

## **Chapter 183**

### **SNOWMOBILES**

<b>§ 183-1.</b>	<b>Definitions.</b>	<b>§ 183-4.</b>	<b>Traveling abreast and passing.</b>
<b>§ 183-2.</b>	<b>Rules and regulations incorporated by reference.</b>	<b>§ 183-5.</b>	<b>Hitch required for towing.</b>
<b>§ 183-3.</b>	<b>Operation.</b>	<b>§ 183-6.</b>	<b>Violations and penalties.</b>



[HISTORY: Adopted by the City Council of the City of Fairfax 12-18-1984 by Ord. No. 208 (Ord. No. 208 of the 1984 Code). Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Alcoholic beverages — See Ch. 71.

Streets and sidewalks — See Ch. 204.

Noise — See Ch. 141.

Vehicles and traffic — See Ch. 239.

Nuisances — See Ch. 155.

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**§ 183-1. Definitions.**

For the purpose of this chapter, the terms defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them.

OPERATOR — Every person who operates or is in actual physical control of a snowmobile.

OWNER — A person, other than a lien holder, having the property in or title to a snowmobile entitled to the use or possession thereof.

PERSON — An individual, partnership, corporation, and any body of persons whether incorporated or not.

ROADWAY — That portion of a highway improved, designed or ordinarily used for vehicular traffic.

SNOWMOBILE — A self-propelled vehicle designed for travel on snow or ice or on natural terrain steered by wheels, skis, or runners.

**§ 183-2. Rules and regulations incorporated by reference.<sup>1</sup>**

A. The rules and regulations promulgated by the Commissioner of Conservation in the manner provided by Minn. Stat. (2005), Chapter 84, for the following purposes are herewith incorporated by reference and made a part hereof.

- (1) Registration of snowmobiles and display of registration numbers. See Minn. Stat. §§ 84.82, 84.86.
- (2) Use of snowmobiles insofar as game and fish resources are affected. See Minn. Stat. §§ 84.86, 84A.55, subd. 7a.

B. The rules and regulations promulgated by the Commissioner of Highways not inconsistent herewith in the manner provided by Minn. Stat. §§ 84.86, 84.87, subd. 1, regulating the use of snowmobiles on streets and highways are herewith incorporated by reference and made a part hereof.

**§ 183-3. Operation.**

A. Operation on streets and highways.

- (1) A snowmobile may make a direct crossing of a street or highway, provided:
  - (a) The crossing is made at an angle of approximately 90° to the direction of the highway and at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing; and
  - (b) The snowmobile is brought to a complete stop before crossing the shoulder, or main traveled way of the highway; and
  - (c) The driver yields the right-of-way to oncoming traffic which constitutes an immediate hazard; and

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1. Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. III).  
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(d) In crossing a divided highway the crossing is made only at an intersection of such highway with another public street or highway.

(2) No snowmobile shall be operated on a street, highway or alley or other public ground or place unless it is equipped with at least one head lamp and one tail lamp and with brakes which conform to standards prescribed by rules of the Commissioner of Highways pursuant to authority vested in him by Minn. Stat. § 84.87, subd. 1(d).<sup>2</sup>

(3) A snowmobile may be operated upon a public street, highway other than as provided by Subsection A(1) in an emergency during the period of time when and at locations where snow upon the roadway renders travel by automobile impractical.

(4) All provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 169, heretofore adopted by reference by the City of Fairfax shall apply to the operation of snowmobiles upon the streets and highways except for those relating to required equipment and except those which by their nature have no application.

B. Operation generally. It shall be unlawful for any person to drive or operate any snowmobile:

(1) At a rate of speed greater than reasonable or proper for all surrounding circumstances.

(2) In a careless, reckless or negligent manner so as to endanger the person or property of another, or to cause injury or damage thereto.

(3) While under the influence of intoxicating liquor, narcotics, or habit forming drugs.

(4) Without a lighted head lamp and tail lamp when required for safety.

(5) In such a manner as to annoy or disturb the rest or repose of any considerable number of people.

(6) Upon private property of another without the express consent of such other.

(7) At a speed in excess of 15 miles per hour upon any street, alley, highway or other public ground or place in the City of Fairfax.

(8) Minnesota Statute § 171.03(i) exempting snowmobile operators from the requirement of having a driver's license is hereby adopted by reference.<sup>3</sup>

**§ 183-4. Traveling abreast and passing.**

A. General provisions. It shall be unlawful for two or more snowmobile operators to operate their vehicles abreast upon any street, alley, highway, or other public ground or place in the City of Fairfax.

B. It shall be unlawful for any snowmobile operator to pass another snowmobile while such snowmobile is in operation and under way on any street, alley, highway or other public ground or place in the City of Fairfax.

**§ 183-5. Hitch required for towing.**

No person shall operate a snowmobile within the City of Fairfax while towing a sled, toboggan or other object, nor any person riding on the same unless such sled, toboggan or other object is attached to the snowmobile by a solid hitch.

**§ 183-6. Violations and penalties.**

Any person who violates any provision of this chapter or any law of the State of Minnesota or any regulation

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2. Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. III).

3. Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. III).

§ 183-6 of the Commission or Conservation for the Commissioner of Highways promulgated pursuant to Chapter 876 of Minnesota Laws of 1967 and herewith incorporated by reference and made a part hereof, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished as such. § 183-6

