



PEDESTRIAN/BIKE SAFETY TIPS



Safe Biking

- Never ride against traffic. 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.
- Always wear a helmet.
- Never wear headphones while riding a bike.
- Choose the best way to turn left- there are two choices:
 - (1) Like an auto: signal to move into the left turn lane and then turn left.
 - (2) Like a pedestrian: ride straight to the far side crosswalk. Walk your bike across.
- Make eye contact with drivers. Assume that other drivers don't see you until you are sure that they do.
- Use hand signals. Hand signals tell motorists what you intend to do. Signal as a matter of law, courtesy, and self protection.
- Stay to the right; pass on the left. Motorists and other cyclists may not look for or see a bicycle passing on the right.
- Watch for chasing dogs. Ignore them, or try a firm, loud "NO". If the dog doesn't stop, dismount your bike between you and the dog. Spinning wheels and feet attract dogs.
- Keep both hands ready to brake. You may not stop in time if you brake one-handed. Allow extra distance for stopping in the rain, since brakes are less efficient when wet.

Pedestrian Safety

- Wear bright/light colored clothing and reflective materials.
- Carry a flashlight when walking at night.
- Cross in a well-lit area at night.
- Stand clear of buses, hedges, parked cars or other obstacles before crossing so drivers can see you.
- Always walk on the sidewalk; if there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic.
- Cross streets at marked crosswalks or intersections, if possible.
- Obey traffic signals such as WALK/DON'T WALK signs.
- Look left, right, and left again before crossing a street.
- Watch for turning vehicles; make sure the driver sees you and will stop for you.
- Don't wear headphones or talk on a cell phone while crossing.
- Remain alert! Don't assume that cars are going to stop.

