



When **DRIVERS** respect bicyclists' rights to use the roadway, and bicyclists follow the rules, we are all safer!

When **BICYCLISTS** ride predictably and obey traffic laws, drivers are more likely to respect their rights on the roads.

*Drivers must obey these traffic laws:*

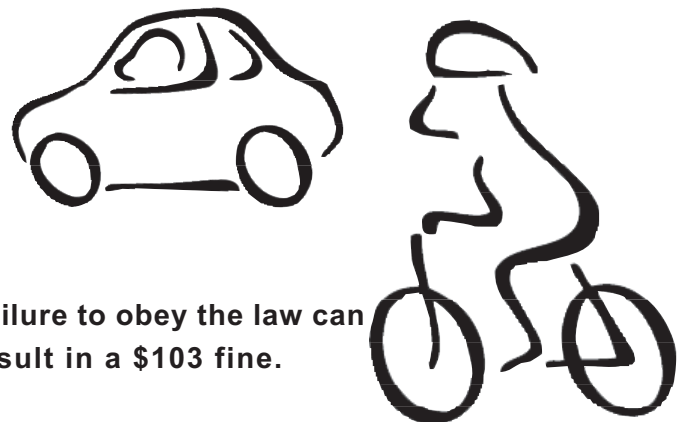
*Bicyclists must obey these traffic laws:*

- ▶▶ Pass to the left of a cyclist at a safe distance - 3 feet minimum. Remain behind the bicyclist until it's safe to pass.
- ▶▶ Do not drive or park in a bicycle lane. You may cross a bicycle lane when turning or when you need to cross the lane to park near the curb.
- ▶▶ Yield to on-coming bicyclists when turning - do not underestimate their distance or speed.
- ▶▶ When nearing an intersection, do not pass a bicyclist who is ahead of you in order to turn right. Instead, slow down and merge behind the cyclist.
- ▶▶ Before getting out of a car, check behind you for approaching bicyclists before opening the door.
- ▶▶ New Law: It is illegal to pass another vehicle on a 2-lane road if a cyclist or pedestrian is approaching in the on-coming lane, shoulder or in a bike lane.

- ▶▶ Ride in the same direction as car traffic.
- ▶▶ Ride as far to the right as is safe. You may use any part of a traffic lane if you need to for safety or if you are traveling at the speed of traffic.
- ▶▶ Ride no more than two side-by-side on the roadway. Be courteous to following traffic.
- ▶▶ Stop at stop signs. Stop at all red lights and remain stopped until the light changes to green.
- ▶▶ Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks.
- ▶▶ Use a white front light (visible for 500 ft.) and a red rear reflector attached to your bike when riding at night.
- ▶▶ In business districts, do not ride on sidewalks (downtown Bellingham and Fairhaven).
- ▶▶ Do not wear headphones while riding. They are illegal for all vehicle operators.

*Bicyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as drivers of cars.*

*Well-fitted bike helmets save lives.*



Failure to obey the law can result in a \$103 fine.