# SHARE the ROAD

#### 2014 EDITION



A guide for bicyclists and motorists published by the Arizona Department of Transportation



## Tips for Sharing the Road Legally and Safely

This pocket guide illustrates how bicyclists and motorists can "Share the Road" legally and safely within Arizona.

Please read through these safety tips to better understand the other person's view of the road and to learn more about cycling and driving more safely in our great State.

The more we understand each other's needs, the better we can respect and cooperate with each other on the streets.



This 2014 edition of the bicyclist and motorist pocket guide is brought to you by the Arizona Department of Transportation Bicycle and Pedestrian Program. Funding for this guide has been provided by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Arizona Department of Transportation, and Pima County.

Adapted by the Arizona Department of Transportation from the Pima County Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Share the Road Guide, Matthew Zoll, Program Manager. Copyright 2014. Design, illustration, and photography by David Burnham, Pima County Graphic Services.

Please refer to pages 45 through 57 for a listing of relevant Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) pertaining to the operation of bicycles and motor vehicles.







Wear light, bright, and (for night) reflective clothing. At night use a rear red reflector and white front headlight (A.R.S. 28-817). You should also use a red taillight.

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## Protect yourself

According to national studies, 85% of brain injuries can be prevented by wearing a helmet.

Some Arizona cities and counties require bicyclists under the age of 18 to wear a helmet. Check your local laws.

Helmet and bicycle mirrors improve your overall awareness and allow you to see following vehicles. However, all mirrors have blind spots, so always scan over your shoulder before changing your line of travel or before making a left turn.

## A word about stop signs

Arizona traffic law defines a stop as "Stop, if required, means complete cessation from movement." While bicyclists are required to stop at stop signs, it is not necessary to put your foot on the ground to comply with the law.

Running stop signs is dangerous and can result in a fine with points added to your driver's license.

Blowing through stop signs sets a bad example for younger riders and hurts the image of all bicyclists.



## Motorized bikes and the law

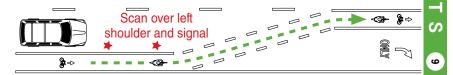
All of the laws that apply to bicycles also apply to motorized bikes, which can be either gas powered or electric. Motorized bikes may have a motor that has a maximum size of 48cc.

Motorized bicycles may be ridden in bike lanes as long as the motorized bicycle operates at a maximum allowable speed of 20 miles per hour.

## When a bike lane merges

Use extreme caution when merging across right turn only/drop lanes. Well before the intersection, scan over your left shoulder and signal your intentions to merge left across the lane. Always make sure that the motorist behind you has noticed your signal and made room for you.

Always watch for fast moving drivers who may not see you.



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### Sunrise and sunset can be dangerous times to ride

When the sun is low in the sky, at sunrise and sunset, motorists may be blinded and not able to see you as you ride.

Watch for cars ahead of you and coming up from behind. Consider different routes if you can during this time.

Prepare yourself for cars pulling out unexpectedly into your path.

## Bicyclists must follow traffic laws in school zones

Bicyclists, just like drivers, must not go faster than 15 miles per hour in a school zone when temporary signs are in place.

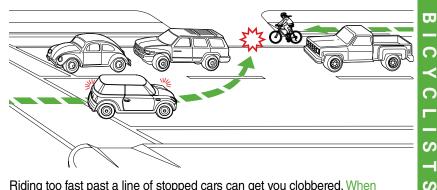
In addition, a cyclist CANNOT PASS a motor vehicle going in the same direction if the vehicle is going less than 15 miles per hour or is stopped. This applies even when the cyclist is in a bike lane.

Following school zone laws can keep you from getting a ticket.



BICYCLISTS

## Watch for cars turning through gaps



Riding too fast past a line of stopped cars can get you clobbered. When passing a line of vehicles SLOW DOWN AND BE ALERT, especially near driveway entrances. Motorists often can't see past the line of vehicles and won't know you're there.

### Be polite and be smart

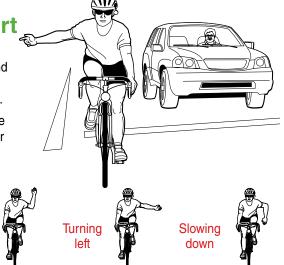
Use hand signals to show your intentions and ride in a predictable fashion (A.R.S. 28-756).

Remember, the laws are there to make it safer for everyone.

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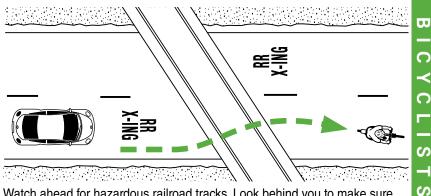
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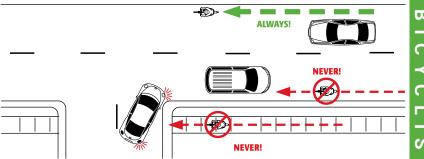
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## **Cross tracks carefully**



Watch ahead for hazardous railroad tracks. Look behind you to make sure it's safe, signal your intentions, then cross tracks at as close to a right angle as possible (A.R.S. 28-815).

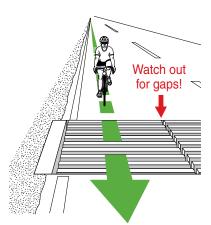
### Never ride against traffic



Ride on the right with the flow of traffic—NEVER ride against traffic on the road, in a bike lane, or on a sidewalk. Drivers turning from the side cannot see you and approaching drivers will not expect you to be riding the wrong way (A.R.S. 28-815).

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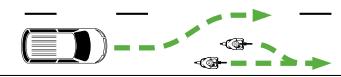


### Cross cattleguards carefully

Cross cattleguards carefully and be sure to watch for gaps parallel to your direction of travel. These can cause a serious crash. The edge of the cattleguard may also be higher or lower than the road surface.

Be especially careful if the cattleguard is wet and is in a corner or approaching a stop sign.

## Be aware when riding two abreast



Riding two abreast is permitted by law (A.R.S. 28-815), but under a separate law (A.R.S. 28-704) bicyclists may not unnecessarily slow motor vehicle traffic. You can help drivers pass on two-lane roadways without bike lanes by riding single-file when safe to do so (stay at least 2 to 3 feet from the edge of the road). It's always nice to give a friendly wave when drivers pass and give you plenty of clearance.

BICYCLISTS 17

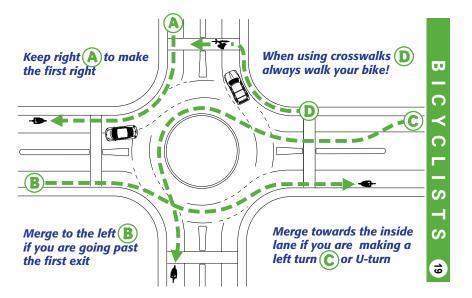
## Two ways to ride a modern roundabout

#### 1. Ride like a vehicle

Ride on the circulatory roadway as vehicles do. Obey the same driving instructions as vehicles. When entering, yield to vehicles in the round-about. Wait for a gap in traffic and merge into roundabout traffic to the right. Watch out for vehicles crossing your path to leave or join the roundabout. Be careful around large vehicles because they need more space to maneuver the roundabout. Exit the roundabout to your right.

#### 2. Walk like a pedestrian

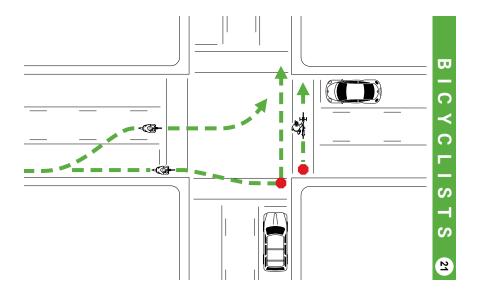
Before reaching the splitter island on the roundabout approach, move to the sidewalk. Walk your bicycle on the sidewalk and use pedestrian crossings to walk across the roadways. Look left before crossing to the splitter island, and look right before crossing to the opposite sidewalk.



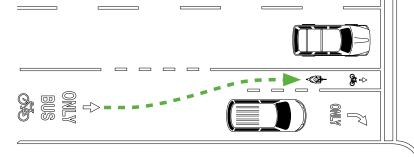
## Three legal ways to turn left

- 1. You may make a left turn like a vehicle by looking over your shoulder, signaling, and moving into the left turn lane when it's safe. (A.R.S. 28-815)
- 2. You may make a left turn by going to the far side of the intersection, turning your bike, and using the roadway.
- 3. You may make a left turn by going to the far side of the intersection, turning your bike, and then using the crosswalk.



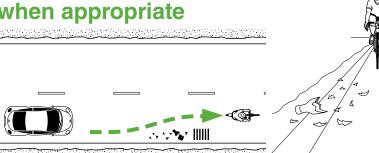


## Riding in bus/bike lanes



When using the bus/bike lanes, ride near the center of the lane to make yourself as visible as possible. When approaching an intersection, move to the left before proceeding through. Bus drivers are required to pass cyclists outside of the bus/bike lane.





Remember that you may use the full lane if the lane is not wide enough for a car and bike to safely share (A.R.S. 28-815). Check behind to make sure it's safe, signal your intentions, and take the lane by riding 1/3 to 1/2 of the way into the lane. When safe and possible, move to the right to allow a following vehicle to pass.

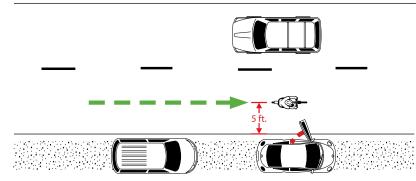
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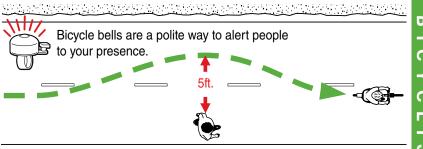
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## Be careful when riding by parked cars



Look for people in parked cars ahead of you and ride in a straight line at least 5 feet away from the car. Someone may open the car door in front of you unexpectedly. Be predictable: don't weave in and out between parked cars.

## **Respect pedestrians**



On a shared use pathway always slow down when approaching pedestrians, give a verbal greeting you're about to pass, and provide at least 5 feet passing distance. Remember! The pedestrian you are courteous to on the pathway may be the driver who treats you well when you're cycling on the roadway.

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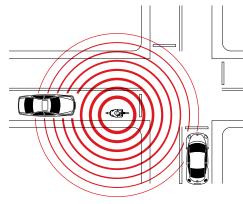
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## Be a defensive bike 'driver'



Be aware of your surroundings, and especially turning and side traffic. Make eye contact with drivers and be sure to get their attention.

Even with eye contact the person may not really see you or realize the speed you are going, so be prepared!



## Pay attention

Headphones and cell phones cause distraction and reduce your ability to hear traffic, which could cost you your life.

Don't use headphones or a cell phone when riding your bike you're four times more likely to be in a crash! σ

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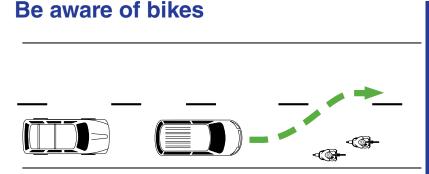
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## Watch for oncoming cars



When riding on narrow, two-lane roads, always be on the lookout for oncoming cars attempting to pass.

Ride in a highly visible position in the roadway, not too close to the edge, and alert the motorists to your presence by waving your left arm. Be ready to exit the roadway even if the shoulder is rough.



Cyclists have the same legal right to use the road as motorists. Same roads, same rules, same rights and responsibilities. Cyclists can legally ride two abreast on the roadway (A.R.S. 28-815) as long as they do not unnecessarily slow traffic (A.R.S. 28-704). In several circumstances, cyclists can use the entire travel lane. (A.R.S. 28-815).

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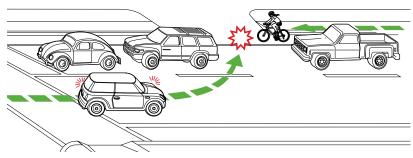
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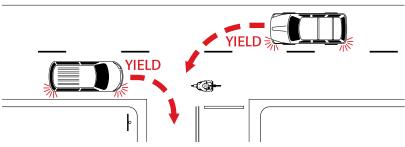
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## Yield to bikes when turning through gaps



A situation when a motorist allows another car to make a left turn through a line of cars can be hazardous to cyclists. Make your turn with extreme caution and yield to bicyclists.

## Be watchful at intersections & driveways



When changing lanes, turning left or right, or pulling out from a driveway, be aware of cyclists and YIELD to them just as you would with motorists. If in doubt, slow down and turn behind them. Cyclists may be travelling faster than you expect, so exercise due caution before making your turn.

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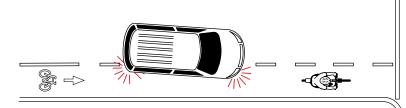
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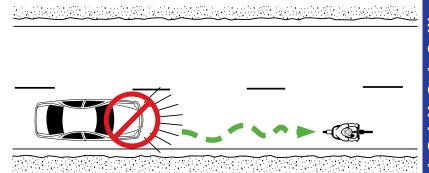
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## Be watchful for bicycles when making a right turn



Do not drive or park in bike lanes or on paved shoulders. When turning right, safely merge in behind the cyclist when they are present (A.R.S. 28-751.1). Be predictable and always signal your intentions. Do not turn in front of cyclists.

## Horns don't help



DO NOT use your horn when following a cyclist. A sudden loud blast from a horn may startle the cyclist and cause him or her to swerve into traffic. The driver can be cited for causing a crash.

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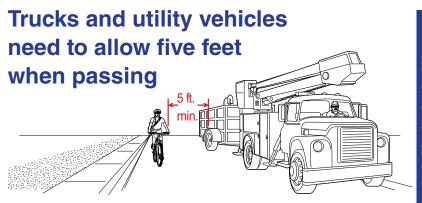
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The law requires that you give AT LEAST 3 FEET of clearance when you pass (A.R.S. 28-735). Slow down and don't pass a cyclist until safe to do so. When possible, please give 5 feet of clearance when you pass.

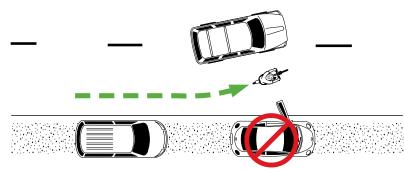


Trucks, especially when pulling trailers, need to provide extra space when passing cyclists. The mirrors, fenders and cargo on the truck can extend out and be dangerous. Use extra caution and make sure that your trailer is safely clear of the cyclist before moving back to the right.

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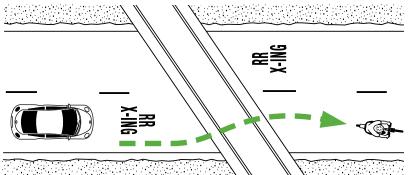
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## Look before opening your door



Opening your car door in a crowded area can be disastrous to a cyclist riding near parked cars. Drivers are legally required to make sure it's safe before opening a car door into the roadway (A.R.S. 28-905).

### Give extra room near hazards



Slow down and pass cyclists carefully (A.R.S. 28-735), especially at railroad crossings and cattleguards, through construction zones, and in poor weather conditions. Watch for cyclists signaling and moving to the left briefly in order to safely cross railroad tracks (A.R.S. 28-815)

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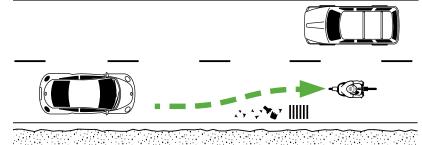
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## Give a cyclist room to maneuver



Assume there is a good reason for a cyclist's position in the road and give him adequate room to maneuver. Cyclists may move further into the lane to avoid hazards, to be more visible to drivers, or if the lane is too narrow to safely share with a vehicle.



## Pay attention to the road, not to your phone

According to national research, you are four times more likely to have an automobile crash if you use a cell phone while driving.

For everyone's safety, pull over to a safe location off the road to use your cell phone.

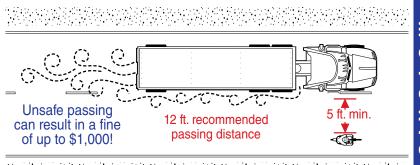
## Help keep trash out of the bike lanes

Debris creates hazardous conditions and forces cyclists further into the travel lane. When hauling trash or other objects, properly secure your loads.

DON'T LITTER! It's illegal and debris in the bike lanes is dangerous.



## Give extra room when passing



If you are driving a large vehicle such as a truck, RV, or bus, the wind pushed out from the side can cause a cyclist to crash. Slow down and whenever possible give a full lane width of clearance. (A.R.S. 28-723, A.R.S. 28-735).

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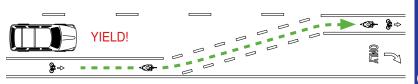
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# Watch for bikes when trying to pass on two-lane roads Image: Comparison of the pass on two-lane roads Image: Comparison of the pass of the pas

## Bike lane merging across right turn only lane

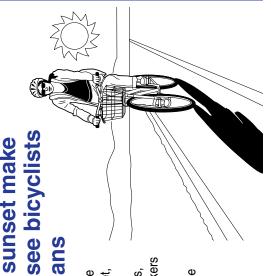
roadway, even in rural areas.

Yield to bicyclists at right turn lanes/drop lanes. Drivers are required to yield to bicyclists as they approach right turn only/drop lanes. Watch for bicyclists who merge leftward as they approach the right turn only lane.



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Control your speed and be cautious until conditions mprove.

Be especially careful around crosswalks

#### **ARIZONA BICYCLE LAWS** 45

#### 28-101. Definitions

- "Bicycle" means a device, including a racing wheelchair, that is propelled by human power and on which a person may ride and that has either:
  - a. Two tandem wheels, either of which is more than sixteen inches in diameter.
  - b. Three wheels in contact with the ground, any of which is more than sixteen inches in diameter.
- 56. "Vehicle" means a device in, on or by which a person or property is or may be transported or drawn on a public highway, excluding devices moved by human power or used exclusively on stationary rails or tracks.

#### 28-704. Minimum speed limits; requirement to turn off roadway

- A. A person shall not drive a motor vehicle at such a slow speed as to impede or block the normal and reasonable movement of traffic except when reduced speed is necessary for safe operation or in compliance with law.
- B. If the director or local authorities within their respective jurisdictions determine on the basis of an engineering

and traffic investigation that slow speeds on any part of a highway consistently impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic, the director or local authority may determine and declare a minimum speed limit below which a person shall not drive a vehicle except when necessary for safe operation or in compliance with law.

C. If a person is driving a vehicle at a speed less than the normal flow of traffic at the particular time and place on a two-lane highway where passing is unsafe, and if five or more vehicles are formed in a line behind the vehicle, the person shall turn the vehicle off the roadway at the nearest place designated as a turnout by signs erected by the director or a local authority, or wherever sufficient area for a safe turnout exists, in order to permit the vehicles following to proceed.

#### 28-723. Overtaking a vehicle on the left

The driver of a vehicle overtaking another vehicle proceeding in the same direction shall pass to the left of the vehicle at a safe distance and shall not again drive to the right side of the roadway until safely clear of the overtaken vehicle.

#### ARIZONA BICYCLE LAWS 47

#### 28-724. Overtaking on the right

- A. The driver of a vehicle may overtake and pass on the right of another vehicle only under the following conditions:
  - 1. When the vehicle overtaken is making or about to make a left turn.
  - 2. On a street or highway with unobstructed pavement that is not occupied by parked vehicles and that is of sufficient width for two or more lines of moving vehicles in each direction.
  - On a one-way street or on a roadway on which traffic is restricted to one direction of movement and if the roadway is free from obstructions and of sufficient width for two or more lines of moving vehicles.
- B. The driver of a vehicle may overtake and pass another vehicle on the right only under conditions permitting the movement in safety. The driver shall not make the movement by driving off the pavement or main traveled portion of the roadway.

#### 28-735. Overtaking bicycles; civil penalties

A. When overtaking and passing a bicycle proceeding in the same direction, a person driving a motor

vehicle shall exercise due care by leaving a safe distance between the motor vehicle and the bicycle of not less than three feet until the motor vehicle is safely past the overtaken bicycle.

- B. If a person violates this section and the violation results in a collision causing:
  - Serious physical injury as defined in section 13-105 to another person, the violator is subject to a civil penalty of up to five hundred dollars.
  - 2. Death to another person, the violator is subject to a civil penalty of up to one thousand dollars.
- C. Subsection B of this section does not apply to a bicyclist who is injured in a vehicular traffic lane when a designated bicycle lane or path is present and passable.

## 28-751. Required position and method of turning

The driver of a vehicle intending to turn shall do so as follows:

 Right turns. Both the approach for a right turn and a right turn shall be made as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway.

#### ARIZONA BICYCLE LAWS 49

#### 28-756. Method of giving hand and arm signals

- A. Except as provided by subsection B, a person shall give all hand and arm signals required by this article from the left side of the vehicle in the following manner, and the signals shall indicate as follows:
  - 1. Left turn. Hand and arm extended horizontally.
  - 2. Right turn. Hand and arm extended upward.
  - 3. Stop or decrease speed. Hand and arm extended downward.
- B. A person operating a bicycle may give a right turn signal by extending the right hand and arm horizontally to the right side of the bicycle.

## 28-811. Parent and guardian responsibility; applicability of article

- A. The parent of a child and the guardian of a ward shall not authorize or knowingly permit the child or ward to violate this chapter.
- B. Except as otherwise provided in this article, this chapter applies to a bicycle when it is operated on a highway or on a path set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles.

## 28-812. Applicability of traffic laws to bicycle riders

A person riding a bicycle on a roadway or on a shoulder adjoining a roadway is granted all of the rights and is subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle by this chapter and chapters 4 and 5 of this title, except special rules in this article and except provisions of this chapter and chapters 4 and 5 of this title that by their nature can have no application.

#### 28-813. Riding on bicycles

- A. A person propelling a bicycle shall not ride other than on or astride a permanent and regular seat attached to the bicycle.
- B. A person shall not use a bicycle to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped.

#### 28-814. Clinging to vehicle

A person riding on a bicycle, coaster, sled or toy vehicle or on roller skates shall not attach the bicycle, coaster, sled, toy vehicle or roller skates or that person to a vehicle on a roadway.

#### ARIZONA BICYCLE LAWS 51

## 28-815. Riding on roadway and bicycle path; bicycle path usage

- A. A person riding a bicycle on a roadway at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing shall ride as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway, except under any of the following situations:
  - 1. If overtaking and passing another bicycle or vehicle proceeding in the same direction.
  - 2. If preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway.
  - If reasonably necessary to avoid conditions, including fixed or moving objects, parked or moving vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians, animals or surface hazards.
  - 4. If the lane in which the person is operating the bicycle is too narrow for a bicycle and a vehicle to travel safely side by side within the lane.
- B. Persons riding bicycles on a roadway shall not ride more than two abreast except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles.
- C. A path or lane that is designated as a bicycle path or lane by state or local authorities is for the exclusive

use of bicycles even though other uses are permitted pursuant to subsection D or are otherwise permitted by state or local authorities.

- D. A person shall not operate, stop, park or leave standing a vehicle in a path or lane designated as a bicycle path or lane by a state or local authority except in the case of emergency or for crossing the path or lane to gain access to a public or private road or driveway.
- E. Subsection D does not prohibit the use of the path or lane by the appropriate local authority.

#### 28-816. Carrying article on bicycle

A person shall not carry a package, bundle or article while operating a bicycle if the package, bundle or article prevents the driver from keeping at least one hand on the handlebars.

#### 28-817. Bicycle equipment

A. A bicycle that is used at nighttime shall have a lamp on the front that emits a white light visible from a distance of at least five hundred feet to the front and a red reflector on the rear of a type that is approved by the department and that is visible from all distances from fifty feet to three hundred feet to the

#### ARIZONA BICYCLE LAWS 53

rear when the reflector is directly in front of lawful upper beams of head lamps on a motor vehicle. A bicycle may have a lamp that emits a red light visible from a distance of five hundred feet to the rear in addition to the red reflector.

- B. A person shall not operate a bicycle that is equipped with a siren or whistle.
- C. A bicycle shall be equipped with a brake that enables the operator to make the braked wheels skid on dry, level, clean pavement.

#### 28-905. Opening vehicle door

A person shall not open a door on a motor vehicle unless it is reasonably safe to do so and can be done without interfering with the movement of other traffic. A person shall not leave a door open on a side of a motor vehicle exposed to moving traffic for a period of time longer than necessary to load or unload a passenger

#### 28-947. Special restrictions on lamps

A. A vehicle may have lamps that may be used to warn the operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing.

The vehicle may display these lamps as a warning in addition to any other warning signals required by this article. The lamps used to display the warning to the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable and shall display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights or any shade of color between white and amber.

The lamps used to display the warning to the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights or any shade of color between amber and red.

These warning lights shall be visible from a distance of at least one thousand five hundred feet under normal atmospheric conditions at night.

#### 28-954. Horns and warning devices

A. If reasonably necessary to ensure the safe operation of a motor vehicle, the driver shall give an audible warning with the driver's horn but shall not otherwise use the horn when on a highway.

## 28-2516. Motorized electric or gas powered bicycles or tricycles; definition

A. Notwithstanding any other provision of this title:

#### ARIZONA BICYCLE LAWS 55

- 1. A certificate of title is not required for a motorized electric or gas powered bicycle or tricycle.
- 2. Registration is not required for a motorized electric or gas powered bicycle or tricycle.
- 3. Vehicle license tax is not imposed on a motorized electric or gas powered bicycle or tricycle.
- 4. A motorized electric or gas powered bicycle or tricycle is exempt from the provisions of section 28-964 relating to required equipment on motorcycles and motor-driven cycles and from the provisions of title 49, chapter 3, article 5 relating to vehicle emissions inspections.
- 5. A driver license is not required to operate a motorized electric or gas powered bicycle or tricycle.
- A motorized electric or gas powered bicycle or tricycle may use rights-of-way designated for the exclusive use of bicycles.
- 7. A motorized electric or gas powered bicycle or tricycle is not subject to chapter 9 of this title.
- B. This section does not prohibit a local authority from adopting an ordinance that regulates or prohibits the operation of motorized electric or gas powered bicycles or tricycles, except that a local authority shall

not adopt an ordinance that requires registration and licensing of motorized electric or gas powered bicycles or tricycles.

C. For the purposes of this section, "motorized electric or gas powered bicycle or tricycle" means a bicycle or tricycle that is equipped with a helper motor that has a maximum piston displacement of forty-eight cubic centimeters or less, that may also be self-propelled and that is operated at speeds of less than twenty miles per hour.

#### 28-3164. Original applicants; examination

The department may examine an applicant for an original driver license or the department may accept the examination conducted by an authorized third party pursuant to chapter 13 of this title or documentation of successful completion of a driver education course approved by the department. The examination shall include all of the following:

- 1. A test of the applicant's:
  - a. Eyesight.
  - b. Ability to read and understand official traffic control devices.

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c. Knowledge of safe driving practices and the traffic laws of this state, including those practices and laws relating to bicycles.

The preceding section is a listing of relevant Arizona State laws as of September 2011. Additional local traffic laws may apply to bicyclists, motorists and pedestrians throughout Arizona. This booklet does not constitute a legal standard. Refer to Arizona Revised Statutes and to local traffic ordinances.

#### Some useful contact information:

Report roadway maintenance needs on State highways to the appropriate ADOT District.

Contact information for each district is at: www.azdot.gov/business/district-contacts

...or you can contact the ADOT Bicycle/ Pedestrian Coordinator at: azbikeped@azdot.gov

### Six ways to make BIKE COMMUTING easier...



- 1. Get the right bike. Mountain bikes were designed for the dirt and are much slower than road bikes or hybrids. Pick the bike that's right for your ride.
- 2. Bring a week's worth of clothes on Monday. It's a good way to fight wrinkles and lighten your load.
- 3. Gotta long ride? Use the bike racks on city buses to shorten your ride and give you a bailout on rainy days.
- 4. Got light? Everybody should have a bright headlight and at least one red flasher on the back. You may get stuck at work or school later than you planned. State law requires a white headlight and red rear reflector after dark. If you're caught riding at night without a light, you can get an expensive ticket.
- Pick a good route. Try different routes through neighborhoods and on paths that fit your comfort level. Consult a bike map for good routes or ask your cyclist friends for advice. Try out new routes on the weekends.
- 6. Ride flat free. There are many new products to help you fight flats, including tire sealant, tire liners, and puncture resistant tires.

## Make bike commuting fun and safe with a **BIKE BUDDY!**

Are you thinking of riding to work and want to learn the "ins and outs" of bike commuting?

Do you need advice on bikes and gear that will get you where you need to go?

The Bike Buddy Program will match you with a trained volunteer so you can benefit from their experience. You can get advice on cycling topics including:

- Finding the best route to work
- Fixing flats and performing repairs
- Taking your bike on the bus
- Getting the right gear for all seasons

• Riding in different traffic and weather conditions When you sign up for a Bike Buddy you'll be contacted by one of our experienced commuters, who will meet with you to check out your bike and help you map a route. You can also do a test ride together to make sure you're comfortable with your new route and your gear.

## To learn more about a Bike Buddy Program in your area, visit www.azbikeped.org



Arizona Department of Transportation Bicycle and Pedestrian Program

#### Mail Drop 310B 206 S. 17th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85007 (602) 712-8141

#### azbikeped@azdot.gov

#### www.azbikeped.org



Adapted by the Arizona Department of Transportation from the Pima County Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Share the Road Guide Matthew Zoll, Program Manager.

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