

# DURHAM

is a large community,  
with lots of people — all  
on the go. Pedestrians,  
bicyclists, in-line  
skaters, transit users,  
and motorists all share  
our roadways.

Whichever mode you  
choose, it is important to  
understand the rules of  
the road, and respect the  
rights of others.

## For more information:

### Durham Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission

[www.bikewalkdurham.org](http://www.bikewalkdurham.org)

### Public Works/Transportation

919-560-4366

[www.durhamnc.gov](http://www.durhamnc.gov)

[www.dchcmpo.org](http://www.dchcmpo.org)

### NC Dept of Transportation Bicycle & Pedestrian Division

919-715-2350

[www.ncdot.org/transit/bicycle](http://www.ncdot.org/transit/bicycle)



# SHARE THE ROAD




A  
Motorist's  
Guide  
to  
Bicycle  
Safety



# Bicycle Laws

In North Carolina, the *bicycle has the legal status of a vehicle*. This means that bicyclists have full rights and responsibilities on the roadway and are subject to the same regulations governing the operation of a motor vehicle.

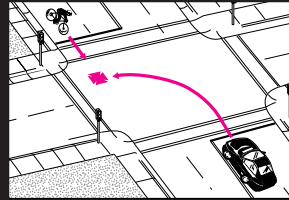
## Did you know?

-  Bicyclists may take full use of a travel lane as necessary.
-  Motorists are required by law to provide two feet of passing distance when overtaking another vehicle.
-  Motorists should yield the right-of-way to oncoming vehicles, including bikes, before turning left at intersections or driveways.

# Common Crash Types

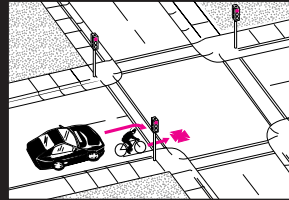
## “Left Hook”

Avoid this crash by looking for and yielding to oncoming bicyclists at intersections.



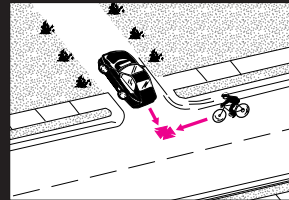
## “Right Hook”

Avoid this crash by waiting for a cyclist to clear an intersection before making a right turn.






## “Uppercut”

Avoid this crash by being aware of cyclists on the roadway, especially as you exit driveways and alleys.





# Safety Tips

## On Adult Bicyclists:

-  Riding on the road is actually safer for adult cyclists than riding on sidewalks, and it's legal.
-  It is often hazardous for cyclists to ride too far to the right of the road; often this edge area contains debris, drainage grates, and other hazards.
-  Honking at a cyclist on the roadway could startle him/her and cause loss of control of the bicycle.

## On Children:

-  Most children don't have adequate knowledge of traffic laws, and are often unpredictable on bicycles—expect the unexpected and slow down.
-  Children are harder to see because they are typically smaller than adults—be aware when passing through neighborhoods or school zones where child cyclists may ride.

