

W&M BICYCLIST'S SURVIVAL GUIDE



REGISTER YOUR BIKE

BICYCLES



Here's to you, W&M riders! You've been rolling for longer than you've been walking, so it's no wonder you feel right at home on two wheels. You're saving money, reducing pollution and improving your health. Remember with all that fresh air comes a certain amount of vulnerability, so here are a few tips to keep you on the straight and vertical.

First, most importantly please remember to register your bike with Parking & Transportation Services. You can do this online at the QR code below or in person at the Parking Office in Campus Center at 406 Jamestown Road. Upon completion of the process you will receive a registration sticker in the mail at your CS box to apply to your bike.

WHAT EVERY RIDER SHOULD KNOW:

Dress to be seen.

Yellow and lime green are especially visible colors in daylight; reflective accessories will help make you visible to drivers at night.

Shield your brain

Always wear a helmet!

Tune into traffic

not your earbuds.

Plan for an emergency

Carry an under saddle kit with a mini pump, tire levers, a spare tube, patch kit, and small bicycle multi tool.



Light up the night

Use reflectors and lights, white on front and red on back, it's the LAW.

Gauge it right

Tires should be in good condition and properly inflated to their recommended pressure noted on the sidewall.

Avoid a chain reaction

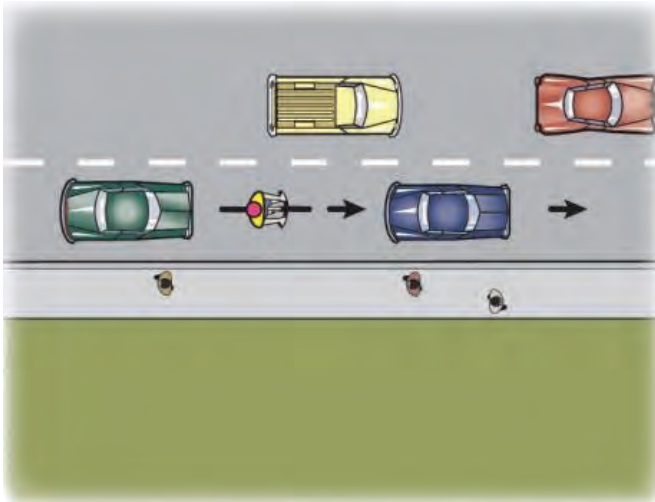
Tuck in or hike up loose clothing so it doesn't get caught.

STOP! Brakes must be in good repair and powerful enough to let you stop easily and safely. Check pads and cables.

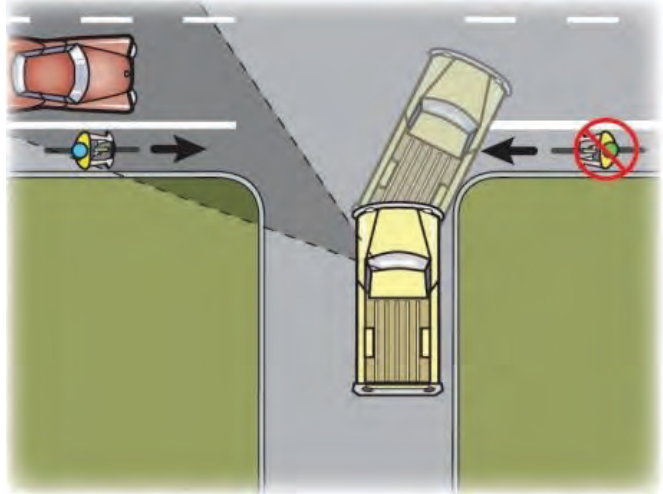
ABIDE WHEN YOU RIDE

Go with the flow - ride on the right, in the same direction as traffic. It's the law – and it will help you to be seen by drivers. Drivers pulling into traffic tend to look mostly in the direction of oncoming cars. If you ride against traffic, drivers may not see you until it is too late.

RIDE WITH TRAFFIC



STAY CENTERED

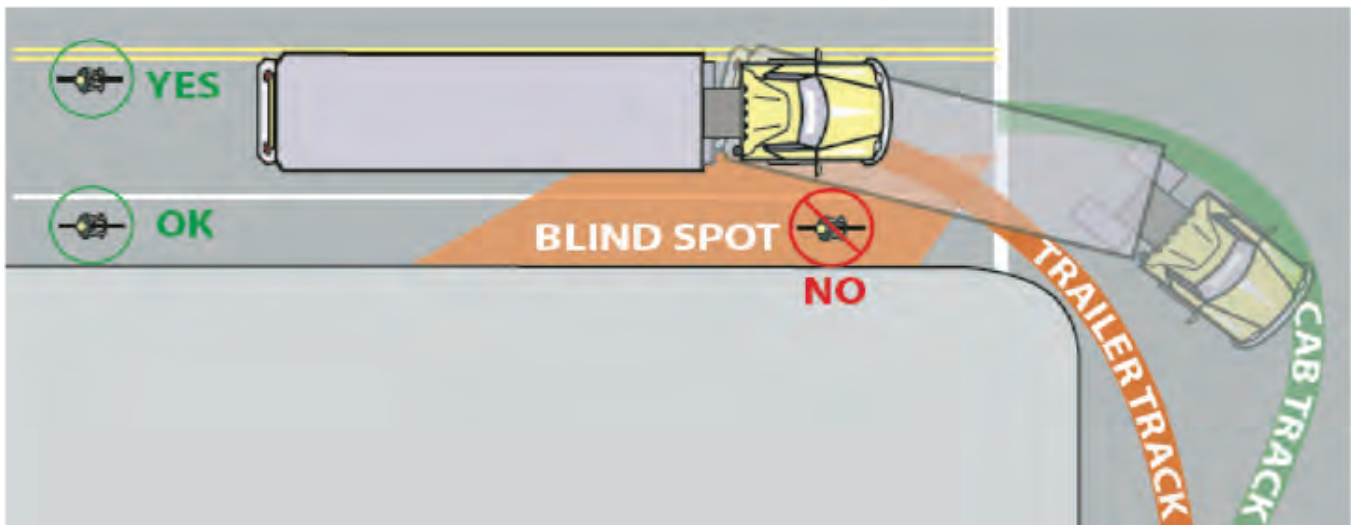


Pedal by the book - when on the road, your bike is a vehicle. That means you have the same rights and responsibilities – as motorists. So obey all traffic signs, signals, lane markings and other rules of the road.

Get a grip – keep at least one hand on the handlebars at all times. And be ready to brake at a moment's notice.

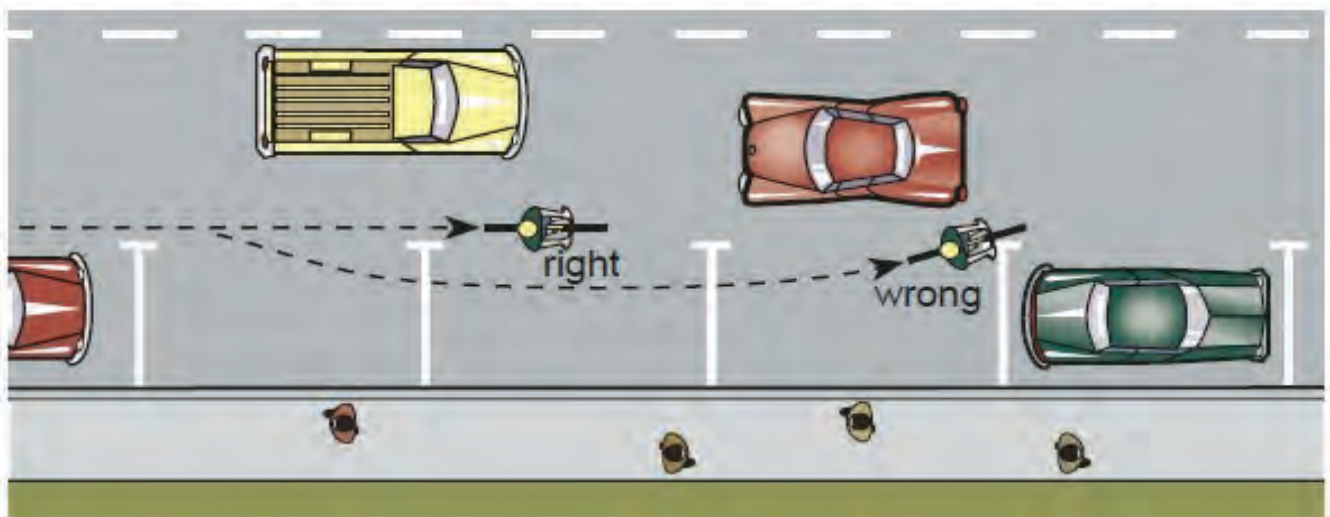
Keep to the right - but not so far to the right that you risk hitting the curb, leaving the paved road or getting hit by the opening door of a parked car. If there is no shoulder or bike lane and the travel lane is narrow, ride closer to the center of the lane where drivers can see you.

Space out - when close to an intersection, use caution while passing vehicles on the right. Watch the right-turn signals and hang back until the coast is clear.



HAND SIGNALS

Be predictable to drivers – telegraph your every move with hand signals. The last thing you want to do is catch a driver by surprise... the surprise may be on you!



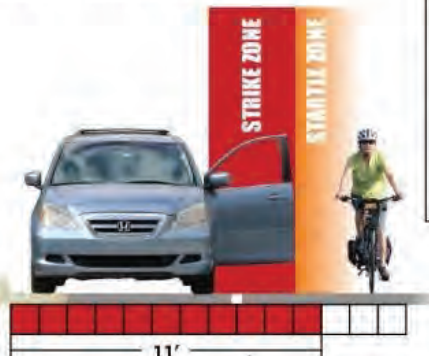
Don't weave in and out of parked cars

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Exclusion Zones

An Exclusion zone is an area of vulnerability, where cyclists are at the highest risk of conflicts and crashes. Successful bicyclists understand and avoid these parts of the road.

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Door Zone

~11ft from the curb

Strike zone: extension of a car door.
Startle zone: the area in which a suddenly-opened door would startle a bicyclist into automatically swerving into overtaking traffic (minimum of 1'; varies by individual).

Being struck and swerving to avoid a door are both common causes of severe injury and death.

Intersection Conflict Zone

~4ft from the edge* when approaching intersections and driveways
Screened by sight obstructions (vegetation, buildings, poles, parked cars) → **Drive-out** risk
Screened by passing vehicles → **Left Cross** risk
Easy to disregard/misjudge → **Right Hook**, **Drive-out** and **Left Cross** risk

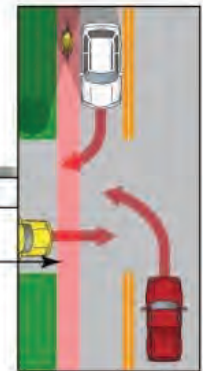
Edge Hazard Zone

~2ft from the edge*
Curb face
Uneven pavement/seam
Debris (sticks, leaves, sand, broken glass, auto parts)
Standing water, snow, ice

Close Inlane Passing Zone

6'-13' from the center line or lane line

If the lane is not wide enough to share, a bicyclist should leave less than a car width between herself and the lane line to discourage motorists from trying to pass within the lane.



***Bike lanes may increase width of exclusion zone:**
Road debris may extend the full width of a bike lane since that space is not swept by cars. Edge bike lanes increase the risk of the intersection conflict zone by making bicyclists irrelevant.



LANE WIDTHS

Not shareable with any car, SUV or large truck
Shareable with cars and SUVs, but NOT large trucks
Minimum shareable with cars, SUVs and large trucks

Riding on Sidewalks – in general, on campus you shouldn't ride a bicycle on sidewalks. Many crashes between bikes and cars, or pedestrians occur on sidewalks, especially when bicyclists ride against the flow of car traffic and do not yield to pedestrians. If you must ride on a sidewalk, ride in the same direction as traffic next to you, and adjust your riding habits for the safety of all sidewalk users. Slow down at driveways and street crossings, yield to pedestrians, be courteous and ride cautiously.

When passing pedestrians give an audible warning and wait for them to move over. Make your intentions clear. For example, "passing on your left"

Riding in Bike Lanes – Bike lanes are one-way, they follow the flow of traffic, be mindful of parked cars and the "door zone" as you pass by.

Riding on paths – paths may be wider than sidewalks, but you should still ride cautiously. Ride on the right and yield to pedestrians. Ride more slowly and alertly at night, when it's harder to see the surface and edges of the path.

PROTECT YOUR HEAD - WEAR A HELMET

A properly fitted and correctly worn bike helmet can make a dramatic difference, cutting the risk of serious head injury by up to 80 per cent. Discard the helmet after one high intensity impact.

Follow the **2V1** rule...



"2" fingers above
your eyebrows



Straps form a "V"
under your ears



"1" finger between
strap and chin

2V1 rule - Always check your helmet: two fingers above your eyebrow, straps form a "v" under your ears, one finger space between strap and chin.

PARKING YOUR BIKE ON CAMPUS

Invest in a high-quality bike lock. Do not chain or lock to benches, light poles, sign poles, stairwell rails, building emergency egress points, or trees and shrubs. Bikes are not allowed in dorm rooms, hallways, or offices.



Optional seat tether
for more security



U-Lock secured to bike rack
and around bike frame
and wheel if possible

Chain lock secured to bike rack and around wheel if possible

eSCOOTERS



eSCOOTER SAFETY TIPS

Between 2020 and 2024 the number of e-scooter injuries in the U.S. rose 3.94 times over the five years to 2024, according to U.S> Consumer Product Safety Commission data.

- While helmets are not required by law if over the age of 14, it is strongly recommended to wear one. You're here to learn, protect your investment.
- Ensure operational readiness of your e-scooter before each use. Such as brakes, tires, and lights (if equipped with lights).
- The traffic laws that apply to bicycles, also apply to e-scooters.
- Stop signs are not optional.
- One-way signs also apply to e-scooters, just as they do bicycles and cars.
- Yielding to pedestrians is not optional.
- Use bike lanes when bike lanes are available.
- E-scooter/bike storage inside of University buildings is prohibited.
- Charging of e-scooters/bikes is prohibited on University property (including dorm rooms).
- Avoid riding on the sidewalk unless absolutely necessary and use extreme caution.
- Properly crossing at a crosswalk requires the rider to dismount and walk across the crosswalk.
- Multiple people on an e-scooter that is not rated for multiple people is a huge safety risk for the users, pedestrians, and vehicle traffic.
- Locking e-scooters to anything but a rack is strictly prohibited.

The traffic laws that apply to bicycles also apply to escooters.



SUMMER RIDERS



SUMMER BIKE REGISTRATION

In the week after Commencement, we do our annual bike roundup. Bikes not registered for Summer use with Parking and Transportation will be impounded. Summer use registration can only be done in person at the Parking and Transportation office. Just like traditional bike registration, it's free. Your bike must be registered before registering for Summer use. Which can be done at the same time and takes no more than 10 minutes. If your bike was impounded and was not registered at all, proof of ownership must be established before the bike/scooter is released. A \$25 fee is due at the time of release of ALL impounded bikes/scooters, registered or not.



BIKE or SCOOTER REMOVAL NOTICE



**ALL BIKES/SCOOTERS MUST BE REMOVED FROM CAMPUS RACKS
BY THE END OF THE SPRING SEMESTER.**

**REMAINING BIKES/SCOOTERS WILL BE COLLECTED AND HELD FOR
90 DAYS. UNCLAIMED ITEMS WILL BE SALVAGED/DISPOSED OF**

**DAILY & SUMMER USERS MUST OBTAIN A HANDLEBAR TAG FROM
PARKING SERVICES, TAGGED BIKES WILL NOT BE REMOVED.**

**CONTACT PARKING SERVICES @ 221-5659 FOR SUMMER
USE OPTIONS AND INTAKE TIMES/LOCATIONS.**

MAINTENANCE & EVENTS



EVENT CALENDAR

The Bike Alliance is a group of students, staff, administrators, and faculty who wish to create an environment conducive to cycling at William & Mary.

Our Mission

Promote bicycling as a safe, sustainable, and healthy mode of transportation and recreation for William & Mary and members of the Williamsburg and James City County communities.

GROUP RIDES

We offer several group rides throughout each semester to explore the area surrounding the William & Mary campus. Helmets are always required! If you want to attend a ride, make sure to register so we can plan for extra ride leaders if we need them. Also, make sure to submit the group ride Participant Agreement each semester.

If you are looking for a great ride to do on your own we have a selection of cue sheets available to download and print. Have a great ride!



MECHANICAL MONDAYS

Does your bike need some work? Let us help you fix it! We host The Bicycle Co-Op of Williamsburg to assist with most minor maintenance and repairs. You'll learn how to do some maintenance yourself along the way. Basic parts are available, or you can bring your own. The event is held from 3pm to 5pm in front of The Daily Grind.



PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT

Cycling is a lot of fun, but, like any athletic activity, there is always an inherent risk. In order to join us on our group rides, we ask that you please read and sign the agreement below. Waivers will have to be renewed each year at the start of the fall semester to maintain current records. Both electronic copies and paper copies are available. Paper copies can be dropped off or mailed to the Parking & Transportation office, or scanned and sent to Transport@wm.edu.



ABC QUICK CHECK

Bicycles are only permitted in the bicycle racks provided at various locations on the campus. Also be mindful of fellow riders, do not lock your bicycle to another.

To be sure you have a safe ride every time, perform the ABC Quick Check each time before heading out on your ride.

A is for Air - Inflate tires to the pressure listed on the side of the tire, check for damage on tire and replaced if damaged.

B is for Brakes - Inspect pads for wear; replace if there is less than a $\frac{1}{4}$ " of pad left, check cable tightness, fraying and alignment of the pads with the rims.

C is for Cranks, Chain and Cassette - Check your pedals and cranks for tightness, Check chain for looseness and bad links, Check derailleur for worn cogs and adjustment, Check that your gears change smoothly, Check proper chain lubrication.

Quick release - Make sure quick releases on your wheels are all closed.

Check - Check your helmet for cracks and make sure it fits properly, check shoes for proper fit, cleats are secure, check saddle height and position.

To correct items identified during an ABC Quick Check, you may visit the nearest Fix It station on campus. Below is a map outlining their locations.

Fix-it Station Placement



Station	Main Campus Location
1	Botetourt Complex
2	Jamestown Complex
3	Daily Grind/Lodges
4	Parking Deck
Station	Other Campus Location
5	Ludwell Complex
6	Grad Housing Complex
7	Vims Campus (16 Miles) @ Gloucester PT

