

16. BICYCLES

Bicycles are a legitimate form of transportation and are considered “vehicles” under state law. Per Colorado Revised Statute 42-4-1412, bicyclists have the same rights and duties as motorists. Because motorists and bicyclists share the road, both are responsible for following the rules of the road to ensure safety and both can be ticketed for not obeying traffic laws though points are not assessed against the bicyclist’s driver’s license.

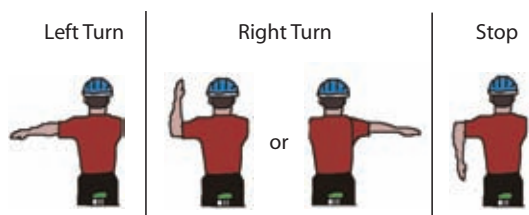
16.1 BICYCLING AND DRIVING RULES

Roads can be safe for all users if motorists and bicyclists understand and obey the following state laws:

- Bicyclists must ride in the same direction as traffic and as far to the right as is judged safe by the bicyclist.
- On a multilane one-way street, a bicyclist can ride to the right or the left side of roadway.
- Bicyclists can ride side-by-side as long as they are not impeding the normal and reasonable movement of traffic. Moving to single file to allow easier passing is courteous practice.
- At night and low-light situations, bicyclists are required to have a headlight, side reflectors, and a red rear reflector.
- No bicycle shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed or equipped.
- Bicyclists shall not attach himself/herself to any moving vehicle upon the roadway.
- Bicyclists shall keep at least one hand on the handlebars at all times.
- Motorists must give a bicyclist at least a **three foot** buffer when overtaking or passing.
- Motorists can cross a center line when passing a bicyclist if the oncoming lane is clear and they won’t interfere with any other traffic.

Bicyclists are required to use hand signals to communicate turns unless the hand is needed in the control or operation of the bicycle.

- For a right turn, extend the right arm straight out to the right or left arm upward from the elbow.
- For a left turn, extend the left arm directly out to the left.
- If slowing or stopping, drop the left arm down at the elbow.



Persons may park bicycles on a sidewalk unless prohibited or restricted by an official traffic control device or local ordinance. Bicycles are allowed on sidewalks and bike paths unless restricted by local ordinance. Bicyclists must give an audible signal before passing a pedestrian.

16.2 AVOIDING COLLISIONS

Drivers of vehicles can help to prevent collisions with bicyclists by knowing the most common causes of motorist-bicyclist collisions and how to avoid them. Five common errors that can cause a motorist- bicyclist collision include:

Cause of Collision	How to Prevent
Motorist turning left in front of an oncoming bicyclist	Look for oncoming bicyclists riding on the shoulder or edge of the lane before turning
Motorist or bicyclist running a stop sign or stop signal	Stop first and then proceed into intersection yielding to others
Motorist opening a vehicle door without looking behind for a passing bicyclist	Always check behind you before opening a door into the roadway
Bicyclist riding the wrong way against traffic, toward the motorist	Ride bicycles in the same direction as traffic
Motorist pulling out from a driveway and failing to see a bicyclist on road or sidewalk	Check both directions when crossing a sidewalk, bike path, or road

Though bicycles travel in the same direction as motor vehicles, they are generally moving more slowly and usually travel to the right of the right lane, on the shoulder, or in a bike lane. Exceptions include: making left turns, when a right turn lane is present and the cyclist is traveling straight through, or when the right side of a lane has hazards or debris that the bicyclist must avoid.

Motorists must be aware that bicyclists, like pedestrians, are more vulnerable users of the public roads and that they may change positions in the road to avoid road hazards. Also, be aware that strong winds can unexpectedly move a bicyclist into a different position on the road.

Inexperienced bicyclists or younger bicyclists may be less predictable. Signs of an inexperienced bicyclist include: riding against traffic, riding on the sidewalk, or swerving. Take extra precautions when driving around or near bicyclists displaying these behaviors.

17. ORGAN DONATION

COLORADO ORGAN AND TISSUE DONOR REGISTRY

People who choose to become organ and tissue donors see it as a way to make a difference in the world. They say it feels good to know they can help others. Currently, in Colorado, there are over 1,400 people waiting for life-