

RESPECT

WE'RE ALL ON THE ROAD TOGETHER



Our world is changing

and so is the way we get places.

*More and more, we're seeing people
cycling, walking and running to get where they need to go.*

*Remember to take extra care when sharing the roadways with bicycles and pedestrians.
Use these tips to help keep everyone safe:*

- Allow a safety cushion: Slow down, wait until the roadway is safe for passing, and pass with at least 3 feet of clearance.*
- Remember vehicle extensions: A side mirror or trailer can be deadly for people walking or biking.*
 - The smallest bump to a cyclist or pedestrian can be fatal.*
- Minimize your distractions: Distracted drivers are more likely to hit cyclists and pedestrians.*
- Do not assume ill intent and become frustrated by cyclists and pedestrians.*

*In 2008, 90 people died walking or cycling on our Virginia roadways.
In addition, 716 cyclists and 1,696 pedestrians were injured.*

Take a second, save a life. Think about cyclists and pedestrians.

Here's how we all can contribute to making the roads safer:

1. A bicycle is considered a vehicle in Virginia and has the same duties and rights as motor vehicles on the road, including obeying all traffic signs, signals, lights and markings.
A bicycle should always travel in the same direction as motor vehicle traffic.
2. Motorists are required by law to approach and pass bicyclists at a reasonable speed and to allow at least two feet between their vehicle and the cyclist.
3. Motorists are required to use signals to notify other roadway users of intent and cyclists must do the same using hand signals. Behaving in a predictable manner while driving, biking, or walking can reduce the risk of crashes.
4. Whether riding in a car or on a bicycle, all safety precautions should be used, including a safety belt in a car, and a helmet on a bicycle. Cyclists can also protect themselves by wearing bright clothing, using flashing lights during day and night, and by securing loose clothing.

5. Pedestrians can improve safety by wearing bright colors during the day and reflective material or blinking lights at night. Light colored clothing is slightly helpful in making you visible at night, reflective tape or reflective fabric is much better.
6. All road users should be aware of their surroundings, including paying special attention to blind spots where other roadway users may be hidden. Also be aware of "inattention blindness," and use extra caution when approaching road changes, entrances and exits.
7. Pedestrians must travel against traffic, use sidewalks whenever available, and use marked crossings whenever possible. Motorists and cyclists must yield to pedestrians in crosswalks, both marked and unmarked, when making a right turn on red, or as instructed by law enforcement or traffic control devices.
8. Local ordinance determines use of sidewalks by bicycles and other alternative devices. When permitted to be on sidewalks, bicycles should yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian.

Go online to learn more about biking and walking the roadways of Virginia.
sharingtheroadinvirginia.org

