

THE CITY OF WARWICK  
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

CHAPTER 40  
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS AND OFFENSES

ARTICLE I  
IN GENERAL

No..... Date.....

Approved.....Mayor

Be it ordained by the City of Warwick:

Section I. Chapter 40 Article I of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Warwick is hereby amended to add the following:

**Sec. 40-33. – Snowmobiles and recreational off-road vehicles.**

(a) Definitions:

[The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:]

Operate. To control the operation of a snowmobile or recreational off-road vehicle.

Operator. A person who operates or is in actual control of a snowmobile or recreational off-road vehicle.

Recreational off road vehicle. A motorized or electronic vehicle designed to travel over unimproved terrain including but not limited to minibikes, dirt bikes, all-terrain vehicles, and any other three (3) or four (4) wheel vehicle regardless of type or design. This shall not be construed to include golf mobiles or golf carts, riding lawn mowers, or garden tractors, which are not registered as farm vehicles.

Register. The act of registering a snow mobile or recreational off-road vehicle, as defined in this section, in accordance with RI General Laws § 31-3-2.2.

Snowmobile. A vehicle designed for travel on snow or ice in a natural terrain steered by wheels, skis or runners.

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- 20 (b) Registration:  
21 (1) All snowmobiles and recreational off-road vehicles must be registered with the Rhode  
22 Island Department of Environmental Management as provided by state statute.  
23 (2) No person shall place, store, or keep any snowmobiles or recreational off-road vehicles  
24 that are not registered in accordance with state law upon public or private land, including  
25 any buildings thereon, zoned, or used for residential purposes.  
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- 27 (c) Operations:  
28 It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a snowmobile or recreational off-road  
29 vehicle within the city limits of the City of Warwick, except on private property totaling  
30 at least two and a half (2.5) acres in area and with the express permission to do so by the  
31 owner or occupant of said private property.  
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- 33 (d) Enforcement:  
34 (1) The Warwick Police Department shall have the authority to enforce the provisions of  
35 this ordinance and to promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement and  
36 enforce this ordinance.  
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38 (2) The Warwick Police Department shall have the authority to impound any snowmobile or  
39 recreational off-road vehicle found to be in violation of this ordinance.  
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41 (3) No impounded snowmobile or recreational off-road vehicle shall be released until final  
42 disposition of all criminal and/or civil charges relating to the operation or storage of any  
43 recreational off-road vehicle, nor until proof of ownership and proper registration according  
44 to state statute is verified and applicable towing and storage charges paid.
- 45 (e) Violations and penalties:  
46 Any person who violates, fails or refuses to comply with the provisions of this section  
47 shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$500.00 or by imprisonment not exceeding 30  
48 days or both for each separate offense. The continuation of such violation for each  
49 successive day shall constitute a separate offense, and the person or persons allowing or  
50 permitting the continuation of the violation may be subject to penalties as provided  
51 herein for each separate offense.

Section II. This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication as prescribed by law.

SPONSORED BY: COUNCILWOMAN TRAVIS

COMMITTEE: ORDINANCE