



# Bike Safety

*To start, know the traffic laws in your state before you get on the road. Additional rules may apply within individual city limits, so please become familiar with your area's requirements before cycling.*

## The Basics

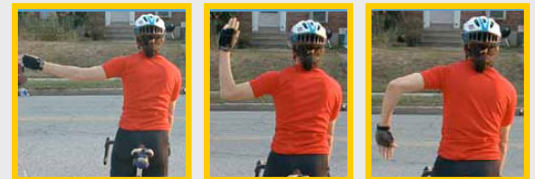
- **Wear bright-colored clothing** at all times and reflective clothing at night. Stay alert, scan the road, and always be aware of traffic around you.
- **Ride with the flow of traffic** in the roadway.
- **Riding on sidewalks should be avoided** and may be prohibited in some areas. However, if you choose to ride on a sidewalk or crosswalk, where allowed, ride cautiously and yield right-of-way to pedestrians.
- **Warn pedestrians** with a bell or vocal notification, such as "On your left," before passing.
- All riders are encouraged to wear helmets while riding. **Helmets are required for anyone under age 18.**
- When riding at night, **bicycles are required to have a headlight** emitting white light, visible from no less than 300 feet, as well as rear, pedal, and side reflectors.
- Bicycles are **required to have at least a rear brake**. It is recommended to have both a front and rear brake.



## Intersections

- **Watch for cars pulling out.**
- **Use hand signals** to indicate a turn, except when both hands are needed to retain control of the bicycle.
- **When turning left, move into the far-left or left-turn lane.** Don't turn left from the right-hand side of the road.
- **When going straight, merge to the left of "Right Turn Only" lanes** while avoiding any turning traffic. Do not go straight in a lane marked "Right Turn Only."

### Hand Signals



**Left Turn**

**Right Turn**

**Stop**

## Hazards

- **Be aware of hazards**, such as sewer grates, manhole covers, gravel, and rough or slick pavement.
- **Cross railroad tracks at right-angles to the track.**

