

Biking on the Road

Bikes on the roadway are considered vehicles, and bicyclists are the drivers of those vehicles, with the same rights and responsibilities as other drivers to follow the rules of the road, including:

- **Go With the Traffic Flow.** Ride on the right side in the same direction as other vehicles. Go with the flow – not against it.
- **Obey All Traffic Laws.** As the driver of your vehicle on the road, obey all traffic signs, signals, and lane markings.
- **Yield to Traffic.** 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.), slow down, look for traffic, and go only when it's clear. Also yield to pedestrians in a crosswalk.
- **Be Predictable.** Ride in a straight line, not in and out of cars. Signal your moves to others.
- **Stay Alert at All Times.** Use your eyes AND ears. Look for potholes, cracks, wet leaves, storm grates, railroad tracks, or anything that could make you lose control of your bike. Listen for traffic and avoid dangerous situations; don't use personal electronic devices when you ride.
- **Look Before Turning.** When turning left or right, always look behind you for a break in traffic, and then signal before making the turn. Watch for left- or right-turning traffic.
- **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).

For more information on bicycle safety check out the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's website at:
<http://www.nhtsa.gov/Driving+Safety>

