

Bicycle Safety



It is important to know the rules of the road regarding bicycles, whether you are riding one or riding near one.

Before Riding

Always wear a helmet.

Never wear headphones while riding a bike.

Wear bright clothes and dress in layers to adjust to temperature changes.

Tuck pant legs and tie shoelaces so they don't get caught in the bike chain.

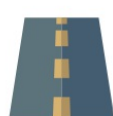
When riding a bicycle at night, it is State law to equip the bike with a front white light and a rear red reflector.

Ensure the bicycle is equipped with working brakes.



Avoiding Crashes

Plan a safe route with less traffic and slower speeds, preferably with a bike lane or bike path. Be aware of where bicyclists are legally required to ride:



You should ride as near to the right side of the roadway as possible. You may, but are not required to, ride on the shoulder of the road.



You may ride in a lane other than the right-hand lane, if only one lane is available that allows the bicyclist to continue on his/her intended route.



While riding on a roadway, you should not ride more than two wide – except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for exclusive use of bicycles.

Remember bicyclists are expected to follow the same laws as automobiles.

It is unlawful to harass or maliciously throw an object at any person riding a bicycle.

Communicate intentions to turn, stop, and change lanes using recognized hand signals. Per State law, a bicyclist:



Shall indicate a left turn by extending the left arm horizontally.



Shall indicate stopping or decreasing speed by extending the left or the right arm downward.



Is not required to give signals continuously if the hand or arm is needed to control the bicycle.

A driver of a motor vehicle must maintain a safe distance between the motor vehicle and a bicycle.

Drive with the flow of traffic, in the same direction as traffic.

