





## Motorized Scooters, Go-Peds, and Pocket Bikes

Motorized scooters/go-peds are small two or three-wheel vehicles that a person may stand or sit upon to operate or ride. Some have electric motors, and some have gas engines. The steering is managed by use of a T-

shaped handlebar.

Pocket bikes are miniature motorcycles with 50 cc or less gas engines that have automatic transmissions.

Motorized scooters, go-peds, and pocket bikes cannot be legally operated on public roadways, sidewalks, or bicycle paths.

## Mopeds and Motorized Bicycles

Mopeds have 50 cc or less engines with two wheels and can travel a maximum speed of 30 miles per hour. Motorized bicycles have electric helper motors and can travel a maximum of 20 miles per hour. Both mopeds and motorized bicycles have pedals and may be operated solely by human power.

A driver must have at least a Class E driver's license and tag registration to legally operate a moped. The operator of a motorized bicycle does not require a driver's license.

Persons 16 and older may operate a moped or a motorized bicycle on public roadways. Mopeds and motorized bicycles can be operated on sidewalks and bike paths only if operated solely by human power. Persons under 16 may only operate mopeds on private property and must wear protective headgear securely fastened upon their heads.

## Where can my child ride a motorized scooter, go-ped, or pocket bike?

Motorized scooters, go-peds, and pocket bikes can only be ridden on private property with permission from the owner of the property (e.g., driveway, yard). A person may not ride motorized scooters and pocket bikes on sidewalks, bike paths, or roadways.

## If motorized scooters, go-peds, or pocket bikes are illegal to ride on the roadways and sidewalks, then why are businesses allowed to sell them?

It is not against the law to possess, use, or operate a motorized scooter, go-ped, or pocket bike, as long as you are on private property. Therefore, it is not against the law for businesses to sell them.



## What are the consequences should my child be stopped by a law enforcement officer while riding his motorized scooter, go-ped, pocket bike, moped, or motorized bicycle?

A person who operates or allows a juvenile to operate any motorized scooter, go-ped, pocket bike, moped, or motorized bicycle in violation of the law may be subject to the following:

- ❖ If caught operating a moped or motorized bicycle using engine power, or a motorized scooter, go-ped, or pocket bike, on a sidewalk, the operator will be issued a moving traffic citation for operating a motorized vehicle on a sidewalk. Florida Statute 316.1995.
- ❖ The operator is also eligible to receive a criminal citation for operating an unregistered motor vehicle. This is a criminal violation which requires a mandatory court date, and the operator is subject to arrest. Florida Statute 320.02.
- ❖ To operate a motor vehicle in the State of Florida, the operator must possess a valid driver's license. If the operator is caught operating a motor vehicle without a valid license, he or she is subject to a criminal citation, mandatory court appearance, and/or arrest. Florida Statute 322.03.
- ❖ Parents who knowingly allow a juvenile who has no driver's license to operate a motor vehicle on public streets may be cited for a violation of Florida Statute 322.35, "Permitting an Unauthorized Minor to Drive." This is an arrestable misdemeanor.

**Note: All criminal violations involve issuance of a Uniform Traffic Citation, mandatory court date, and/or arrest.**