

Safety First!

With the arrival of Spring, there is increased bicycle traffic on our sidewalks and roadways. For the welfare of motorists and bike riders of all ages, please review these bicycle regulations per Florida State Statute 316.2065:

- Every bicycle rider has all of the rights and duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle. At stop-sign intersections, cyclists must observe the right-of-way as do the motorists and yield accordingly. Cyclists must also observe traffic lights and stop at red light signals as do motorists.
- Vehicular traffic must yield to cyclists at crosswalks, as they do for pedestrians.
- When bike riders are travelling on sidewalks, across a roadway or along a crosswalk, they must yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and give an audible signal before overtaking and passing such pedestrian.
- A bicycle rider must carry any passenger who is a child under 4 years of age, or who weighs 40 lbs. or less, in a seat or carrier that is designed to carry a child of that age or size and secures and protects the child from the moving parts of the bicycle.
- A bicycle rider under the age of 16 must wear a helmet that is properly fitted and securely fastened by a strap, and meets nationally recognized standards for bicycle protective headgear.
- If there is no existing roadway bicycle lane clearly marked, cyclists should ride as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway except under the following situations:
 - When overtaking and passing another bicycle or vehicle proceeding in the same direction
 - When preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway
 - When reasonably necessary to avoid any condition, including, but not limited to, a fixed or moving object, parked or moving vehicle, bicycle, pedestrian, animal, surface hazard, or substandard-width lane, that makes it unsafe to continue along the right-hand curb or edge.
- Roadway cyclists may not ride more than two abreast except on paths or parts of roadways set aside exclusively for bicycle use. Cyclists riding two abreast may not impede traffic when travelling at less than the normal speed of traffic and should ride within a single lane when a car approaches.
- Every bicycle in use between sunset and sunrise must be equipped with a lamp on the front exhibiting a white light visible from a distance of at least 500' to the front and a lamp and reflector on the rear each exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 600' to the rear.
- No person riding upon any bicycle, coaster, roller skates, sled, or toy vehicle may be towed by a motor vehicle on the roadway.
- People on roller skates or riding any coaster, toy vehicle, or similar device may go upon any roadway except when crossing a street at a crosswalk; when so crossing, such people shall be regarded as pedestrians by cyclists and motorists.

"To view the Chapter in its entirety, visit:

http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0300-0399/0316/0316ContentsIndex.html".

