

Noise

Any snowmobile manufactured between January 1, 1971 and December 31, 1972 must have a muffling system that reduces its noise emission to 86 decibels or less on the A scale.

Snowmobiles manufactured on or after January 1, 1973 must have a muffling system that reduce noise emissions to 84 decibels or less on the A scale.

Snowmobiling

Snowmobiling is becoming one of the most popular winter sports in Colorado. In order to make sure snowmobilers enjoy their sport safely and in harmony with the environment and other winter sports enthusiasts, Colorado law (33-14-C.R.S.) includes certain requirements for the registration and operation of snowmobiles. These laws are enforced by officers of Colorado State Parks and other state law enforcement agencies. Paying attention to the laws and to snowmobile safety tips will result in a safe, enjoyable winter sports season.



Colorado State Parks

Colorado State Parks Registration Unit

13787 S. Highway 85
Littleton, CO 80125
(303) 791-1920

Law Enforcement
(303) 791-1954

Visit our Web site at www.parks.state.co.us

Any person who is excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program of the Colorado Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation on the grounds of race, creed, color, sex, age, handicap, or national origin, should contact the park manager, the nearest local regional office, the Division headquarters in Denver, Colorado - telephone (303) 866-3437 - or the National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127.

Colorado Snowmobiling

F A C T S



Regulations

All Colorado snowmobiles, including those on trailers in parking lots and at trailheads, must be registered with Colorado State Parks unless:

- Used exclusively for sanctioned snowmobile races (including out-of-state machines brought to Colorado for racing) or
- Government owned.

The current year validation decal must be permanently affixed to each side of the upper half of the cowl of the machine. (Dealers, renters and manufacturers should contact the State Parks Registration Unit for details regarding registration fees and the display of decals on their machines.)

Snowmobile dealers are required to sell a snowmobile registration to anyone buying from their inventory. Colorado residents may use their dated snowmobile bill of sale as a temporary registration for the first 30 days of ownership.

A non-resident snowmobile permit is required on all snowmobiles from another state or country being used within the state of Colorado.

Snowmobile registrations and non-resident permits are valid from October 1 through September 30. The registration fee is \$20.25. All funds from the sale of snowmobile registrations are earmarked for the Snowmobile Recreation Fund. Purchase registrations and non-resident permits at:

- State Parks service centers in Colorado Springs, Fort Collins and Clifton.
- Some snowmobile dealers.
- Some state parks.
- State Parks Registration Unit
13787 S. Highway 85
Littleton, CO 80125

Snowmobile operators must carry their snowmobile registration certificate and show it to any peace officer upon request.

Streets, Roads & Highways

It is unlawful to operate a snowmobile on the roadway or right-of-way (the area adjacent to the shoulder of the road) of ANY freeway.

It is unlawful to operate on the right-of-way of any operating railroad except to make a right angle crossing of the tracks at their intersections with a road or highway.

To cross a railroad or highway:

- Come to a complete stop before crossing.
- Yield the right-of-way to all motor vehicle traffic.
- Cross at a right angle (90°) to the roadway at the place where no obstruction prevents a quick, safe crossing.

You may operate on the roadways of streets and highways:

- During special snowmobile events and on snowmobile routes authorized by local subdivision (note that roads on the state highway system may not be used in this manner).
- On streets and highways not maintained for winter motor vehicle traffic.
- When crossing railroad tracks, bridges or culverts.
- During any emergency condition declared by the Governor or his designated authority.

You may operate on the right-of-way of streets and highways:

- If you are as far as possible from the roadway and
- If you are moving in the same direction as the nearest lane of traffic during hours of darkness.

Operation

Snowmobiles operated between sunset and sunrise must have at least one headlight that illuminates objects 100 feet ahead and one red tail light that can be seen from 500 feet.

As an extra safety precaution, you may wish to have your lights on at all times while operating your snowmobile.

Snowmobiles may not be used to hunt or harass wildlife. Report any instances of a snowmobile being used to chase or hurt animals to the nearest law enforcement agency.

Play it safe! It is unlawful to operate a snowmobile while under the influence of a controlled substance or alcohol. It is unlawful to carry loaded firearms or strung bows on a snowmobile. It is unlawful to operate a snowmobile in a careless or reckless manner.

No one under the age of 10 may operate a snowmobile unless:

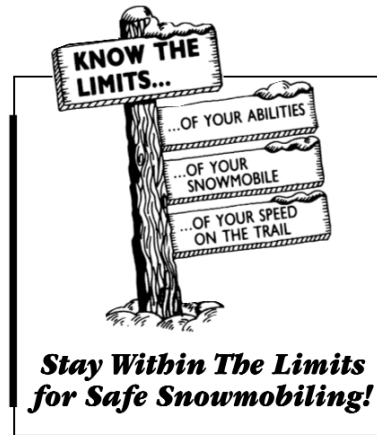
- They operate it only on lands owned or leased by a parent or guardian, or
- They are accompanied or immediately supervised by someone 16 or older, or
- They are accompanied or immediately supervised by someone 14 or older who is certified in snowmobile safety.

Persons between the ages of 10 and 16 may not operate a snowmobile in Colorado unless:

- They hold a snowmobile safety certificate, or
- They are accompanied or immediately supervised (within sight distance) by someone 16 or older, or
- They are accompanied or immediately supervised (within sight distance) by someone 14 or older who holds a snowmobile safety certificate, or
- They operate the snowmobile only on lands leased or owned by a parent or guardian.

Remember you must have the permission of landowners before snowmobiling on their property.

Any snowmobile accident resulting in death, personal injury or property damage must be reported immediately to the nearest law enforcement agency.



Tips

Always be sure your machine is in good mechanical condition and be thoroughly familiar with it before you ride.

Wear warm multi-layered protective clothing, a protective helmet and goggles or a visor.

Carry survival gear, maps, matches, compass, flares, snowshoes or skis and a first aid kit.

Be familiar with the terrain you'll be traveling over. Know the weather forecast and the snow and ice conditions before you leave.

Stay off ice if you are uncertain of its thickness. Drowning is a serious hazard to snowmobilers!

Play it safe: ALWAYS snowmobile with a buddy.

Make sure your trailer has safety chains and proper lighting and meets all other state requirements.

Be a good sport:

- Operate snowmobiles only on land and trails designated for their use.
- Watch out for small trees and shrubs.
- Carry out your trash.
- Steer clear of wildlife and report any incidents of harassment or hunting of wildlife to the nearest law enforcement agency.
- Respect the rights of other winter sports lovers. Everyone has the right to use and enjoy our public lands.

Safety Training

Colorado State Parks recommends safety training for everyone who operates a snowmobile. The free course consists of six hours of classroom instruction and an additional hour of performance testing on a snowmobile. You do not have to own a machine in order to take the course.

Anyone between the ages of 10 and 16 who wishes to operate a snowmobile on public lands must be certified or supervised (within sight distance) by someone who is. Adults are encouraged to take snowmobile safety training. In fact, more than 800 adult employees of Colorado ski areas are certified each year!

Certificates in snowmobile safety are awarded upon successful completion of a State Parks approved training course. Such courses are available throughout Colorado from local snowmobile clubs, the Colorado Snowmobile Association and Colorado State Parks.



Snowmobiling