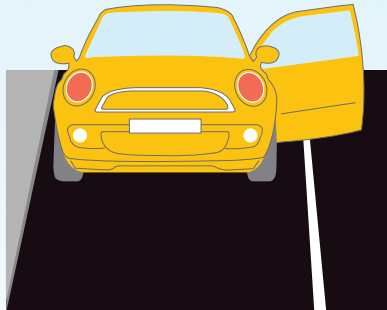


9

Be cautious when opening car doors.

Bicyclists often are injured because drivers or passengers fail to carefully look. When driving adjacent to a bike lane, expect that bicyclists may need to travel outside of the bike lane to avoid hazards, such as a car door opening.



10

Watch and slow down for children.

Children on bicycles can be unpredictable. Be especially alert in school zones and residential areas.



11

For your safety and everyone sharing the road with you:

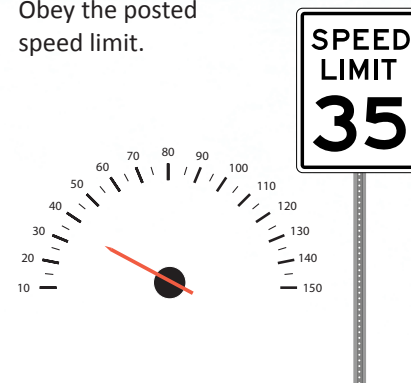
Always use turn signals. Bicyclists are depending on you to signal your intent.



It is illegal to text and use handheld devices while driving.



Obey the posted speed limit.



WE'RE ON THIS ROAD TOGETHER

Under Maryland law bicycles are defined as vehicles and cyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as drivers of motor vehicles. Therefore, motorists and bicyclists should “**Expect AND Respect**” each other on the road. When we all drive safely and are considerate of others, it's easy to share the road!

QUESTIONS?

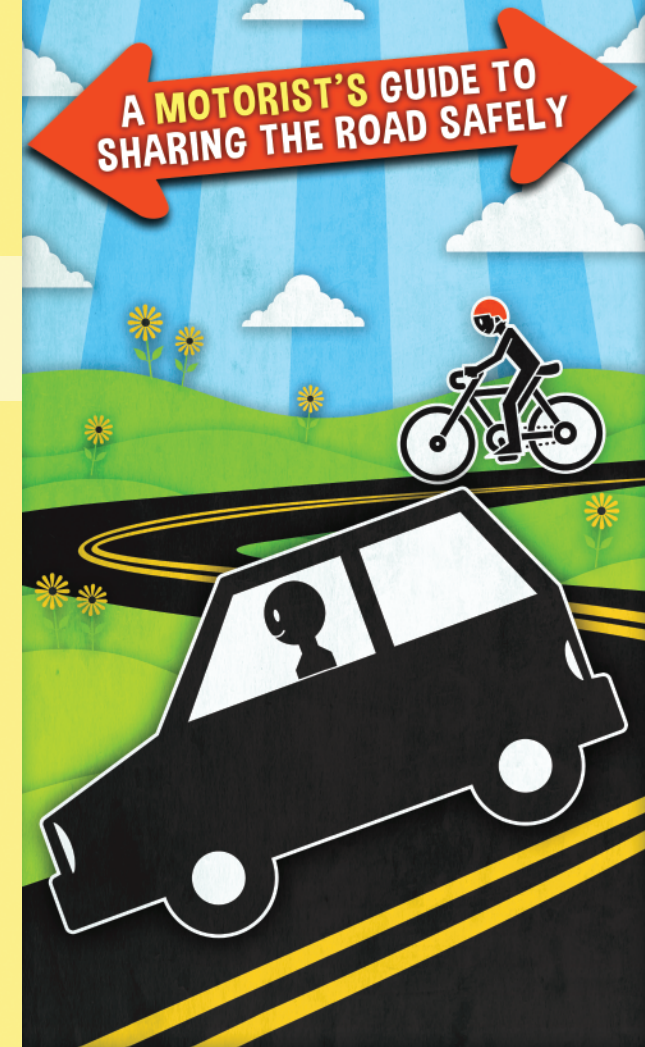
bikes@sha.state.md.us
www.cycle.maryland.gov



Maryland State Highway Administration
707 N. Calvert Street
Baltimore, MD 21202
roads.maryland.gov

WE'RE ON THIS ROAD TOGETHER

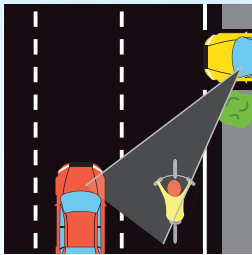
A MOTORIST'S GUIDE TO SHARING THE ROAD SAFELY



SAFETY TIPS & BEST PRACTICES

1 Expect bicyclists on the road.

Be aware of your surroundings and stay vigilant when pulling out of driveways or side streets. You may encounter a bicyclist on all types of roads, in all types of weather, day and night.



2 Allow at least 3 feet when passing a bicyclist.

It is the law! When determining 3 feet, don't forget to include your car mirrors. Do not pass on the crest of hills or blind curves and give sufficient space before you merge back into the lane.



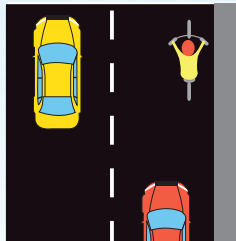
3 Lane markings and signs remind drivers of the presence of bicyclists.

Sharrows (right) are lane markings that direct bicyclists closer to the center of the lane.



4 Always keep a safe following distance.

When traveling behind a bicyclist, allow greater space than the space given when following a motor vehicle. This gives additional time to react to a bicyclist who may be maneuvering or stopping.



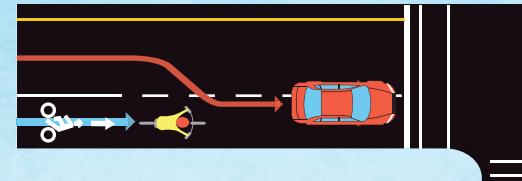
5 Before turning right make sure the path is clear of bicyclists.

Do not pass a bicyclist if you are going to turn right immediately afterwards. Right turns into bicyclists or "right hooks" are one of the causes of bicycle crashes.



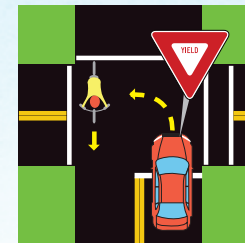
6 Before making a right turn merge fully into the bike lane when a bike lane is present.

Be sure to merge safely ahead of or behind the cyclist.



7 When turning, yield the right-of-way to bicyclists in the same manner as yielding to other motorists.

Keep in mind that bicyclists may be in motion on the shoulder. Do not turn left or right in front of them unless you can do so safely.



8 Bicycles may use any portion of the lane if there is no shoulder or if the combined bicycle lane and the traffic lane is narrow.

Bicyclists may also use any portion of the traffic lane when they are traveling at the same speed as traffic.

