

**DRAFT**

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP  
BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP,  
SPECIFICALLY CHAPTER 15, MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, FOR THE  
PURPOSE OF ADDING PART 13, ELECTRICALLY MOTORIZED DEVICES,  
TO ADD REGULATIONS AND PENALTY PROVISIONS**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED and ORDAINED** by the Board of Supervisors of Northampton Township as follows:

**SECTION 1. CHAPTER 15, MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC**, is hereby amended to add **PART 13, ELECTRICALLY MOTORIZED DEVICES** as follows:

**PART 13. ELECTRICALLY MOTORIZED DEVICES**

**§13-1301. Definitions.**

**Electrically Motorized Devices**

Any electrically motorized vehicle or device such as an electric scooter, an electric motorcycle, an electric bicycle without pedals, an electric bicycle with non-operational pedals, a Pedalcycle with Electric Assist (“E-Bike”), a Motorized Pedalcycle, a Motor-driven Cycle, a one-wheel, an Electric Personal Assistive Mobility Device (“EPAMD”), a Segway device, any other similar vehicle as may be included within and/or defined within the Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Code, 75 P.S. §101 et seq., or any other electrically powered devices with or without pedals. This definition does not include a wheelchair or any similar powered mobility device specifically designed for use by persons with a mobility-related disability.

**§13-1302. Prohibited Locations.**

- A. Any person operating an Electrically Motorized Device on a roadway is subject to regulation under Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, 75 P.S. §101, et seq., as may be amended from time to time.
- B. Except as more specifically permitted and described in Subsection 1302. C., below, Electrically Motorized Devices are otherwise prohibited in all Northampton Township parks and in or upon all Township owned property, including, but not limited to, open space areas, sidewalks, paved trails, unpaved

trails, parking lots open to motor vehicle traffic, and/or traffic ways located within or upon such Township parks and Township owned property.

C. A Pedalcycle with Electric Assist (“E-Bike”) is permitted to be operated within or upon Northampton Township parks and in or upon all Township owned property under and subject to the following conditions:

1. The operator of the E-Bike must be at least 16 years of age;
2. An E-Bike may only be operated on sidewalks, paved trails and/or unpaved trails located within or upon such Township parks or Township owned property;
3. The operator of the E-Bike shall only use human power or pedal-assist power (motor assistance while pedaling), and shall not use the electric motor of the E-Bike exclusively to move or propel the E-Bike;
4. The operator of the E-Bike shall comply with any and all other requirements and/or regulations of this Ordinance and/or as may be issued by the Township Police Department and/or the Township Department of Parks and Recreation from time to time.

**§13-1303. Compliance with Other State and County Agency.**

- A. To the extent that operation of an Electrically Motorized Device may be permitted on State-owned and/or State-managed lands located within the Township, this Ordinance shall be interpreted and applied in a manner consistent with the policies and regulations of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) governing the operation of Electrically Motorized Devices on State-managed lands.
- B. To the extent that operation of an Electrically Motorized Device may be permitted on County-owned and /or County-managed lands located within the Township, this Ordinance shall be interpreted and applied in a manner consistent with the policies and regulations of Bucks County, specifically, but not limited to, Bucks County Park Ordinances, Policies and/or Regulations.
- C. In the event of any inconsistency between this Ordinance and those higher-level regulations, the more restrictive provision shall apply.

**§13-1304. Additional Safety Requirements.**

When and where the operation of an Electrically Motorized Device is otherwise not prohibited within the Township, the following safety requirements shall apply:

1. The operator of any Electrically Motorized Device shall wear a properly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet that meets the standards provided by either the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission or the American Society for Testing and Materials, or standards subsequently established by those entities in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
2. The operator of the Electrically Motorized Device must be at least 16 years of age.
3. No more than one person may operate, ride upon and/or otherwise occupy any Electrically Motorized Device at one time.
4. The operator of an Electrically Motorized Device shall at all times yield to pedestrians, and shall give an audible signal to pedestrians before passing them on a sidewalk, paved trail and/or unpaved trail.

**§13-1305. Violations and Penalties.**

- A. Any violation of this Article shall be considered a summary offense and punishable by a fine not to exceed \$250.00.
- B. The parent, guardian, or individual with express authority to supervise a minor child may also be fined for repeated offenses by a minor child.
- C. Violations of this ordinance shall be enforceable by Northampton Township Police Department and may result in civil fines, confiscation of equipment for repeat offenders and other remedies allowed under law.

**SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY.**

In the event that any section, sentence, clause, phrase or word of this ordinance shall be declared illegal, invalid or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration shall not prevent or otherwise foreclose enforcement of any of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

**SECTION 3. REPEALER.**

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith or in conflict with any of the specific terms enacted hereby, to the extent of said inconsistencies or conflicts, are hereby specifically repealed.

**ORDAINED** and **ENACTED** by the Board of Supervisors of Northampton Township

this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Salzer, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Barry Moore, Secretary

6/18/26