

Bicycles on Campus

Basics

Biking has all the health and environmental benefits of walking, with the added plus that you get where you're going a lot faster. Here are some important things to remember before riding your bike.

- Invest in a good bike lock! It will pay off in the long run, bicycle theft is more common than you think.
- Bicycle wheels, especially quick release wheels, should be secured to the frame or rack when locking the bicycle to deter theft.
- Bicycles are required to be registered with the City of Ann Arbor. This may be done in person on the 2nd floor of City Hall. For more information please contact the City Clerk's Office at 734-794-6140.

Bike Lockers

Bike lockers are a safe and easy solution for storing your bike throughout the year. Lockers can be found at spots around UMHS and at Wolverine Tower. The lockers are available for lease at a nominal fee plus a refundable key deposit. To request a bike locker, contact Parking Customer Services at umpark@umich.edu.

Bike Racks

Bicycles should only be parked at designated bike racks and should not be taken into U-M buildings. Bicycles parked such that they block sidewalks or roadways are subject to citation and impoundment. To inquire about lost, stolen or impounded bicycle please contact U-M DPS at (734) 763-1131. For off-campus inquiries contact The City of Ann Arbor Police's Non-emergency line at 734-794-6911.

Please note: Bike racks in front of academic buildings and offices are intended for short-term use. Bike racks outside of dorms may be used for long-term parking.

Additional Resources

City of Ann Arbor

The City of Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County Bicycle Map is available. <http://www.a2gov.org>

getDowntown

The getDowntown program provides information regarding commuting opportunities in Ann Arbor. 734-214-0100 <http://www.getdowntown.org>

Washtenaw County

The Parks and Recreation Commission provides the Border-to-Border Trail Map covering East Ann Arbor to Wayne County. <http://www.ewashtenaw.org>

Bicycle Safety

Rights and Responsibilities

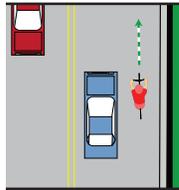
In general, bicyclists on public roadways have the same rights and responsibilities as automobile drivers and are subject to the same state laws and local ordinances. For everyone's safety observe these bicycling rules and safety tips.

Be Predictable

Operating a bicycle as a vehicle makes your movements more predictable to others and improves safety for everyone.

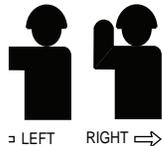
Use Lights at Night

Michigan State law requires a front white light visible for 500 feet and a rear red reflector visible for 600 feet. A flashing red light in the rear is recommended. Bright and reflective clothing is recommended at all times of the day and night.



Ride with Traffic

Motorists are not looking for bicyclists riding on the wrong side of the road. State law requires that cyclists ride with the flow of traffic.



View From Behind

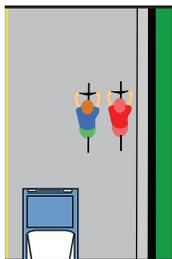
Signal Your Turns

Hand signals are required by state law to alert motorists, pedestrians and other bikers of your intentions.



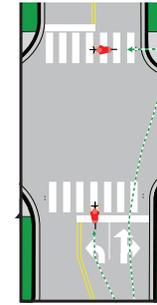
Yield to Pedestrians

When operating on a shared use trail or sidewalk, bicyclists must yield the right of way to pedestrians and shall give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian.



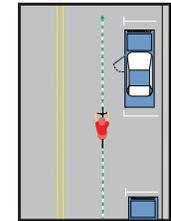
Keep to the Right and Ride Only Two abreast

Bicyclists should keep as far to the right as practicable, moving left to avoid hazards and to position themselves in the appropriate designated through or turn lanes. No more than two bicyclists should ride side by side in a public roadway.



Make Left Turns Safely

There are two ways to make a left turn. First, like a car: signal, move into the left-turn lane and then turn. Second, like a pedestrian: ride straight across the intersection to the far side crosswalk and wait for the pedestrian signal to cross the street in the crosswalk. When using the second method, care should be given when merging back with traffic.



Ride in a Straight Line and Avoid Car Doors

Parked cars opening doors can seriously injure cyclists. Keep at least an open car door distance away from parked cars and ride in a straight line where there are gaps between parked cars.

Wear a Helmet

While not required by law, a properly fitted helmet is essential safety gear. Helmets should be worn such that they cover the forehead and are above the eyebrows. Helmets should fit snugly and not move around while riding.

Watch for Cars Pulling Out

Always assume that motorists do not see you. Keep an eye out for cars pulling into traffic from parking spaces, driveways and intersecting streets.

Watch for Hazards

Watch out for sewer grates, slippery manhole covers, oily pavement, snow and ice. Cross railroad tracks at right angles. It is not necessary to use a bike lane or paved shoulders if hazards such as debris and poor pavement conditions make it unsafe.

Bells and Horns

It is recommended that a bicycle be equipped with a bell or other device capable of giving a signal audible from a distance of at least 100 feet.

Safety Accessories

Water bottles, tire repair kits, mirrors, locks, and first aid kits help make each trip safer and the cyclist more self sufficient.