

Snowmobile Safety

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SNOWMOBILING

Laws governing the operation of a snowmobile differ for private and public property in Alberta.

In a Public Place

- The rider must have a properly registered and insured machine.
- The driver must be 14 years of age to operate a machine independently.
- A person younger than 14 years of age must be accompanied by an adult, or supervised closely while receiving instruction.
- An operator of a snowmobile must produce insurance and registration when requested to do so by an enforcement or peace officer.

On Private Land - Ensure you ask permission before entering

- You do not need a driver's licence, registration or insurance if you are riding on land you own or have acquired the right to access.
- There is no age requirement when riding on private land that you own or have established the right to access.
- Entering without permission makes you a trespasser: Petty Trespass Act (June 1, 2004 Amendment) -
 - Previously, a property owner had to appear before a justice of the peace in order to lay charges. Now, a peace officer can issue a ticket in the amount of \$250, and the alleged trespasser may then either voluntarily pay the fine or set a date to appear in court to dispute the charge or amount of the fine.
 - In more serious incidents of trespass, in either case, the maximum fine available is \$2,000 (from \$100) for a first offence.
 - When a person is charged with a second or subsequent offence with respect to the same property the person is required to appear before a justice without the alternative of making a voluntary payment. The maximum penalty is \$5,000.

Insurance Requirements

- To be properly insured, you must have a minimum coverage of \$200,000 public liability and property damage.
- A \$1,000,000 public liability and property damage insurance is commonly carried.

Registration Rules

- Registration papers may be obtained from any licensing and registry agent.
- The minimum age required to register a snowmobile is 18 years.
- A licence plate must be securely attached in a visible location on the front or rear of the snowmobile.

If you have any suggestions on traffic safety issues that are of interest to you and your community, or for more information, please contact:

Office of Traffic Safety
Alberta Infrastructure & Transportation
Main Floor, Twin Atria, 4999 - 98 Ave.
Edmonton, AB T6B 2X3
Ph: (780) 422-8839
Fax: (780) 422-3682
Website: www.saferoads.com

Alberta Snowmobile Association
11759 Groat Road
Edmonton, AB T5M 3K6
Ph: (780) 427-2695
Fax: (780) 415-1779
Website: www.altasnowmobile.ab.ca