Some Utah Traffic Laws and Bicycle Safety

Share the Road, Same Rights, Same Responsibilities

### Safety Tips for Motorists

1. Watch for bicycles in traffic, they are smaller and harder to see.
2. Don’t underestimate the speed of a bicyclist. Many bicyclists can travel easily at 25-30 mph.
3. Give at least 3 feet of space when passing a bicyclist. If traveling on higher speed roads, give more space.
4. When driving near a child on a bike, be prepared for the unexpected.
5. Be respectful of other road users. Courtesy is contagious.

### Safety Tips for Bicyclists

1. Obey all traffic signs, signals, and lane markings. If you want the respect of motorists, you must show respect for traffic laws.
2. Ride predictably in a straight line. Don’t swerve in and out of parked or stopped cars.
3. Ride on the right side of the road with the flow of traffic.
4. Wear bright clothing that increases your visibility to motorists.
5. Always wear a helmet. Your helmet should sit level on your head and the straps should be snug.

For More Information Contact the Utah Department of Health at 801-538-6864 or visit www.health.utah.gov/vipp
**For Motorists**

**Bicyclists have a Right to be on the Road:**
Utah law gives a bicyclist the right to use the road, just like any motor vehicle (41-6a-1102).

**Stopping and Yielding at a Stop Sign:**
Motorists are required to stop at stop signs. After having stopped, the driver shall yield the right-of-way to any traffic in or approaching the intersection (41-6a-902). Also, motorists entering the road from a driveway or parking lot must yield the right-of-way to any traffic already on the road (41-6a-903).

**Passing a Bicycle Rider:**
A motorist must pass a bicyclist with a minimum of 3-feet of clearance (41-6a-706.5). A motorist that is overtaking a bicyclist proceeding in the same direction shall pass to the left at a safe distance, and may not drive to the right side of the roadway or make a right turn until safely clear of the overtaken bicyclist (41-6a-705).

**Turning Left:**
A vehicle turning left shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle, including a bicycle approaching from the opposite direction which is so close to the turning vehicle as to constitute an immediate hazard (41-6a-903).

**Speeding:**
It is illegal to operate a vehicle at a speed greater than is reasonable for the existing conditions, giving regard to the actual and potential hazard that may exist due to bicyclists, pedestrians, and other traffic, weather, or highway conditions (41-6a-601).

**For Bicyclists**

**Same Roads, Rights, and Responsibilities:**
Bicyclists have all the same rights and responsibilities on the road as the operator of any other vehicle (41-6a-1102).
- Obey traffic lights and signs
- Do not weave in and out cars
- Follow lane markings

**Stopping and Yielding at a Stop Sign:**
Bicyclists are required to stop at stop signs, and yield the right-of-way to any traffic that is in or approaching the intersection (41-6a-902).

**Yield Right-of-Way — Entering the Road:**
A bicyclist about to enter or cross a road from a parking lot, driveway or sidewalk shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles already on the road (41-6a-903).

**Pass At Least 3 Feet Apart**

**Riding Against the Flow of Traffic is Illegal:**
When riding on the road, a bicyclist must ride in the same direction as traffic (41-6a-1105(2)).