

In all 50 states, bicyclists are accorded the same rights and are expected to obey the same laws as drivers of motor vehicles. Bicyclists fare best when they ride predictably and follow the rules of the road.

The following suggestions are offered from a positive desire to help all to “share the road”.

- Always leave at least 3 feet between the right side of your vehicle and a bicyclist when passing.
- Always make sure it is safe ahead before passing a bicyclist. No passing should be attempted on blind curves and near the crest of a hill.
- Reduce your speed when passing a bicyclist, especially if the roadway is narrow.
- Be aware that when a road is too narrow for cars and bikes to ride safely side by side, it is safest for the bicyclist to take the travel lane, which means riding in or near the center of the lane. ***This is allowed in the laws of all 50 states.***
- Do not honk your horn when approaching bicyclists as this can startle them and cause them to lose control of their bicycle.
- In inclement weather, give bicyclists extra room, as you would other motorists.
- Always yield to a bicycle when you are turning from or entering a main roadway on which they are traveling.
- Look for approaching situations and obstacles that may be hazardous to bicyclists, such as potholes, debris, and glass, and then give them adequate space to maneuver.
- Look for bicyclists before opening your car door on the traffic side when parallel parked.
- Most bicyclists do not receive training in proper riding behaviors. Some ride inappropriately and cannot decide whether they should ride in the street or on the sidewalk. Children on bicycles often act unpredictably: Expect the unexpected in these cases.