

Motorist Information

Bicyclists are more vulnerable road users than motorists. They are smaller, quieter and have no "crumple zone". A small mistake by a motorist can result in serious injury or death to a cyclist. Motorists must respect the rights of other road users, including bicyclists.

Pass with Care

- ◆ Treat a bicyclist as you would any slow moving vehicle. Pass only when the road ahead is clear.
- ◆ Slow down when passing, especially if the road is narrow.
- ◆ Give at least one metre of space between you and a bicyclist when passing.
- ◆ Check over your shoulder before moving back into your travel lane to make sure you have left enough space.

Yield to Bicyclists

- ◆ When turning left, yield to oncoming bicyclists. Experienced cyclists can travel 30 to 40 km/hr and can be moving faster than you think.
- ◆ Do not make a right hand turn in front of bicyclists. Assume they are travelling through unless they signal otherwise.

Watch for Bicyclists

- ◆ Expect to see bicyclists on roads. Bicyclists may ride one metre from the edge, but can occupy any part of a lane if safety warrants ie to avoid obstacles, to turn left or if the lane isn't wide enough for a motorist to safely pass.

- ◆ Check for bicyclists before opening your car door.
- ◆ Children on bicycles are often unpredictable.
- ◆ Expect the unexpected and drive with caution.



Don't honk your horn – it can startle bicyclists and cause them to swerve into traffic.

BICYCLES ARE VEHICLES UNDER THE ONTARIO HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT

Together, we can keep our roads safe for everyone.

We ALL have a responsibility to
SHARE the ROAD!



For more information and a list of our partners, visit

www.environmentnetwork.org

Developed by the Share the Road Coalition serving the Township of Clearview, Town of Collingwood and Town of Wasaga Beach within the County of Simcoe and with permission from the Haliburton Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit

SHARE THE ROAD



SAME ROADS...

SAME RULES...

SAME RIGHTS

There are lots of great reasons to ride a bicycle: health, fitness, fun, environment, transportation. The Southern Georgian Bay area has great scenery, fresh air, interesting destinations and an extensive roads system for traveling by bicycle.

Same Roads ~ Same Rules ~

The Southern Georgian Bay area is made up of a variety of urban and rural communities connected primarily by an intricate network of two-lane roads. As a result, bicyclists and motorists often find themselves having to share the road. We want everyone to have a safe and enjoyable experience on our roads. When both bicyclists and motorists drive with care and courtesy, it is easy to share the road.



Bicyclist Information

As vehicle under the **Ontario Highway Traffic Act**, bicycles have the same rights and responsibilities on public roadways as motorists. Bicyclists fare best when they act and are treated as drivers of vehicles. **When you, as a bicyclists, fail to obey the rules of the road, you lose the support of motorists!** Do your part by being a good ambassador for bicycling.

Follow the Rules of the Road

Obey all traffic laws, signs and signals.



Ride on the Right

- ◆ Always ride in the same direction as traffic, far enough from the road edge to keep a straight line
- ◆ You may occupy any part of a lane when it is safe to do so, otherwise ride in a single file

Be Predictable

- ◆ Ride in a straight line – don't weave around obstacles.
- ◆ Stay about one metre from the edge/curb or parked cars to avoid hazards.
- ◆ Use hand signals to communicate turns and stops to other road users.



Be Visible

- ◆ Wear brightly coloured clothing, including reflectors.
- ◆ Use lights in low light conditions (red rear, white front).
- ◆ Stay out of motorists' blind spots – especially truck drivers.
- ◆ Make eye contact with motorists – it's the best way to know they see you.

Be Courteous

- ◆ When riding in groups, leave gaps to allow space for motorists or other bicyclists to pass.
- ◆ Acknowledge motorists with a wave when they've passed you safely.
- ◆ Yield to pedestrians. Warn others with a ring of your bell or friendly greeting before passing.

Take Care of Your Gear and Yourself

- ◆ Your bike is a machine and works best and safest when it is well-maintained.
- ◆ Wear a helmet and make sure it fits correctly.

For more detailed information see "Cycling Skills – Ontario's Guide to Safe Cycling", Ministry of Transportation.