

Bicycle Safety

All bicycles should be inspected prior to riding for the safety of the bicyclist. Riders must follow rules of the road, give signals, obey signs and lights, yield the right of way and keep a sharp lookout for dangerous situations as if driving a vehicle. To help you be a lawful and safe bicyclist the following inspection check list and laws are listed for you to study, learn, and obey.

Bicycle Inspection Check List

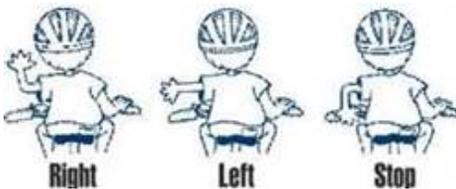
- Tires – Check for proper inflation and damage
- Frame – Check for damage
- Rim/Spokes – Check for broken, bent, or missing parts
- Handle Bars – Adjust to body height and assure tightness; good grips
- Horn/Bell – Check for proper operation
- Headlight – Functioning during nighttime rides and visible for 500 feet
- Seat – Adjust to body height, parallel to ground, and assure tightness
- Brakes – Properly adjusted and clean of debris
- Reflectors – White to the front and red to the rear; visible for 300 feet
- Pedals – Assure tightness and in good condition
- Chain/Sprocket – Snug fit, good links, clean, and lubricated

Rules of the Road

- Although not a State law, safety equipment (helmet, knee, and elbow pads) should be worn
- Obey all traffic signs and signals:



- Warn other traffic when stopping or turning by giving required hand signals with the left hand and arm in the following manner:



- Always ride as near to the right side of the road as possible and in the same direction as vehicles
- Be careful when passing parked vehicles or vehicles traveling in the same direction
- Not more than two bicycles may be driven side by side (safer to ride single file)
- No doubles riding except on bicycles built for two persons
- Ride only on the bicycle's regular seat
- Do not hitch to motor vehicles
- Do not carry packages that will prevent keeping at least one hand on the handlebars
- Always be alert for traffic from all directions
- Before leaving a driveway, alley, or when crossing a street/road, STOP, look both ways, and wait for motor vehicles and pedestrians to pass
- Get off the street and STOP when emergency vehicle sirens are heard

- Do not race with others on the street
- Always walk bicycles across busy intersections, not ride
- No stunt riding or wheelies
- Be a defensive rider; be sure to watch out for vehicles because the driver may not see you