



Committee: Community Road Safety Committee

Project: Ride or Drive, Arrive Alive Road Safety Blog

SHARE THE ROAD

There have been conflicts between cyclists and drivers since the dawn of time (maybe not that long, but you get the point). While many of these "disagreements" might have a valid argument, it never helps when either side digs in and isn't willing to change or see the other's point of view.

Bikes nor cars are going anywhere anytime soon, so it's best to try and get along.

Sharing the road with cars can be dangerous, but there are things to keep in mind to help protect yourself and foster a healthier relationship between motorists and cyclists.

Keeping the roads safe is a joint effort between those on the bike and those behind the wheel.

For cyclists:

Whether you are avid cyclist or a weekend enthusiast, there are always things you can do to improve your safety on the road.

All cyclists are reminded to:

- Obey the road rules
- Keep to the left and ride at least one metre clear of the kerb and parked cars
- Look for people opening car doors in front of you
- Be seen, during the day wear bright coloured clothing, at night wear light-coloured clothing and use a white front light and red rear light
- Look for other vehicles - never assume a driver has seen you
- Ride predictably in a straight line and signal your intention to turn or change lanes
- Ride two abreast at a maximum, unless you are overtaking
- That you can ride on footpaths, as long as you sound a warning on approach and give way to pedestrians.

For drivers:

This time of year inspires many regular and occasional cyclists to take to their two wheels.



Drivers are asked to:

- Give a minimum of one metre when passing a cyclist where the speed limit is 60 km/h or less or 1.5 metres where the speed limit is over 60 km/h
- Scan the road for cyclists
- Look for cyclists when turning or entering an intersection and give way as you would for any other vehicle
- Before opening your car door look behind and check blind spots for cyclists
- Do not drive, stop or park in a bicycle lane. You can, carefully, cross a bicycle lane to turn left, enter private property or park in a parking lane
- Keep in mind that cyclists can legally ride two abreast - be patient as you approach and overtake only when safe.

Remember to be aware when you are travelling on the roadway. We all deserve to Arrive Alive.