWNERS

Snowmobiles are not allowed onto your property or inside the plow ridge on the boulevard without your express permission. If a snowmobile enters your property without permission, call 911 immediately, then report the incident to City Hall, 952.960.7900. Your property will be inspected and we will work with you to help solve the problem.

LAKE ACCESS

Lake Minnetonka Regional Park offers a snowmobile access point to Lake Minnetonka. Snowmobiles may not be hauled by truck or trailer, but must be ridden to the park. The entrance is west of Shorewood at Highway 7 and County Road 44. Call Hennepin Parks, 763.559.6700, for more information.

QUESTIONS REGARDING ANY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS NOTICE SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO CITY HALL AT 952.960.7900. OFFICE HOURS ARE MONDAY - FRIDAY, 8 AM - 4:30 PM.

ORDINANCE RULES REGARDING SNOWMOBILES WITHIN THE CITY OF SHOREWOOD

SEASON	The snowmobile season has been designated December 1 to March 31. Any person found riding outside these dates will be ticketed and their snowmobile may be impounded.
HOURS OF USE	7 AM - 10 PM, Sunday through Thursday 7 AM - 11 PM, Friday and Saturday
SPEED LIMIT	City Streets and Highways 10 mph Lakeshore Buffer Zone 10 mph when within 150 feet of shoreline
LAKE BUFFER ZONE	Snowmobiles are prohibited in the 150 foot buffer zone along the shores of Lake Minnetonka and lakes (frozen public waters) within Shorewood, except when entering or exiting the lake. In the buffer zone, travel must be perpendicular to the shoreline.
STREET USE	Snowmobiles must be driven on the street side of the plow ridge and avoid obstacles by going into the street, not onto the boulevard. Snowmobilers must drive in the direction of traffic.
PARKS/WETLANDS/TRAILS	Snowmobiles are prohibited from ALL City parks, wetlands and trails.
PERMITTED AREAS OF USE	A person may operate a snowmobile on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frozen public waters, except within 150 feet of the shoreline as stated above. • Private property with the express permission of the property owner. • On City streets for the purpose of direct travel from the operator's home to the closest destination where snowmobiling is permitted, by the shortest possible route.
CROSSING STREETS	When crossing streets or highways snowmobiles must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross at a ninety degree (90) angle. • Be brought to a complete stop before crossing. • Yield to all on-coming traffic. • Cross with both front and rear lights illuminated.

SNOWMOBILERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KNOWING AND OBEYING THE LAWS WITHIN THE CITY.

NON-COMPLIANCE MAY RESULT IN THE LOSS OF PRIVILEGES FOR ALL SNOWMOBILERS.

SAFETY CLASSES

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) offers approved Snowmobile Safety Training Classes throughout the Twin Cities metro area. Upon completion, students taking this course will be required to demonstrate proficiency on a snowmobile. The course is open to anyone 12 years of age and older. Class size is limited and pre-registration is required.

For more information call the DNR information line at (651) 296-4819. The DNR has posted class locations and dates beginning in early November on this information line.

ALL RIDERS 14 TO 20 YEARS OLD ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE A SNOWMOBILE SAFETY CERTIFICATE IN THEIR POSSESSION WHILE RIDING WITHIN SHOREWOOD CITY LIMITS.