

Chapter 6

BICYCLES

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Section 6.1. Short title.

This Chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Downers Grove Bicycle Code" or the "Bicycle Code". (Ord. No. 1798, § 1.)

Section 6.2. Definitions.

For the purposes of the Bicycle Code adopted by this Chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them by this section:

Bicycle. Every vehicular device propelled by human power upon which a person or persons may ride and which has one or more wheels, each fourteen or more inches in diameter.

Bicycle inspector. The Village employee assigned the responsibility of making bicycle inspections pursuant to this Chapter by the Village Manager.

Rental agency. Any person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of providing bicycles to the public for rent or hire. (Ord. No. 1798, § 1.)

Section 6.3. Applicability of Chapter.

(a) The provisions of this Chapter shall be applicable to all bicycles operated on streets, alleys and other public property in the Village excluding bicycles operated by police and fire department personnel in the performance of their duties.

(b) No parent or guardian of any minor shall authorize or knowingly permit such minor to violate any of the provisions of this Chapter. (Ord. No. 1798, § 1.)
(4042, Amended, 06/15/1998)

Section 6.4. Registration.

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(a) No person residing in the Village shall ride or use a bicycle, without first registering the same.

(b) Application for bicycle registration shall be made by the owner thereof to the police department, upon a form provided by the department. Such application shall be accompanied by proof of ownership.

(c) Upon receipt of proper application therefor, the police department is authorized to issue evidence of registration which shall be effective for as long as the bicycle is in the possession of the owner.

(d) No registration for any bicycle shall be issued when the police department or other designated Village official, knows or has reasonable grounds to believe that the applicant is not the owner of such bicycle.

(e) The police department shall keep a record of the number of each registration, the date issued, the name and address of the person to whom issued, the identification number of the bicycle for which issued and the make and color of the bicycle. (Ord. No. 1798, § 1; Ord. No. 2350, § 1.)

Section 6.5. Inspection.

The bicycle inspector may inspect each bicycle before registering the same. The evidence of registration shall be issued for all bicycles that are inspected, notwithstanding noncompliance with the equipment requirements of this Code or other applicable law, but the bicycle inspector may notify the owner, parent or guardian of such deficiencies in equipment. (Ord. No. 1798, § 1.)

Section 6.6. Attachment of registration tag.

As evidence of the registration of a bicycle, the police department shall issue a tag bearing the registration number assigned to the bicycle, the name of the Village and such other information deemed necessary by the Chief of Police. The applicant shall cause such tag or sticker to be firmly attached to the bicycle in such a position as to be plainly visible. No person shall remove, deface or destroy such tag or sticker except upon a transfer of ownership or in the event the bicycle is dismantled by the owner. In case of theft, loss, defacing or mutilation of such plate or sticker, a duplicate may be issued. (Ord. No. 1798, § 1.)

(Ord. 5155, Amended, 10/12/2010)

Section 6.7. Transfer of ownership.

(a) Not less than ten days after the sale or other transfer of a registered bicycle, the transferor shall report such sale or transfer to the police department and return the registration card, together with the name and address of the new owner or transferee of such bicycle.

(b) Within such ten day period, the new owner or transferee may, upon presentation of proof of ownership, have a transfer of such registration made to him. (Ord. No. 1798, § 1; Ord. No. 2350, § 2.)

Section 6.8. Rental agencies.

(a) No rental agency shall rent or offer to rent any bicycle, unless such bicycle is registered and equipped to comply with the requirements of this Chapter.

(b) No rental agency shall rent a bicycle to a minor without first obtaining the written consent of a parent or guardian, which consent shall set forth the name, address and age of such minor. A record of such consents shall be kept on file by the rental agency for a period of one year. (Ord. No. 1798, § 1.)

Section 6.9. Dealers.

Every person located within the Village that sells five or more new or used bicycles per month shall keep monthly records of each sale, which records shall include the name and address of each purchaser and a description of the bicycle, by name or make, serial number and color. Such report shall be delivered to the bicycle inspector not less than ten days after the last day of the month to which such report relates. (Ord. No. 1798, § 1.)

Section 6.10. Altering numbers.

It shall be unlawful to remove, destroy, mutilate or alter the number of any bicycle frame or registration card. (Ord. No. 1798, § 1.)

Section 6.11. Traffic laws applicable.

Every person operating a bicycle shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle under the laws of the state and the Village, except those rights and duties which by their nature have no application. (Ord. No. 1798, § 1.)

Section 6.12. Operation generally.

(a) Every person operating a bicycle shall ride as close to the right hand side of the street or roadway as is practical and safe.

(b) No person operating a bicycle shall ride other than astride a permanent and regular seat attached thereto.

(c) No bicycle shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is equipped or designed.

(d) No person shall attach any equipment or device to a bicycle which will be pulled or dragged behind such bicycle unless such equipment or device shall have been designed and equipped for such use.

(e) No person shall operate a bicycle at a speed greater than is reasonable and proper having regard to traffic conditions and the use of the highway. In no event shall any person operate a bicycle at a speed greater than that posted for the operation of automobiles or other motor vehicles. (Ord. No. 1798, § 1.)

Section 6.13. Parking.

No person shall park a bicycle upon a street other than against the curb or upon a sidewalk other than in a rack or upon other public property other than against a building, tree, sign post or other similar structure. In all cases a bicycle shall be parked in such manner so as to avoid unreasonable obstruction to pedestrian or vehicular traffic. (Ord. No. 1798, § 1.)

Section 6.14. Riding on sidewalks.

(a) No person shall ride a bicycle upon a sidewalk within an area zoned for business under the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance of the Village and upon which signs or markings so prohibiting bicycle riding are present.

(b) The Village Manager is authorized on behalf of the Village Council to execute agreements with property owners, lessees or managers for the enforcement of bicycle restrictions on private property.

(c) No person shall ride a bicycle upon a sidewalk or upon any private property for which the

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Village has entered into an agreement with the property owner, lessee or manager for enforcement of the bicycle restrictions on the property, and upon which signs or markings prohibiting bicycle riding are present. (Ord. No. 1798, § 1.)

(4133, Amended, 06/28/1999; 3991, Amended, 12/01/1997)

Section 6.15. Equipment.

(a) Every bicycle, when used between sunset and sunrise, shall be equipped with a lamp on the front, which shall emit a white light visible for a distance of at least five hundred feet to the front. Every bicycle shall be equipped with a red reflex reflector on the rear, a clear reflex reflector on the front of the bicycle, visible in front. In addition to such reflectors, the bicycle may be equipped with a red light, visible to the rear.

(b) No person shall operate a bicycle at any time unless it is equipped with a bell or other device capable of giving a signal audible for a distance of one hundred feet.

(c) On bicycles sold at retail after July 15, 1974, equipment must include pedal reflectors and side reflectors, consistent in design and placement with applicable state law.

(d) Every bicycle shall be equipped with a brake or brakes which will enable the operator to make the braked wheels skid on dry, level, clean pavement. (Ord. No. 1798, § 1.)

Section 6.16. Impounding; sale when unclaimed.

In the event a bicycle is found on a public street, or found in the possession of a person not the owner or other person entitled to possession thereof, such bicycle shall be impounded by the bicycle inspector of the police department. After impoundment and after proper attempts to notify the registered owner, if any, by the mailing of a written notice to such owner's last address of record, such bicycle may be sold as properly possessed by a law enforcement agency pursuant to applicable law. (Ord. No. 1798, § 1.)

Section 6.17. Penalties.

Any person who violates any provisions of this Chapter shall be fined not less than one dollar nor more than one hundred dollars for each offense. (Ord. No. 1798, § 1.)