

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
TOWN OF WASHINGTON, VILAS COUNTY

CODE OF ORDINANCES

**CHAPTER 4: SNOWMOBILE ACCESS ORDINANCE (February 5, 2018)**

**4.01 Title and Purpose**

The title of this ordinance is the Town of Washington Snowmobile Access Ordinance. The purpose of this ordinance is to authorize persons to travel by snowmobile on roads within the town from residences and lodging establishments within the town to the nearest snowmobile route or trail and to prescribe penalties for violations.

**4.02 Statutory Authority**

The town board has the specific authority to adopt this snowmobile access ordinance under s. 350.18 (3)(a) Wis. Stats.

**4.03 Definitions**

Snowmobile means an engine driven vehicle that is manufactured solely for snowmobiling, that had an endless belt tread and sled-type runners, or skis, to be used in contact with snow but does not include such a vehicle that is any of the following:

1. A vehicle that has inflatable tires.
2. A vehicle that is driven by a motor of 4 horsepower or less and that is operated in sanctioned races, derbies, competitions or exhibitions or only on private property.

Operator means a person who operates a snowmobile, who is responsible for the operation of a snowmobile, or who is supervising the operation of a snowmobile.

All other applicable words or phrases defined within Chapter 350.01 of the Wisconsin Statutes are incorporated within this ordinance.

**4.04 Authorization and Conditions**

- A. Residents of the town and their guests and registered guests of lodging establishments in the town are authorized to operate snowmobiles on roads within the town that are not designated as snowmobile routes for the sole purpose of accessing the snowmobile route or snowmobile trail nearest the resident's residence or registered guest's place of lodging by way of the shortest available route from the residence or lodging establishment to the nearest snowmobile route or trail.
- B. A person operating a snowmobile on roads within the town as authorized in subsection A may operate the snowmobile upon the roadway and shoulder of the roadway.
- C. A person operating a snowmobile on roadways within the town as authorized in subsection A shall do all the following:
  1. All snowmobiles shall be operated on the extreme right side of the roadway and travel with the flow of traffic.
  2. When riding with more than one snowmobiler, the snowmobiles are to be operated in single file and passing is not permitted.
  3. Snowmobile operators shall yield the right-of-way to other vehicular traffic and pedestrians.

4. A snowmobile operated on a portion of the roadway or shoulder of a road pursuant to this ordinance shall comply with posted snowmobile speed limits. If no speed limit has been established, snowmobile operators shall comply with the roadway speed limits.
- D. During the last Friday, Saturday and Sunday of January in each calendar year, the operation of snowmobiles shall be permitted on Chain O'Lakes Road from Eagle Lake Landing Road to Wild Eagle Lodge.

**4.05 Enforcement**

This ordinance shall be enforced by a certified and sworn law enforcement acting in his/her official capacity and on duty to enforce laws of the State of Wisconsin.

**4.06 Penalties**

The penalties under s. 350.11 Wis. Stats., are adopted and incorporated by reference.

**4.07 Severability**

If any provision of this ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are severable.

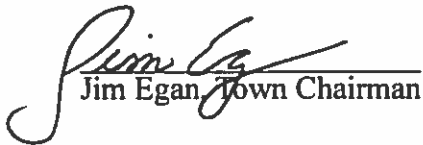
This ordinance rescinds and replaces all snowmobile access ordinances previously adopted by the Town of Washington.

**4.08 Effective Date**

This ordinance is effective upon passage and publication.

The town clerk shall properly publish this ordinance as required under s. 60.80, Wis. Stats., and mail a copy to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and to the Vilas County Sheriff's Department, as required under s. 350.047, Wis. Stats.

Adopted this 5<sup>th</sup> day of February 2018.

  
Jim Egan, Town Chairman

Attest:  
  
Michele Sanborn, Clerk

Effective Date: March 8, 2018

Publication Date: March 7, 2018