



# SAFETY TIPS

## For Motorists, Motorcyclists, Bicyclists & Pedestrians



### SHARE THE ROAD OHIO

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) reminds you to keep it safe on Ohio's roadways. Statistics from 2010 show 299,767 crashes across Ohio with 1,081 deaths and 10,175 serious injuries. Most of the crashes that occur each year are preventable. Safety is everyone's responsibility.



Share the Road Ohio is part of a nationwide effort encouraging safety and awareness by all road users – motorists, motorcyclists, pedestrians and bicyclists. Everyone has the right to use Ohio's roads, so know the law, respect others and be safe.

### Safety First



Your safety is always ODOT's top priority. By reducing roadway fatalities five percent by 2015, we can save 150 lives over the next five years. The ultimate goal is to eliminate all roadway deaths.

Improvements in cars and highways have helped crashes in Ohio steadily decrease since 2002. However, your continued vigilance and awareness are required to further prevent crashes, injuries and fatalities.



### SOME TIPS ON HOW YOU CAN HELP SHARE THE ROAD ARE ON THE BACK.

*Share the Road Ohio is one of the Ohio Department of Transportation's (ODOT) roadway safety initiatives. Other programs are: Safe Routes to School, Fixed Object Crash Reduction and Intersection Safety.*

## Be a Safe MOTORIST

1. Obey all traffic laws and always wear a seat belt.
2. Expect bikes and motorcycles on the road, pedestrians in crosswalks.
3. Wait until it is safe to pass bicyclists.
4. Give bikes at least 3 feet when passing.
5. Yield to bicyclists.
6. Stop for pedestrians.
7. Do not block crosswalks or driveways.
8. Look for bicyclists when opening car doors.
9. Don't honk your horn at bicyclists.
10. Watch for children, especially around schools, playgrounds, buses and in neighborhoods.

## Be a Safe MOTORCYCLIST

1. Obey all traffic laws.
2. Always wear a helmet and protective clothing – gloves, boots and a jacket.
3. Ride defensively; assume others do not see you.
4. Inspect your motorcycle before each ride.
5. Never ride too fast for conditions and slow down during bad weather and at night.
6. Be careful of blind spots on trucks or cars, especially when passing.
7. Never ride between lanes.
8. Use your headlight all the time.
9. Allow space and time for emergency braking.
10. Signal before changing lanes. Make lane moves gradually.

## Be a Safe BICYCLIST

1. Obey all traffic laws – bicycles are vehicles; “drive” your bike accordingly.
2. Ride with traffic.
3. Wear a properly fitted helmet.
4. Keep your bike in working order, before riding, always check the tires and brakes.
5. Signal turns.
6. Ride respectfully – single file, allowing cars to pass when it is safe.
7. Be predictable – don't pass stopped or moving cars on the right.
8. Use head and tail lights at night – it's the law – and wear something light and bright such as a yellow or orange reflective vest.
9. Respect pedestrians, adults – do not ride on sidewalks.
10. Do not ride in the “door zone” to avoid getting hit by a parked car's opening door.

## Be a Safe PEDESTRIAN

1. Obey all traffic laws.
2. Walk on sidewalks or designated paths.
3. Cross in crosswalks and at marked intersections at the light.
4. Check for turning vehicles when crossing, especially those making wide right turns.
5. Walk facing oncoming traffic in the berm when there are no sidewalks.
6. Be aware of blind spots on cars, trucks and buses.
7. Allow space and time for trucks, cars, motorcycles and bicycles to stop.
8. Wear something light and bright such as a yellow or orange reflective vest and carry a flashlight for night walks.
9. Watch for cars when crossing driveways.
10. Make eye contact with drivers.