

Top Ten Bicycle Safety Tips

- 1 Be a responsible bicyclist** – obey all traffic signals and use proper hand signals.
- 2 Always ride** with the flow of traffic.
- 3 Dress safely** – use a helmet, wear brightly colored clothing and secure loose pant legs.
- 4 Maximize your visibility at night** – wear reflective clothing and apply reflective tape to your bicycle.
- 5 Ride defensively** – anticipate the actions of others on the road and watch for road hazards.
- 6 Pass vehicles with extreme care** – turning vehicles may not see you.
- 7 Be aware of motor vehicle** blind spots.
- 8 Walk your bicycle** when you get into traffic situations beyond your cycling abilities.
- 9 Don't carry bundles** that prevent you from keeping a firm grip on the handlebar.
- 10 Lock your bicycle** – secure both wheels and the frame to a stationary object using a sturdy lock.

Did You Know?

- **Did you know all bicycles must be registered in the City of Norfolk?** You must register a bicycle with the City within 15 days of acquiring it. Registration is free and can be done at any of three police precincts in the City. Or, you can register with the Division of Towing and Recovery; call 441-2233 to learn more.
- **Did you know you can easily find the City ordinance regarding bicycles and bicycle safety?** To read the ordinance, visit www.norfolk.gov/publicworks, click on Division of Transportation, then click on the bicycle ordinance link under the important information column on the left.
- **Did you know that the City of Norfolk is bicycle friendly?** To locate an (unofficial) guide to bike routes throughout the City, visit www.norfolk.gov/mayor/assets/maps/bikeMap.pdf

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Get Rolling with Bicycle Safety

Department of
Public Works
City of Norfolk



Follow These Laws to Stay Safe on Your Bicycle

Riding Your Bicycle In Traffic

These laws have been enacted to keep bicyclists safe while traveling in traffic.

- Bicyclists are subject to the same traffic regulations as motorists including, but not limited to, yielding the right of way when required and obeying traffic signals and signs.
- Bicyclists must ride with the flow of traffic on the right side of the road or highway.
- Bicyclists that are moving at less than the normal speed of traffic must ride as close as safely possible to the right curb or edge of the road.
- Bicyclists may not ride between two lanes of traffic moving in the same direction.
- Bicyclists may not ride *more* than two abreast. When riding two abreast, bicyclists cannot impede the movement of traffic.
- Bicyclists are not permitted to ride on the Interstate.
- Bicyclists under the age of 15 may ride on the sidewalk. While on the sidewalk, bicyclists must ride single file, yield the right of way to pedestrians and give an audible signal before passing pedestrians.

Turning or Stopping on Your Bicycle

Bicyclists must signal their intention to stop or turn. The proper signals are made with the left arm.



Right Turn



Left Turn



Stop

Bicycle Safety Laws in Norfolk

Always Wear Your Helmet

The law requires every person 14 years or younger to wear a helmet when riding a bicycle on any highway, street, sidewalk or bicycle path.

Safety Equipment for Your Bicycle

Every bicycle operated on the street must have a bell or other device that is audible for at least 100 feet. If you ride between sunset and sunrise, your bicycle must have at least one white headlight and one red reflector; if you ride on roads posted 35 miles or greater at night, your bicycle must also have a red taillight.

One Bicyclist on the Bike, One Hand on the Handlebar.

It is against the law to carry an additional person on a one-seated bicycle. Also, you must always ride your bicycle with at least one hand on the handlebar.

Accidents Happen

Bicyclists must stop when they are involved in an accident. The bicyclist's contact information must be given to the police and to any person involved in the accident. If unattended property is damaged, the bicyclist must make every effort to find the owner.