# Follow The Rules Of The Road

- Bicyclists must obey the same traffic laws that apply to motor vehicles. For example, cyclists should always ride on the right side of the road with traffic and obey traffic lights, signs, speed limits, and lane markings. On oneway streets, ride with traffic.
- Signal in advance of a turn or lane change; use correct hand signals.
- Be aware that county and town ordinances vary. For instance, many communities require both front and rear lights on bicycles to improve visibility at night. Contact your local government for information.
- While cycling two abreast is legal, staying in single file to allow overtaking traffic to pass, where safe, is the courteous thing to do.
- Yield to pedestrians; yield to other vehicles where they have the right-of-way.
- Use bells or horns to alert pedestrians and vehicles.
- Never wear headphones; they hinder your ability to hear traffic.



#### Be Visible

- Cyclists should take responsibility for standing out in traffic to motorists, pedestrians and other cyclists. There are numerous ways to enhance your visibility.
- Wear light-colored clothing; fluorescent colors such as bright orange, lime green or yellow are excellent.
- Try not to ride at night, but if you must, wear white or special clothing made from reflective materials. Retroreflective vests, jackets, wristbands and triangular patches all increase rider visibility.
- Remember that at night, wearing bright clothing is not enough. A white headlight, visible from at least 500 feet, is required at night.
- The rear reflector should be red and at least three inches across, pointed straight back to reflect the headlights of vehicles at least 600 feet away. A red tail light is recommended to increase your visibility.
- Use bicycle reflectors on the pedals and wheels as these move and identify you as a bicyclist rather than a stationary object.



Safety Commission.

Everyone should wear a helmet

on every ride, no matter how

short. Your helmet should fit cor-

rectly and meet safety standards

set by the Consumer Product

• It's just good sense. Helmets can

prevent or minimize head inju-

ries, the primary cause of death

and disabling injuries resulting from cycling accidents. • They also increase rider visibility. Today's helmets are lightweight and comfortable, stronger and better looking.

There are lots of styles from which to choose.

- A helmet is as much a part of bicycling as are handlebars and tires. Include the purchase of a helmet with your pur-
- chase of a bike.

#### Share The Road

- the right of way.
- Ride far enough out from the curb to avoid the unexpected from parked cars such as pulling out or opening doors.
- Be aware of potential hazards like glass, road litter, potholes, gravel, railroad tracks and storm grates.
- Because bicycles are smaller and slower than motor vehicles, cyclists need to be more alert than drivers. Don't assume that motorists or pedestrians see you.
- Be aware of pedestrians and other vehicles. Learn to anticipate their actions.
- Cyclists need to communicate and negotiate with other vehicles; using hand signals, making eye contact, smiling and waving - just being courteous - all help keep the roads and trails safe for everyone.
- Keep control of your bicycle; be able to turn your head to look behind you, or use a rear view mirror. Be able to ride with one hand while signaling.
- Always check behind you before changing lanes and yield to traffic in the new lane or line of travel.
- Make sure that books, clothes, and other items are sethat they won't get caught in a wheel.

#### BASIC PRINCIPLES OF TRAFFIC CYCLING

- Cyclists fare best when they act and are treated as drivers of vehicles.\*
- Bicycles are legally considered vehicles in the Kentucky traffic regulations, as well as those of Ohio. As these clist's interest to abide by these rules.
- on this map, there are five basic principles for safe cycling that promote an understanding of the laws and facilitate cooperative roadsharing with motorists.
- By recognizing and following these principles from the moment you leave your driveway, you can cycle safely more advanced habits and maneuvers.

\*For additional information describing all aspects of cycling, and vehicular cycling in particular, see the book Effective Cycling by John Forester (Sixth Edition, MIT Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts).

dence and safety of cycling, contact the Cincinnati Cycle Club about its "Bike Ed" program and local instructors at www.cincinnaticycleclub.org, or www.bikeleague.org.

#### **Taylor-Southgate (Central) Bridge (Campbell County)** Recommended

- When you ride, consider yourself the driver of a vehicle and take your legitimate place in the lane. Be confident and assertive; ride in a predictable way. Be considerate of motorists and pedestrians. Remember, pedestrians have

- curely attached to the bicycle or carried in a backpack so

- traffic laws provide for the orderly movement of vehicles (and pedestrians) within public roadways, it is in the cy-
- Beyond a knowledge of these traffic laws, summarized
- while gaining the experience to understand and practice

For local training that can increase the enjoyment, confi-

# Connects 3rd Street in Newport, KY with Pete Rose Way in

Cincinnati, OH. Two 12' travel lanes; 4' shoulders on both sides; 4' painted median; use caution crossing expansion joints; 8' sidewalks on both sides.

#### Newport Southbank (Purple People) Bridge (Campbell County) Recommended

Connects 3rd Street in Newport, KY with Pete Rose Way in Cincinnati, OH. This bridge is exclusively for pedestrians and bicyclists having been converted to non-motorized use in 2004. Travelways include the former concrete highway on the west side of the bridge, a pedestrian walkway between that and the currently unused railroad bridge on the east side. This bridge formerly carried the L&N Railroad and US highway 27.

LICKING RIVER CROSSINGS (between Kenton and

Fourth Street Bridge - Connects Fourth St. in Covington with Fourth St. in Newport (KY 8). Two 11' travel lanes west bound and one lane east. Four ft. sidewalks both sides.

Twelfth Street Bridge - Connects 12th Street in Covington with 11th Street in Newport. Four 12' travel lanes and a 3' shoulder on the north side. A 5' sidewalk on the south side.

Al Schneider Bridge (Visalia) - Connects KY 177 near Visalia in Kenton County with Pond Creek Rd. in Campbell County (KY 536). Two 10' travel lanes and 10' shoulders both sides.

# 

#### **Anderson Ferry** (Boone County)

Provides access across the Ohio River between Constance, KY at KY 8 and Anderson Ferry Road in Hamilton County,

Hours: Monday-Friday 6:00 AM - 9:30 PM Saturday and holidays 7:00 AM - 9:30 PM

The ferry loads approximately every 15 minutes.

\$1.00 \$4.00 \$ .50 Pedestrian



#### ULES FOR MOTORISTS CONCERNING BICYCLISTS

- Before passing a cyclist, look to see if there is loose debris on the pavement that might cause them to move into the center of the lane. Pass a cyclist only when it can be done safely, and give ample room (at least 3 feet) between your car and the cyclist. Realize the air turbulence your vehicle can create at high speeds or in windy weather. Give the cyclist extra room if your vehicle has extended outside rearview mirrors. Return to the lane only when you are safely clear of the overtaken bicyclist.
- Look for cyclists. Because of their narrow profile you will need to develop your eye-scanning patterns to include bicyclists.
- When you are turning right after passing a cyclist, leave ample room so you don't cut him or her off when you slow for your turn.
- Before opening your car door, check behind for cyclists.
- At night be extra alert, and don't use your high beams for they will temporarily blind oncoming cyclists.
- Remember, bicyclists are not special and privileged. They have the same rights, rules, and responsibilities as all other highway users.

Source: Kentucky Drivers Manual

# TRAFFIC PRINCIPLES - Cyclists fare best when they act and are treated as drivers of vehicles.



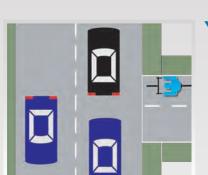
# Ride on The Right

Always ride with the flow of traffic.

Do not ride on the sidewalk.

around roadway hazards.

Safety

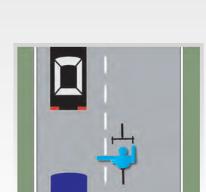


# **Yield To Traffic In Busier Lanes**

Allow yourself room to maneuver

Roads with higher traffic volumes should be given right of way. Always use signals to indicate your desire to switch lanes.

Look behind you to indicate your desire to move and to make sure you can.



# **Yield To Traffic In Destination Lane**

Traffic in your destination lane has the right of way.

Making eye contact with drivers lets them know that you see them. Signal and make your lane change early, before you need to.



#### **Speed Positioning** Position yourself relative to the

Gysling

speed of other traffic. Left most lane is for fastest moving traffic; right most for slower traffic. Yield to faster moving vehicles by staying to the right in the lane.



Legend

Difficult Locations

<<<<<< > Memorable Hills (Points Uphill)

**Alternative Routes** 

Not Recommended

**Shared Use Path** 

Related Facility

D

Fire Department

Police Station

Park and Ride

Side Path

Bike Lane

Grocery

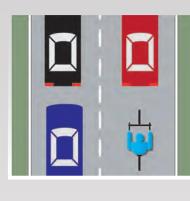
Hospital

Recommended Routes

# **Destination Positioning**

Position yourself in the right most lane that goes in the direction of your destination.

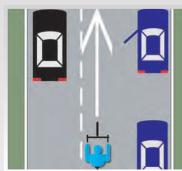
Ride in the right third of the lane. Avoid being overtaken in narrowlane situations by riding in the right third of the lane.



#### Lane Positioning Ride on the right.

Ride in the right third of the right most lane that goes in the direction you are going

Take the entire lane if traveling the same speed as traffic in a narrow



# **Parked Cars**

Ride in a straight line, not in and out between parked cars on the side of the road.

sition.

Always ride far enough away from parked cars to avoid hitting a surprise open door.



Beware of cars merging into the roadway from a parallel parked po-



ABOUT THE OKI BIKE ROUTE GUIDES The OKI Bike Route Guides for Boone, Campbell and Kenton counties in Kentucky were prepared by OKI Regional Council of Governments with the assistance of area cyclists, including representatives from the Cincinnati Cycle Club, Inc. These bike route guides indicate roads actually used by area bicyclists and recommended to other adult cyclists for bicycle travel.

Most of the routes suggested are regular roads of the state and local roadway system and are used by motor vehicles, as well as bicycles. There are no special provisions for bicycle travel other than where bike lanes and sidepaths are marked and cyclists should use appropriate safety precautions (described elsewhere on this map) while riding these roads. Roads in the rural areas of Northern Kentucky are typically narrow two lane roads

The recommended bicycle routes (blue) are the preferred routes. In some locations, the blue route is the best of several choices (such as Water Works Rd. in Ft. Thomas). The nate bicycle routes (yellow) require greater rider precaution because of either traffic or terrain. They may be the only suitable route in some corridors. Roads not recommended for bicycle travel (red) tend to have even more traffic, higher speeds and narrow pavement. These classifications reflect general conditions – not rush hour conditions. Most routes will have more traffic during weekday rush hours (7:00-9:00 AM and 4:00-6:00 PM) although it may be primarily in one direction. Also, expect roads leading to parks to be busier on weekends and holidays.

gion is hilly, and the maps do not show all hills. Those noted as memorable hills are ones which local cyclists say they remember at the end of their rides. Parks and recreation areas are shown as both destinations and staging areas for cycling rides. Selected public schools are also shown as potential ride staging areas. High schools and middle schools are also shown to facilitate access by students

In general, the terrain in the Kentucky counties of the OKI re-

and staff. Three parks have developed off-road trails for mountain bike riding including England-Idlewild Park in Boone County, Devou Park in Kenton County and Tower Park in Ft. Thomas, Camp-

bell County. In Northern Kentucky, bicyclists should expect steep hills on roads to and from KY 8, which follows the Ohio River valley, as well as roads along the Licking River valley.

#### **OKI Regional Council of Governments** 720 E. Pete Rose Way, Suite 420 Cincinnati, OH 45202 513 621-6300

Dept. of Rural and Municipal Aid Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Frankfort, KY 40622 02-564-7686

359-341-2700

Covington, KY 41017

# FURTHER INFORMATION

**Kentucky Bicycle Coordinator** l Pro-**Kentucky Transportation Cabinet** District 6 Office (Crescent Park)

# P.O. Box 17130

# S S **RULES FOR BICYCLISTS**

Never use Interstate and Parkway systems for cycling.

(BISUSE C

 Use hand signals to communicate your actions to other vehicles (see diagram).





**Left Turn** 

Hand and arm



**Right Turn** 

513-621-6300

3-621-9325 (Fax)

Hand and arm

extended upward

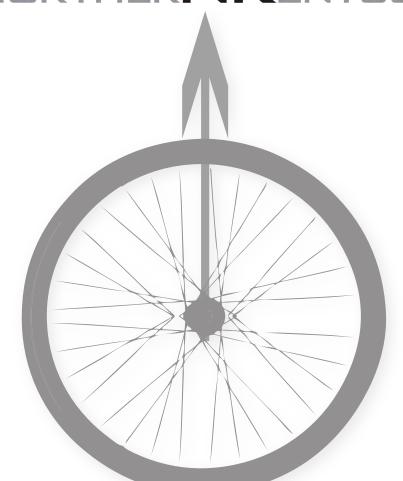
- (as viewed from behind bicyclist) Obey the instructions of official traffic-control signals and signs. Stop at stop signs and for stop lights just like a motor vehicle.
- Operate a bicycle within posted speed limits or at a rate reasonable for existing conditions.
- Ride a bicycle on the right side of the road with traffic. Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks and on sidewalks. Give an audible signal (bell, horn or voice) before pass-
- ing pedestrians. When riding at night, operate the bike with a white light visible from the front and a red light or reflector visible from the rear.
- Reflector tape may be used for added visibility. Continued-

- All slower moving vehicles, including bicycles, shall drive as close as practicable to the right-hand edge of the roadway except when moving out into the center of the lane to avoid road debris, to pass another vehicle, or to make a left turn.
- A bicycle may be operated on the shoulder of a highway.
- Do not ride on the sidewalk.
- interfere with pedestrian traffic.
- bicycle is designed and equipped.

Never ride more than two abreast so as to interfere with

Some cities have local traffic laws called ordinances. These may control the operation and parking of bicycles within city limits. As a driver, it is important for you to know what they





BIKE ROUTE GUIDE

Clay Wade Bailey Bridge (Kenton County) Recommended Connects 4th Street inCovington, KY with 2nd and 3rd Streets in Cincinnati, OH. Three lane bridge with reversible center lane. 12' travel lanes with 2' shoulders on each side. Watch for parallel drainage grates in the shoulders. Sidewalk on the

east side. Roebling Suspension Bridge (Kenton County)

OHIO RIVER CROSSINGS

Connects 3rd Street in Covington, KY with Theodore M. Berry Way in Cincinnati, OH. Narrow two lane bridge with steel grate surface. Cyclists should walk their bikes along the sidewalk on the west side of the bridge. The bridge is at grade on the KY side. On the OH side, cyclists have three choices: 1) Warry your bike down the stairway to Pete Rose Way. 2) Use the ramps and follow signs to Theodore M. Berry Way. 3) Walk your bike to Vine and 3rd Streets using the sidewalks and marked crosswalks.



Recommended OH, west of downtown Cincinnati.

Sunday 9:00 AM - 9:30 PM

From November through April, the ferry closes at 8:00 PM Prices: Bicycle Auto



# Share the road with bicyclists.

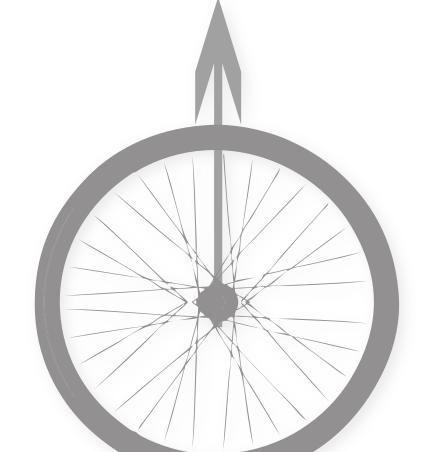
# ...Rules For Bicyclists Continued

- Never park a bicycle on a sidewalk in such a way as to
- Carry no more persons than the number for which the

the normal movement of traffic.

From The Kentucky Drivers Manual: Kentucky law (KRS Chapter 189) provides that cyclists shall be granted all the rights and be subject to all the duties applicable to drivers of any vehicle. A bicycle is a vehicle, not a toy, and, as such, must obey the traffic rules and regulations pertaining to all highway users. Motorists should regard bicycles as they would any other vehicle and assure safe clearance when passing.

are and to obey them at all times.



OKI

