

ON-STREET BIKING - Share the Road

Obey Traffic Regulations
Bikes must be driven like other vehicles if they are to be taken seriously by motorists. Cyclists are required by law to follow all NYC traffic laws.

Never Ride Against Traffic
Motorists and pedestrians are not looking for bicyclists riding against traffic. It is illegal and dangerous. Ride with traffic to avoid accidents.

Ride in a Straight Line
Avoid dodging between parked cars. Ride in a straight line at least three feet away from parked cars. Watch for cars pulling out of parking spaces.

Be Careful at Intersections
Most accidents happen at intersections. Proceed with care. Vehicles making turns are particularly dangerous.

Use Appropriate Lane
Avoid being in a right turn-only lane if you want to go straight through an intersection. Move into the through lane early. It may be safer to take the whole lane in narrow lanes or slow traffic.

Turning Left - 2 Options
1. AS A VEHICLE: Signal your intentions in advance. Move to the turning lane, and complete the turn when it is safe.
2. AS A PEDESTRIAN: Ride to the far crosswalk & walk.

Use Hand Signals
Signal all turns and stops ahead of time. Look over your shoulder for any traffic, then make your intended move only when it is safe to do so.

Beware of Car Doors
Be wary of parked cars. Motorists can unexpectedly open doors. Be particularly careful if you see a motorist in the car. Ride a car's door width away.

Make Eye Contact
Confirm that you are seen. Establish eye contact with motorists to insure that they know you are on the roadway.

Scan the Road Behind
Look over your shoulder regularly or use a mirror to monitor traffic. Although bicycles have equal right to the road, be prepared to maneuver for safety.

Lock Your Bike
Buy the best lock system you can afford. None is as expensive as a new bike. Lock the frame and rear wheel to a fixed object. If you have a quick release, lock the front wheel also.

Use Lights at Night
Always use a strong white headlight and a red taillight at night or when visibility is poor. Use bike reflectors, reflective clothing and a bell. See, be seen and be heard!

BIKES ON THE SUBWAY BIKES ON MASS TRANSIT

Avoid Rush Hours
Bikes can be dangerous when they get in the way of a number of people. Avoid rush hour crowds. Use lines with larger subway cars.

Carry Your Bike on Stairs
Wait until the staircase is not crowded. Carry your bike. Don't bump it down the stairs; you could lose control.

Use Service Gate
Do not try to lift your bike over the turnstile. Signal the Token Clerk to release the service gate. Deposit a token or use a MetroCard & roll the turnstile. Pull the service gate to enter.

Board at end of Train
Board at the least crowded part of the train, usually the front or back. Never put your bike where it could block an aisle or a door.

Stand by Your Bike
Move your bike to allow others to pass or sit down. Make sure all items on the bike are secured. If there is a train or station evacuation, you must leave your bike behind to ensure a swift & safe exit for all passengers.

Courtesy + Common Sense = Bicycle Safety
Consideration of others along with reasonable judgment help produce a safer, more comfortable environment for bikes.

Train
Amtrak (800) 872-7245
NJ Transit (201) 491-9400
NJ Ferry (800) 533-3779

Bus
MTA Local (212) 242-2400
NJ Transit (908) 291-1300
NJ Ferry (800) 533-3779

BIKE LAW & SIGNAGE

Obey Traffic Signs and Signals
As vehicles, bicycles must obey all NYC Traffic Rules. Cyclists have the same rights, privileges and duties as other vehicular traffic.

Stay Off Sidewalks
Bikes are not permitted on sidewalks unless bike wheels are less than 26 inches in diameter and the rider is 12 years or younger, or signs allow.

One Person Per Bike
Riding double is only permitted when carrying a child, age one or older, in an approved carrier or when riding on a tandem bike. Cyclists under age 14 must always wear a helmet.

Pavement Marking
BIKE ROUTE

Guidance Sign
RIGHT LANE ONLY

Greenway Signage
Bike Parking
Pedestrian Crossing Ahead
Manhattan Bridge via Catherine Street

MULTI-USE PATHS - Share the Trail

Keep to the Right
All path users must keep to the right except when passing or turning left. Move off the path to the right when stopping. Never block the path.

Be Alert
Watch for hazardous conditions, such as poor pavement, fallen tree branches and other debris. Slippery conditions can be caused by water, ice, loose gravel or sand.

Use Designated Path
Where designated, bicyclists must ride on the specified bicycle path. Don't ride on a pedestrian path. Skaters should use the bicycle path.

Be Careful at Crossings
Look both ways. Cyclists: yield to through traffic at intersections; pedestrians have the right of way. Pedestrians: exercise caution. Be aware of stopping limitations of cyclists and skaters.

Dismount as Posted
Dismount and walk across roadways or other posted locations. When choosing a "pedestrian style" crossing across the flow of traffic, cross only when it is safe to do so.

Use Common Sense
Your personal safety is your responsibility; ride with a friend on long trips, know the route, maintain your bike and use caution at bridges and underpasses.

Stay on the Path
Ride only on designated paths to protect parks, natural areas and yourself. Riding off a designated pathway is dangerous and prohibited in NYC Parks.

Signal to Others
Cyclists: when approaching others, sound your bell or call out a warning, then pass safely on the left.
Pedestrians: move to the right when someone is passing.

Skaters Use Caution
In-line skaters: know how to use your equipment safely. Follow travel, passing, and speed rules as per bicyclists. Do not perform trick-skating maneuvers on heavily used paths.

Earphones are Dangerous
If you use earphones on the path, keep the volume sufficiently low to hear other path users.

Be Visible
Ensure your visibility at night by wearing light-toned clothing with reflective tape material. Outfit your bike with lights as you would for riding on the roads.

Mid-Downtown Manhattan / Downtown Brooklyn

