



making our STREETS safer

Did You Know?

- In one generation, the number of kids biking and walking to school has dropped from 71% to 18%?
- 20-25% of morning rush hour traffic can be parents driving kids to school? This number is probably much higher in a community like ours.

Kids walking and riding to school benefits the health of our children, it also cuts down on traffic around our schools making it safer to walk or ride.

RULES FOR MOTORISTS

Motorists must respect the rights of other road users including bicyclists and pedestrians. Do your part by being a safe and courteous driver.

Driving on roads requires care whether you are driving a car or a bicycle. Cyclists should be moving with you and walkers should be coming towards you, however, be on the lookout for those that are traveling on the wrong side or the wrong way.

Motorists need to be extremely observant when entering/exiting intersections, parking lots, crosswalks or anywhere else that a sidewalk crosses traffic.

Cyclists should ride on the road, but at times of high traffic, many ride on our sidewalks. Walkers should always use sidewalks when available. Although sidewalks seem a safer option for bikes, this will often make it harder for motorists to see the bikes, especially when crossing busy intersections.

First and foremost, slow down and put down your phone!

That text or email can wait until you've stopped the car or reached your destination.

Allow three feet of passing space between the right side of your vehicle and a bicyclist, just as you would with a slow-moving vehicle.

Maintain this distance even if there are designated bike lanes. This is now a law in the state of Kansas!

Do not pass bicyclists if you will be making a right turn immediately afterward.

Always assume bicyclists are traveling through the intersection.

Before opening your car door, look for bicyclists who may be approaching.

Do NOT pass bicyclists or walkers if oncoming traffic is near. Wait as you would with any slow moving vehicle.

Reduce your speed when passing bicyclists and pedestrians, especially if the roadway is narrow.

Don't blast your horn when approaching bicyclists. You could startle them and cause an accident.

Give bicyclists and walkers adequate space to maneuver.

Recognize situations and obstacles which may be hazardous to cyclists, such as potholes, debris, and drain grates. Kids on bikes are often unpredictable, so expect them to be.

Be wary of cyclists and walkers on sidewalks.

When entering or exiting a parking lot, or a street that has a crosswalk, be aware of kids running across. Also, when backing out of driveway and onto street, make sure no cyclists or walkers are coming and sidewalks are clear.



QUESTIONS? VISIT US AT micovelo.com



making our STREETS safer

What is MiCo Velo? Well, we're a new cycling club here in Miami County. We encourage anything cycling, and want to make our community safer for bikers and pedestrians.

Spring is here and with the warmer weather will come a flood of kids and adults walking and biking in our community. This year's school budget cuts have meant more kids walking and biking to school, so be alert and **Share the Road**.

RULES FOR CYCLISTS and pedestrians

Bicycles are the most vulnerable of all vehicles on the road, and extra safety precautions should always be taken when riding. Driving on roads requires care and courtesy whether you are driving a car or a bicycle. As road users, **bicyclists must be predictable and highly visible**; often drivers of vehicles have a difficult time seeing bicyclists in traffic. **Walkers should always use sidewalks and crosswalks when possible.** The following are some tips to help bicyclists and pedestrians Share the Road with vehicles.

Always, always wear a helmet when biking!

Especially children, and make sure it fits. It is one of the best things you can do to protect yourself on a bicycle.

Inspect bikes for safety.

Check brakes for responsiveness in case you have to stop quickly in an emergency. Keep tires properly inflated and monitor the tread. Parents, always check your kids' bikes as well.

Obey all traffic laws.

Ride with traffic, obey stop signs, traffic lights and other traffic controls. Bicyclists do best when they act and are treated as drivers of vehicles. Walkers should always use sidewalks and crosswalks when available, and walk towards traffic when not.

Riding a bike on the sidewalk is not suggested.

Riding your bike on a sidewalk makes you less visible to motorists, however, many kids will when going to and from school. If riding on sidewalk or walking be very cautious when crossing driveways, parking lot entrances and exits, and when crossing roads. Use the pedestrian crosswalk buttons if available. Watch for vehicles making turns when crossing a street.



Be aware of surrounding traffic.

Especially when riding in traffic with large trucks and buses that make wide right turns. Don't sneak in between vehicles, and never assume that drivers see bicyclists or hand signals. Be very aware of cross traffic when approaching an intersection.

Ride with traffic.

Ride on the right side, with the flow of traffic. Riding against traffic may cause you to miss traffic control devices, such as traffic signs and stop lights. Be especially careful when riding near or around trucks.

Be visible and predictable.

Wear bright colors, ride straight, signal before changing directions, and plan ahead to avoid obstacles.

QUESTIONS? VISIT US AT MICOVELO.COM