

# Sharing the Road in VIRGINIA

## *Know the LAW!*



Code of Virginia § 46.2

**Bicycles** are vehicles when ridden on roads:

- Follow rules that apply to motor vehicles
- Obey all traffic signs, signals, lights, and markings
- Ride on the right, with traffic
- Stay as far right as safely possible or use shoulder
- Ride no more than two side by side
- Ride single file when moving slower than traffic
- Obey signs that restrict riding on roads
- Yield to pedestrians
- Call to pedestrians when approaching from behind
- Use hand signals for turns and stops
- When turning, use motor vehicle turn lanes
- Keep one hand on handlebars when carrying articles
- Don't carry adults on bicycles not built for more than one
- Carry children securely in special seats or trailers
- Don't wear earphones in both ears
- Use white headlamps visible 500 feet when bicycling between sunset and sunrise
- Use rear reflectors; if using roads with speed limits 35 mph or more at night, use red taillight visible 600 feet
- Be sure brakes work properly
- Obey local ordinances for riding on sidewalks, wearing a helmet, and having a bicycle license

**Pedestrians** have rights and responsibilities:

- Use sidewalks if available
- Use crosswalks wherever possible
- If walking on roads, walk facing traffic and travel on extreme edge
- Obey Walk/Don't Walk control signals or count-down timers
- Use caution when crossing road
- Make sure bicyclists and motorists can see you

**Motorists** respect bicyclists' and pedestrians' rights:

- Approach and pass bicyclists at a reasonable speed
- Allow at least two feet between you and bicyclists when passing
- Yield to pedestrians
- When turning, yield to pedestrians and bicyclists
- Permit pedestrians to cross roads safely
- Come to a full stop for a blind pedestrian (Class 3 misdemeanor)

*Violations of the law are civil penalties or traffic infractions punishable by a fine or points against your driver's license*

Learn More at  
[www.SharingtheRoadinVirginia.org](http://www.SharingtheRoadinVirginia.org)

## Safe Bicycling

is a great alternative to motor vehicle travel for commuting and running errands. It saves fuel, improves health, reduces congestion, and keeps air clean.



- Wear a helmet
- Avoid sidewalks; use bike or traffic lanes
- Scan traffic and use mirrors
- Ride on the right, with traffic; don't weave
- Make eye contact with drivers when turning
- Obey all ordinances, traffic signs, signals, and markings
- Ride in the center of the lane ("take the lane") when cars can't pass safely

## Safe Walking

improves the environment and personal health, reduces traffic congestion, and enhances quality of life. Walk more and add steps to your life!



- Walk left, facing traffic when a road has no sidewalk
- Stay to the right on sidewalks
- Scan left-right-left for cars and bicycles
- Wear comfortable shoes
- Wear reflective fabric or white at night
- Watch for motorists turning into roads
- Cross at crosswalks. Most crashes happen at intersections, so pay attention to traffic!

## In case of a crash

Code of Virginia § 46.2

- Stop to determine injury or damage
- Report name, etc. to police or others involved
- Report property damaged during a crash to police within 24 hours



Join us at  
[www.BikeWalkVirginia.org](http://www.BikeWalkVirginia.org)

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