

distributors of electric scooters shall, by April first, two thousand twenty-two, establish a process by which an owner of an electric scooter may request and obtain a manufacturer’s label providing the maximum motor-assisted speed, the number of persons for which such electric scooter is designed and equipped, and motor wattage applicable to his or her electric scooter purchased prior to June first, two thousand twenty-two and installation instructions from such manufacturers and distributors.

(b) No person shall operate an electric scooter on any public highway or street in this state after June first, two thousand twenty-two unless such electric scooter has permanently affixed thereto, in a prominent location, a manufacturer’s label providing the maximum motor-assisted speed, the number of persons for which such electric scooter is designed and equipped, and motor wattage of such electric scooter. Any person who violates the provisions of this paragraph shall be punished by a civil fine of up to fifty dollars. The court shall waive any fine for which a person who violates the provisions of this paragraph would be liable if such person supplies the court with proof that, between the date on which he or she is charged with having violated this paragraph and the appearance date for such violation, a manufacturer’s label was affixed to his or her electric scooter as required by this paragraph. Provided, however, that such waiver of fine shall not apply to a second or subsequent conviction under this paragraph.

12. A police officer shall only issue a summons for a violation of this section by a person less than sixteen years of

the age to the parent or guardian of such person if the violation by such person occurs in the presence of such person’s parent or guardian and where such parent or guardian is eighteen years of age or more. Such summons shall only be issued to such parent or guardian, and shall not be issued to the person less than sixteen years of age.

§ 1289. Operation of an electric scooter while under the influence of alcohol or drugs

1. Offenses; criminal penalties.

(a) Operating an electric scooter while ability impaired. No person shall operate an electric scooter while the person’s ability to operate such electric scooter is impaired by the consumption of alcohol.

For questions about this publication or to order copies, contact:

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Quick Reference

V&T LAW FOR E-SCOOTER ENFORCEMENT

A Vehicle and Traffic Reference for Electric Scooters Enforcement

Please be advised the Quick Reference is intended to be used as a pocket guide by law enforcement when engaging with the public. When writing citations for E-scooters, please see the NYS VTL Book for a complete list of NYS V&T Law.

§ 114-e. Electric scooter

Every device weighing less than one hundred pounds that (a) has handlebars, a floorboard or a seat that can be stood or sat upon by the operator, and an electric motor, (b) can be powered by the electric motor and/or human power, and (c) has a maximum speed of no more than twenty miles per hour on a paved level surface when powered solely by the electric motor.

§ 1285. Lamps and other equipment

1. Every electric scooter when in use during the period from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise shall be equipped with a lamp on the front which shall emit a white light visible during hours of darkness from a distance of at least five hundred feet to the front and with a red light visible to the rear for three hundred feet. At least one such light shall be visible for two hundred feet from each side.
2. No person shall operate an electric scooter unless such scooter is equipped with a bell or other device capable of giving a signal audible for a distance of at least one hundred feet, except that an electric scooter shall not be equipped with nor shall any person use upon an electric scooter any siren or whistle.
3. Every electric scooter shall be equipped with a brake that enables the operator to bring the electric scooter to a controlled stop.

§ 1286. Operators to wear protective headgear

1. No person sixteen or seventeen years of age shall ride upon, propel or otherwise operate an electric scooter

unless such person is wearing a helmet meeting standards established by the commissioner pursuant to the provisions of subdivision two-a of section twelve hundred thirty-eight of this title. As used in this subdivision, wearing a helmet means having a properly fitting helmet fixed securely on the head of such wearer with the helmet straps securely fastened.

§ 1282. Operating electric scooters

1. No electric scooter shall be used to carry more than one person at one time. No person operating an electric scooter shall carry any person as a passenger in a pack fastened to the operator or fastened to the electric scooter. The failure of any person to comply with the provisions of this subdivision shall not constitute contributory negligence or assumption of risk, and shall not in any way bar, preclude or foreclose an action for personal injury or wrongful death by or on behalf of such person, nor in any way diminish or reduce the damages recoverable in any such action.
2. No person operating an electric scooter shall carry any package, bundle or article which prevents the operator from keeping at least one hand upon the handle bars or which obstructs his or her vision in any direction.
3. Every person operating an electric scooter shall yield the right of way to pedestrians.
4. No person less than sixteen years of age shall operate or ride as a passenger upon an electric scooter, and no person sixteen years of age or older shall allow any person less than sixteen years of age to operate or ride as a passenger upon such scooter.

5. Except as may be otherwise provided by local law, ordinance, order, rule or regulation enacted or promulgated pursuant to this article, an electric scooter may only be operated on highways with a posted speed limit of thirty miles per hour or less, including non-interstate public highways, private roads open to motor vehicle traffic, and designated bicycle or in-line skate lanes.

6. No person shall operate an electric scooter in excess of fifteen miles per hour.

7. (a) No person shall operate an electric scooter on a sidewalk, except as may be authorized by a local law or ordinance adopted by a city, town or village having jurisdiction over such sidewalk including parking on certain sidewalks within such city, town or village in compliance with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended (Public Law 101-336).

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) of this subdivision, an electric scooter owned by a natural person where the owner is engaged in personal use may park on a sidewalk whether attended or unattended, provided however that no person shall park an electric scooter pursuant to this paragraph in a manner that interferes with the free passage of pedestrians on a sidewalk. A city, town or village having jurisdiction over such sidewalk shall provide a method by which an electric scooter owned by a natural person may be identified as such.

8. (a) No person shall operate an electric scooter on any public lands or property, other than a highway exclusive of any greenway running adjacent to or

connected with a highway, except that an electric scooter may be operated on any such lands that have been designated and posted for travel by electric scooters in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (b) of this subdivision. For the purposes of this subdivision, the term “greenway” shall have the same meaning as such term is defined by subdivision seven of section 44-0103 of the environmental conservation law and subdivision one of section 39.03 of the parks, recreation and historic preservation law.

(b) A state agency, by regulation or order, and a city, town or village, by local law or ordinance, may designate any appropriate public lands and properties under its jurisdiction, other than highways exclusive of any greenway running adjacent to or connected with a highway, as a place open for travel by electric scooters upon written request for such designation by any person, and may impose restrictions and conditions for the regulation and safe operation of electric scooters on such public lands or property, such as travel on designated trails and hours of operation.

9. (a) No person, firm, association or corporation engaged in the business of selling or leasing electric scooters shall sell or lease any electric scooter on or after June first, two thousand twenty-two unless such electric scooter has permanently affixed thereto, in a prominent location, a manufacturer’s label which shall include the following information: the maximum motor-assisted speed, the number of persons for which such electric scooter is designed and equipped, and motor wattage of such electric scooter. Manufacturers and