

Simsbury Police Department Presents



Bicycle and Motorist Safety
PFC Tracy Dunne
Spring 2012

Share The Road - BICYCLISTS

- Driving on the road requires attention and courtesy whether you are riding a bike or driving a car.
- As road users, BICYCLISTS must be predictable and obey all traffic laws.
- As road users, DRIVERS must be alert and obey all traffic laws.



On The Road

- Cyclists must ride WITH traffic.
- At an intersection with a right turn lane, if you intend on going straight, ride with THROUGH traffic.
- On a road too narrow for cars and bikes to ride side by side, BE ALERT.



Turns and Lane Positions



BE ALERT

- Watch for potential hazards-potholes, drains, debris, open car doors.
- Scan the road at least 100 ft. ahead.
- Allow time to maneuver around these hazards and negotiate traffic.

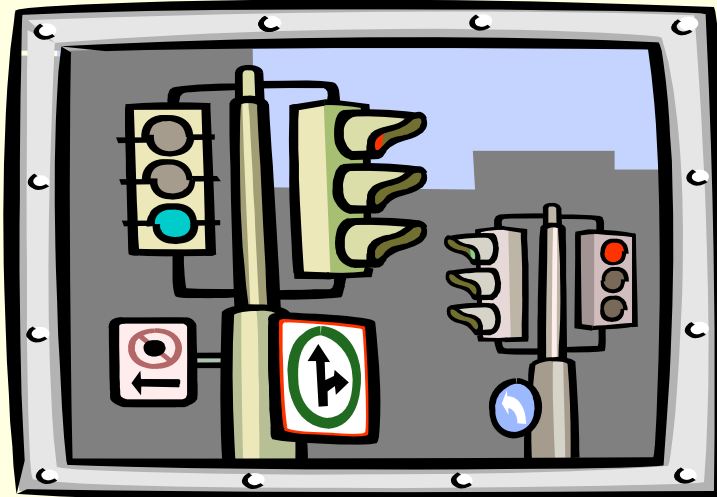


RIDE PREDICTABLY

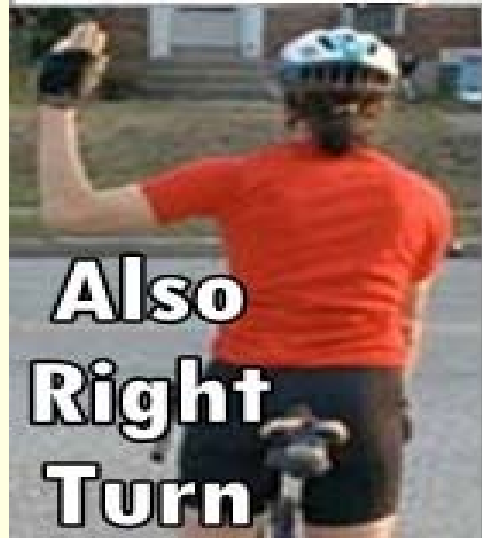
- Ride in a straight line.
- Don't swerve in and out of traffic or between parked cars.
- Check for traffic before entering the street or intersection.
- Anticipate hazards and adjust your position accordingly.

Signal All Turns

- Look back before you make a lane change or turn.
- Signal safely in advance using the proper hand signal.
- When making a left turn, proceed as a vehicle would by moving into the left side of the travel lane OR cross like a pedestrian at a marked crosswalk.



Bicycle Hand Signals



Be Safe and Be Seen

- Always wear a properly fitting helmet.
- Inspect your bicycle and make sure it is safe.
- Wear brightly colored clothing.
- Make sure you have proper lights at night – white light on front (visible from 500 ft.) and a red light on the back (visible from 600 ft.)

Proper Helmet Fit



- Helmet should sit level on head.
- One or two finger widths above eyebrow.
- Buckle the chin strap and tighten so that no more than one or two fingers fit under strap.

Share the Road - MOTORISTS

- Bicycles are less visible so always be aware of bicyclists that MAY be on the road.
- Reduce your speed when passing bicycles.
- Don't blast your horn because you could scare them and cause an accident.



In the roadway...

- When a road is too narrow for cars and bikes to ride safely side by side, motorists must BE ALERT and bicyclists must BE ALERT.
- If you recognize hazardous situations or obstacles give bicyclists adequate space to maneuver.
- DO NOT pass bicyclists if oncoming traffic is close, have PATIENCE.

PASSING BICYCLISTS

- Give at least 3 ft. of passing space between your vehicle and the bicyclist when passing, IT'S THE LAW.
- After passing a bicyclist on your right make sure you have allowed enough room before moving back over into the lane.
- Do not pass bicyclists if you will be making a right turn immediately afterward.
- When turning left at an intersection, yield to oncoming bicyclists just as you would a vehicle.
- When turning left also be aware of a bicyclist's position in the roadway, remember, bicycles are not as visible as vehicles.
- Before opening a car door, always look for bicyclists who may be approaching.

SHARE THE ROAD

- Be considerate in bad weather, give extra room.
- When uncertain in any situation, SLOW DOWN until it is safe to pass.
- Bicyclists may be unpredictable so expect the unexpected.
- Always take the safest approach.

When we all drive safely, have
patience and are considerate of
each other, it is easy to
SHARE THE ROAD!

