








BICYCLING SAFETY TIPS

Bicycling Safety Tips

- **Go with the traffic flow** - Ride on the right in the same direction as other vehicles. Go with the flow – not against it. Motorists aren't looking for bicyclists riding on the wrong side of the road. State law and common sense require that bicyclists drive like other vehicles. Do not ride on the sidewalk.
- **Obey all traffic laws** - A bicycle is a vehicle and you're a driver. When you ride in the street, obey all traffic signs, signals, and lane markings.
- **Ride with the group** – When riding with other bikers, ride with the group in the same traffic lane or in the same shoulder. Ride two-by-two or in a single file line on the right side of the road or in a bike lane. Allow plenty of room for cars and other vehicles to pass on your left.
- **Stay in bike-lanes or on road shoulder** - Choose the safest path when on the road and stay to the right.
- **Yield to traffic when appropriate** - Almost always, drivers on a smaller road must yield (wait) for traffic on a major or larger road. If there is no stop sign or traffic signal and you are coming from a smaller roadway (out of a driveway, from a sidewalk, a bike path, etc.), you must slow down and look to see if the way is clear before proceeding. This also means yielding to pedestrians who have already entered a crosswalk.
- **Don't pass on the right** - Motorists may not look for or see a bicycle passing on the right.
- **Be predictable** - Ride in a straight line, not in and out of cars. Signal your moves to others. Don't turn left from the right lane. Don't go straight in a lane marked "right-turn only."
- **Stay alert at all times** - Use your eyes AND ears. Watch out for potholes, cracks, wet leaves, storm grates, railroad tracks, or anything that could make you lose control of your bike. You need your ears to hear traffic and avoid dangerous situations; don't wear headphones when you ride. Always use traffic signals.
- **Watch for parked cars** - Ride far enough out from the curb to avoid the unexpected from parked cars (like doors opening, or cars pulling out).

Turn Signals

Front View	Hand Signal	Back View
	Left Turn Extend your left arm out sideways.	
	Right Turn Extend your left arm out sideways bent at a ninety-degree angle at the elbow joint, hand pointing upwards and the palm of hand facing forward.	
	Alternative Right Turn Extend your right arm out straight.	
	Stopping or Slowing Extend your left arm sideways and have a ninety degree angle at the elbow joint and hand pointing downwards and the palm of your hand facing backwards.	