

BICYCLE SAFETY

Safety Tips for Motorists

- ✓ Motorists are urged to be extra-alert for bicycles and bicycle riders.
- ✓ Bicyclists have the same rights and duties as drivers of any other type of vehicle.
- ✓ Any person riding a bicycle on the roadway must ride with the traffic and as close as practical to the right-hand edge of the road.
- ✓ Individuals may ride a bicycle on the sidewalk but must yield right-of-way to pedestrians.
- ✓ A bicycle rider or passenger under the age of 16 must wear a helmet.
- ✓ Children under the age of 4 or weighing less than 40 pounds must be secured in a child seat or carrier and may not be left unattended on the bicycle.
- ✓ Every bicycle in use between sunset and sunrise must be equipped with at least one front lamp and one rear reflector.

Safety Tips for Bicyclists

- ✓ Remain seated at all times when operating your bicycle.
- ✓ Do not carry more persons than the bicycle is designed or equipped to carry.
- ✓ Regardless of your age, wear a helmet. If you are under 16, it's the law.
- ✓ Do not "hitch a ride" on the back of any motor vehicle.
- ✓ Be alert for vehicular and pedestrian traffic at all times.
- ✓ Use specially marked bicycle lanes when available.
- ✓ Before riding, perform a safety check to ensure that your bike has properly inflated tires, functioning brakes, a secure seat and handlebars and correct installation of lights and reflectors.

For more information on bicycle safety for motorists and bicyclists please go to the Illinois Secretary of State's web site at www.sos.state.il.us and navigate your way to the Rules of the Road, Chapter 9: *Sharing the Road*.