

BY THE BOARD OF RAMSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, AN ORDINANCE
PROVIDING REGULATIONS COVERING THE USE OF SNOWMOBILES ON
RAMSEY COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION PROPERTY, LAKES AND
OTHER WATERWAYS.

FEBRUARY 1, 1971

DEFINITIONS

1. The terms used herein shall have the meaning ascribed to them in Minnesota Statutes, Section 84.81. Snowmobile means a self-propelled vehicle designed for travel on snow or ice or a natural terrain steered by wheels, skis or runners, including motor vehicles as defined in Minnesota Statutes, Section 169.01.

HOURS OF OPERATION

2. A. No persons shall operate a snowmobile in Ramsey County on any parkway, lake or other waters between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Sunday through Thursday, and 12:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. on other days except in areas and at times authorized by the Sheriff of Ramsey County.

B. No person shall operate a snowmobile in Ramsey County in any County park between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Sunday through Thursday, and 12:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. on other days, except in areas and at times authorized by the Ramsey county Recreation Director.

MANNER OF OPERATION

3. Vehicles shall be driven in a reasonable manner as not to endanger the safety of others, and at a rate of speed no greater than reasonable or proper under all the surrounding circumstances. Racing is prohibited, except when authorized in responsibly organized events after receiving a permit from the Sheriff.
4. Vehicles shall not be driven at a speed in excess of 30 miles per hour, nor greater than 15 miles per hour when within 150 feet of any lake or waterway shore, fisherman, pedestrian, fish house, skating rink, sliding or established ski tow area, or in any area where the use of the vehicle may be considered hazardous to park or water users, nor where the operation would conflict with the lawful use of property, unless posted for lesser speeds.
5. Vehicles shall not tow any person or non-powered vehicle, except through the use of a rigid tow bar, attached to the rear of the snowmobile.
6. Vehicles shall not be left unattended on county property, lakes or other waters.

7. The renting or establishing of a concession of any kind pertaining to the rental of vehicles is prohibited on county property.
8. Operators of the vehicles are liable for damages caused to county property. Vehicles shall not be driven on any county-owned golf course.
9. Vehicles shall be operated in accordance with the Laws of the State of Minnesota and the local ordinances. It is the intent of this ordinance to supplement Minnesota Statutes 1967, Sections 84.81 to 84.89, as amended by Laws 1969, Chapter 695, and Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 169, with respect to the operation of snowmobiles. Such statutes are incorporated herein and made a part hereof by reference. This section is not intended to permit what State Statutes or Local Ordinances prohibit.
10. No vehicles shall be operated on county property where the nature or size of land makes it unsuitable for such use (seedling areas or other planting areas that could be damaged. Minnesota Statutes, Section 84.87, Subdivision 2,e) or when unfavorable climatic conditions prevail.
11. Use of vehicles on county parking lots is restricted to loading and unloading operations only.
12. No snowmobiles shall be operated on any county property, lake or other waters by any person under the age of fourteen years.
13. No person shall drive or operate any snowmobile while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotics or habit-forming drugs.

EQUIPMENT

14. All vehicles must be equipped with:
 - a. Braking systems.
 - b. Mufflers to reduce operating noises to no greater than the noise of the average automobile and no cutout, by-pass or similar device to defeat muffling shall be allowed.
 - c. A safety throttle, commonly described as a "dead man" throttle, which shall be in operating condition at all times the vehicle is in use.
 - d. Headlights and taillights.
15. A. The Sheriff of Ramsey County may regulate traffic flow patterns for snowmobiles on lakes and other waters to aid in separation of conflicting uses, providing however, that allowable speeds do not exceed 30 miles per hour in any area marked for testing, and further, such regulation of traffic shall in no way be deemed as authorization to prohibit the use of lakes for snowmobiling or other snow or terrain vehicles.

- B. The Sheriff of Ramsey County may regulate the number of snowmobiles, snow or terrain vehicles that may enter on the lakes and waterways of Ramsey County through all county property accesses.
- C. The following signs are designed as necessary and desirable to control, direct, or regulate the operation and use of snowmobiles for the purposes indicated:

(signs are not indicated at this time; please contact County Manager's Office at 651-266-8014)

Reassuring Blazer – placed often enough to reassure the user he/she is on the trail.

5-¼ inch directional decal to be used on the 9-¼ inch x 12-inch Informational Blazer.

Directional Blazer – to be used in indicating minor changes in trail direction through use of the 5/14 inch arrow decal shown above, right, or screened insignia comparable to directional decal.

Direction Decal – to be used on the 14 inch x 18 ¼ inch informational Blazer.

Informational Blazer – to be used in indicating intersections or major changes in trail direction through use of the 7 ½ inch decals shown below or screened insignia comparable to decals.

Intersection Decal to be used on the 14 inch x 18-inch Informational blazer.

All decals to have a background of orange Scotchlite No. 3274 or equal with insignia screened black.

Stop Sign – To be used along trail prior to a road crossing. Placement to be approximately 25 feet from the edge of the road crossing. Colors and reflectorization to conform to highway standards.

From and after October 1, 1970, no sign intended for any of the purposes indicated in the preceding paragraph shall be erected by the County unless such sign is substantially in the form, shape, dimensions and colors shown in the preceding paragraph.

- 16. Exceptions to the above regulations will be made only on written request to the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners.

17. Any person who shall violate any provisions of this ordinance or any of the laws relating thereto or referred to therein shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication, and when approved by the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources pursuant to applicable statutes.

Adopted by the Board of Ramsey County Commissioners this 1st day of February 1971.

Approved March 2, 1971 by the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.