

**ORDINANCE REGULATING SNOWMOBILES
TOWN OF BENSON, VERMONT**

SNOWMOBILES

SECTION 1. AUTHORITY. Under the authority granted in 24 V.S.A. Chapter 59 and 23 V.S.A. § 3210, the Selectboard of Benson hereby adopts the following civil ordinance regulating the time, manner and location of operation of snowmobiles within the town.

SECTION 2. PURPOSE. The purpose of this ordinance is to protect the public health and safety and to preserve the residents' right to quiet enjoyment of their homes and properties.

SECTION 3. DEFINITIONS. For the purposes of this ordinance, the following words and / or phrases shall be defined as follows:

- (a) "Operate" includes an attempt to operate and shall be construed to cover all matters and things connected with the presence and use of snowmobiles within the Town of Benson whether they be in motion or at rest;
- (b) "Snowmobile" means a self-propelled vehicle intended for off-road travel primarily on snow, having a curb weight of not more than 453.59 kg (1,000 lbs.), driven by track or tracks in contact with the snow and steered by a ski or skis in contact with the snow;
- (c) "VAST" means the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers;
- (d) "Trails maintenance assessment" (TMA) means a permit issued by VAST granting use of Vermont snowmobile trails on public and private land;
- (e) "Public land" means all land that is either owned or controlled by a local, state or federal governmental body.
- (f) Other definitions found in 23 V.S.A. § 3201 are incorporated by reference.

SECTION 4. OTHER LAWS. This ordinance is in addition to all state laws regulating the operation of snowmobiles.

SECTION 5. SIGNAGE. Placement and maintenance of all signs regulating snowmobile operation on public lands, on VAST trails, at crossings of trails over highways or sidewalks, and on town highways or sidewalks which have been opened by the Selectboard for snowmobile traffic shall be the responsibility of VAST.

SECTION 6. SPEED LIMITS. The speed limit on town highways opened for snowmobile traffic shall be 25 m.p.h.

SECTION 7. SINGLE FILE; RACING. Snowmobile travel on town highways and trails which have been opened for their use shall be single file. No racing shall be allowed.

