

Bicycling Helpful Information and Rules

### "Sharrows" in **Douglas County**

Shared lane pavement markings (or "sharrows") are placed to assist bicyclists with lateral positioning in a shared lane and to reduce the incidence of wrong-way bicycling, and to remind drivers to share the road with cyclists. Unlike bicycle lanes, sharrows do not designate a particular part of the street for the exclusive use of bicyclists.



## **Dress for Safe Riding**

Protect yourself; wear a helmet to reduce the risk of head injuries.

- Avoid loose clothing that can become entangled in gears, chains, etc.
- Make sure your helmet fits properly and is securely latched.
- Use protective clothing and equipment. Safety glasses are recommended to reduce the possibility of dirt or insects in your eyes.
- Wear proper footwear, avoid sandals or bare feet.



Know your bike and practice riding away from traffic to become familiar and comfortable with your bike controls.

- Never ride on the road if you do not have total control of your bike.
- Maintain brakes, tires, bike chain and lights in good working condition.
- Avoid distractions, such as listening to music with head phones or talking on a cell phone.
- Never assume that motorists see you, make eye contact with drivers and be ready to react to unexpected events.

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and make sure that you are visible to others.

Pay attention to other vehicles

- Bikes are required to be equipped with reflectors and lights for visibility at night. Both rear and front lights are highly recommended.
- Watch for vehicles waiting at stop signs or near driveways.
- Watch for on-coming traffic that may be preparing to turn in front of you.
- Watch for opening doors when passing
- parked vehicles. Be prepared to stop suddenly or take evasive action.

# **Obey the Laws**

Bicyclists have all the rights and duties applicable to the drivers of any other vehicle and can be penalized for violating traffic laws. See Colorado State Statutes: "Title 42 Vehicles and Traffic", specifically 42-4-1412.

- Bicycles are vehicles and must follow
- the same rules of the road as a car.
- Ride on the right side of the road, with vehicle traffic or in a bike lane.
- When riding a bicycle, signal your
- intention to turn or change lanes.
- Bikes may not impede traffic in
- STOP at stop signs, obey traffic signals and yield when necessary.
- You must yield to pedestrians in crosswalks and on multi use trails. If you choose to use the pedestrian
- bike and walk across as a pedestrian. Don't change lanes unless you can do

so safely. Yield to other vehicles.

crosswalk to cross a street, get off your

# Multi-Use Trails

### Please be sure to obey local regulations when

using a multiuse trail.

 Always ride, walk, and skate on the right side of the trail.

Ring your bike bell, or use an audible signal

Loudly and clearly call out "Passing".

- Obey signs and markings on the trail.

other trail users.

- Look for traffic before entering trail. • Pass on the left, when the trail is clear. Give audible warning before overtaking
  - Watch for the unexpected, especially with kids or dogs.

Don't stop on or block the trail.

 Slow down when the trail is crowded, and travel at speeds that are safe and appropriate to trail conditions.

Ride single file so that others may pass.

