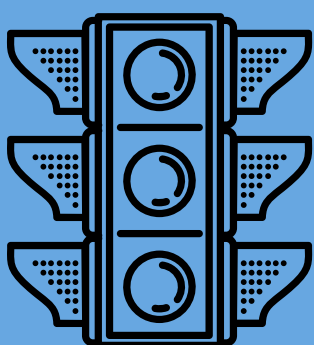




WABA
WASHINGTON AREA
BICYCLIST ASSOCIATION

BIKE SAFETY TIPS FOR MOTORISTS



1

SHARE THE ROAD WITH BICYCLISTS

When riding in the road, bicyclists are expected to follow the same rules as motorists. This means that they must ride in the same direction as traffic, stop at all red lights and stop signs, and follow any other posted signs or markings such as yield and turn signals.



2

GIVE AT LEAST 3 FEET OF SPACE WHEN PASSING

Sometimes you may find yourself sharing a lane with a bicyclist. If there is no room for you to safely pass them with at least 3 feet of space, then slow down or merge into another lane. Only pass when it is safe to do so.



3

THE RIGHT LANE IS FOR SLOW MOVING TRAFFIC

Depending on the speed limit of the road and the amount of traffic, bicyclists may choose to ride in the right lane. They are, however, allowed to merge into other lanes to overtake another vehicle or to make a left turn.

4

BICYCLISTS DO NOT ALWAYS HAVE TO RIDE IN THE BIKE LANE

There are no laws in DC, Virginia or Prince George's County that require bicyclists to ride in a bike lane when one is provided. In Montgomery County, bicyclists must use marked bike lanes when one is available, except when making turns or if it is unsafe to do so.



5

NO PARKING IN THE BIKE LANE

It is illegal in DC, Maryland and Virginia to stop, stand, or park in the bike lane. Be careful when parallel parking on the street. Look for bicyclists and other vehicles before opening your car door to make sure there is no bicyclist in the oncoming direction.

