

Vehicular Cycling

"Bicyclists fare best when they act and are treated as drivers of vehicles"

Bicycles are part of traffic

- Check for oncoming traffic before entering any street or intersection
- **Ride on the right**, with the flow of traffic.
- Use the lane furthest to the right that heads in the direction that you are traveling.
- Ride in the right third of the right-most lane that goes in the direction you are going.
- Take the lane if there is insufficient road width for cyclists and cars to share, less than 12 feet (in DC most lanes are 11 feet wide).

Follow traffic laws

- Obey traffic control devices: stop signs, stop lights, lane markings
- Use **hand signals** to let pedestrians, other cyclists and motor vehicle drivers know your intention to stop or turn
- Anticipate hazards and adjust your position in traffic accordingly
- Ride in a straight line - not in and out of parked cars on the side of the street/road

Ride safely

- Ride far enough away from parked cars to avoid hitting a surprise open door. **Don't ride in the door zone!**
- Ride far enough away from the curb or edge of the roadway to avoid hazards and debris
- Check, signal and move into the adjacent lane if there are hazards in a bike lane
- Take the lane before intersections and turns to assert your position on the roadway
- Take the lane if traveling the same speed as other traffic or if hazards narrow the usable width.

Bike Lanes/Paths

WABA

Courtesy

- Yield to slower users, especially children
- Obey posted speed limits for the safety of all users.
- Get off the path when you stop.

Announce when passing

- Clearly indicate your intention to pass other users
- Warn other trail users in advance so you do not startle them
- Use a bell, horn, or say "On your left" or "Passing on your left" when passing

Yield when entering and crossing

- Slow down before intersections and when entering a trail from the road

Keep Right

- Stay as close to the right as possible, except when passing.
- Give yourself enough room to maneuver around any hazards.

Pass on Left

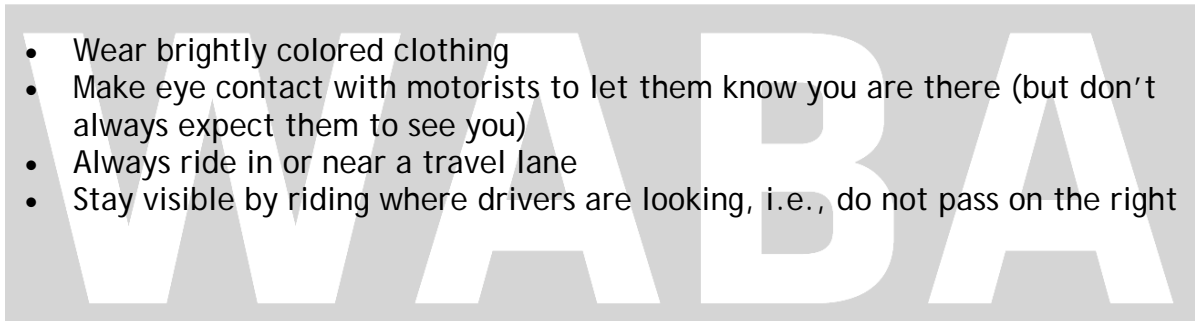
- Scan ahead and behind before announcing your intention to pass
- Allow plenty of room, about two bike lengths, before moving back to the right
- Do not pass when visibility ahead is limited

Be Predictable

- Travel in a straight line, except to avoid hazards or to pass.
- Always indicate your intention to turn or pass

Be Visible

- Wear brightly colored clothing
- Make eye contact with motorists to let them know you are there (but don't always expect them to see you)
- Always ride in or near a travel lane
- Stay visible by riding where drivers are looking, i.e., do not pass on the right



At night - conspicuity

- Legally, cyclists must have a front white light and a red rear reflector and/or a rear red light
- A bright red [blinking] light is much more conspicuous than a passive reflector
- Make sure that your lights are visible to motorists, and not pointing up or down
- Clear obstructions from the back of the bike that might block the light

A large, stylized silhouette of a cyclist on a road bike, positioned in the center of the page. The cyclist is shown in profile, leaning forward in a racing posture. The silhouette is white against a light gray background. Below the cyclist, the letters 'WABBA' are written in a bold, white, sans-serif font, set against a dark gray rectangular background.

WABBA