

# Select Bicycle Rules in the Washington Area

	District of Columbia	Maryland	Virginia
<b>Bicycle Position</b>	No specific provision for bicyclist position, except that slower moving traffic should drive to the right.	When slower than other traffic, bicycle as close to the right as safely practicable, except when turning left, passing, avoiding pedestrians or road hazards, when the right turn lane is right turn only, or on a one-way street. Does not apply in lanes too narrow to share with a motor vehicle.	When slower than other traffic, bike as close to the right as safely practicable, except when turning left, passing, avoiding hazards or traffic in mandatory turn lane, or traveling on a one-way street. Does not apply in lanes too narrow to share with motor vehicle.
<b>Passing Cars</b>	Bicyclists may pass other vehicles on the left or right side, staying in the same lane as the overtaken vehicle, or changing to a different lane, or riding off the roadway, as necessary to pass with safety.	Pass on left; not required to pass on left on one-way street or when passing vehicle turning left.	Bicyclists may pass another vehicle on the right or left, and they may stay in the same lane, change lanes, or ride off the road if necessary for safe passing.
<b>Bicycling Two Abreast</b>	Permitted when it does not endanger bicyclists or impede traffic.	Permitted when it does not endanger bicyclists or impede traffic.	Permitted when it does not impede traffic.
<b>Turning Left</b>	From two-way to two-way streets; enter and leave intersection near center line of roadway. One-way to one-way; keep as close as practicable to left curb.	From two-way to two-way streets; enter and leave intersection near center line of roadway. One-way to one-way; keep as close as practicable to left curb.	A cyclist may turn like a motorist, or use the crosswalk like a pedestrian.
<b>Turning Right</b>	-	Stay as close as practicable to right-hand curb.	Stay as close as practicable to right-hand curb.
<b>Restricted Roads</b>	Prohibited from expressways. Bicyclists also allowed in bus lanes.	Prohibited from expressways, toll bridges, toll tunnels, and other marked roads.	Prohibited from interstate and where signed on controlled access highways.
<b>Cycling on Sidewalks</b>	Allowed except in the central business district, which is bounded by 23rd St. NW, Massachusetts Ave., 2nd St. NE-SE, D Street SE to 14th Ave NW, and Constitution Ave NW to 23rd St.	Banned except where allowed by local ordinance. Allowed in Montgomery County except the City of Gaithersburg. Allowed in the City of Frederick outside the historic district.	Allowed except where prohibited by local jurisdictions, such as Alexandria. Required to ride on side paths in Manassas.
<b>Mandatory Use of Bike Paths and Lanes</b>	Not required.	Use of bike lanes required when available. No required use of separated paths. Must use paved shoulder when speed limit is over 50 mph.	Not required.
<b>Helmets</b>	Required for cyclists aged 15 and under.	Required for cyclists aged 15 and under.	Required 14 & under in Arlington, Fairfax, Prince William Counties; Alexandria, Falls Church, Leesburg, Manassas, Manassas Park, and Vienna.
<b>Lights</b>	Front light and rear reflector required when dark.	Front light and rear reflector required when dark.	White front light required when dark. Red rear light & reflector required when dark on roads posted for 35 MPH or higher.

# Resources for Employers and Employees

## Active Prince William

[www.activepw.org](http://www.activepw.org)

## Bike Arlington

[www.bikearlington.com](http://www.bikearlington.com)

## Bike Loudoun

[www.bikeloudoun.org](http://www.bikeloudoun.org)

## Bike Maryland

[www.bikemaryland.org](http://www.bikemaryland.org)

## Bike Washington

[www.bikewashington.org](http://www.bikewashington.org)

## Capital Trails Coalition

[www.capitaltrailscoalition.org](http://www.capitaltrailscoalition.org)

## Fairfax Advocates for Better Bicycling

[www.fabb-bikes.org](http://www.fabb-bikes.org)

## Frederick Bicycle Coalition

[www.bikefrederick.org](http://www.bikefrederick.org)

## Frederick Pedalers

[www.frederickpedalers.org](http://www.frederickpedalers.org)

## League of American Bicyclists

[www.bikeleague.org](http://www.bikeleague.org)

## Metro

[www.wmata.com/bike](http://www.wmata.com/bike)

## Nat'l Hwy Traffic Safety Administration

[www.nhtsa.gov/bicycle-safety](http://www.nhtsa.gov/bicycle-safety)

## Northern Virginia Regional Commission

[www.sharevaroads.com](http://www.sharevaroads.com)

## Potomac Pedalers

[www.potomacpedalers.org](http://www.potomacpedalers.org)

## Virginia Bicycling Federation

[www.vabike.org](http://www.vabike.org)

## Washcycle

[www.thewashcycle.com](http://www.thewashcycle.com)

## Washington Area Bicyclist Association

[www.waba.org](http://www.waba.org)

## Washington Area Bike Forum

[www.washingtonareabikeforum.com](http://www.washingtonareabikeforum.com)

## Bicycle Planners

Alexandria, VA..... (703) 746-4160

Arlington County, VA..... (703) 228-3709

City of Fairfax, VA..... (703) 385-7589

City of Falls Church, VA..... (703) 248-5041

Council of Governments ..... (202) 962-3760

College Park, MD ..... (240) 487-3541

District of Columbia..... (202) 741-8520

Fairfax County, VA ..... (703) 877-5625

Frederick City, MD..... (301) 600-1884

Frederick County, MD ..... (301) 600-7402

Gaithersburg, MD..... (301) 258-6313

Loudoun County, VA..... (571) 258-3526

Maryland Department of Transportation..... (410) 545-5656

Montgomery County, MD ..... (301) 495-2191

National Park Service..... (202) 619-6347

Prince George's County, MD ..... (301) 883-5687

Prince William County, VA ..... (703) 792-8041

Rockville, MD ..... (240) 314-8527

## Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority..... (202) 962-1027

Virginia Department of Transportation..... (703) 259-2753

## Area Bicycle Maps

### Alexandria Bikeways Map

[www.alexandriava.gov/goalex](http://www.alexandriava.gov/goalex)

### Arlington County Bicycle Map

[www.BikeArlington.com/maps-and-routes](http://www.BikeArlington.com/maps-and-routes)

### Capital Crescent Trail Map

[www.cctrail.org](http://www.cctrail.org)

### District of Columbia Map

[www.goDCgo.com/bike](http://www.goDCgo.com/bike)

### Fairfax County Bicycle Map

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/bike/map](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/bike/map)

### Maryland State Bicycle Map (4.10) 545-5656

### Montgomery County Bicycle Map (240) 777-7223

### TrailLink

[www.trailink.com](http://www.trailink.com)

### Virginia State Bicycle Map

[www.virginiadot.org/bikemap](http://www.virginiadot.org/bikemap)

### W&OD Trail Map (703) 729-0596

### Washington DC Regional Bike Map

[www.commuterconnections.org/commuters](http://www.commuterconnections.org/commuters) then select "Bicycling"

## List of Bicycle Parking Equipment Dealers & Manufacturers

### American Bicycle Security Co.

[www.ameribike.com](http://www.ameribike.com)

### BikeLid Systems LLC

[www.bikelid.com](http://www.bikelid.com)

### Bike Security Racks Co.

[www.bikeracks.com](http://www.bikeracks.com)

### Cora Bike Rack Inc.

[www.cora.com](http://www.cora.com)

### Cycle Safe Inc.

[www.cycle-safe.com](http://www.cycle-safe.com)

### Dero Bike Rack Co.

[www.dero.com](http://www.dero.com)

### eLock Technologies

[www.bikelink.org](http://www.bikelink.org)

### Madrax Inc.

[www.madrax.com](http://www.madrax.com)

### Peak Racks

[www.peakracks.com](http://www.peakracks.com)

### Saris

[www.sarisparking.com](http://www.sarisparking.com)

### Sunshine U-Lok Corporation

[www.sunshineu-lok.com](http://www.sunshineu-lok.com)

### Urban Accessories, Inc.

[www.urbanaccessories.com](http://www.urbanaccessories.com)

### Bike Sharing

#### Capital Bikeshare

[www.capitalbikeshare.com](http://www.capitalbikeshare.com)

#### Veo

[www.veoide.com/umd](http://www.veoide.com/umd)

### Bike Stations

#### Metro

[www.wmata.com/bike](http://www.wmata.com/bike)

#### Bikestation DC

[ddot@dc.gov](mailto:ddot@dc.gov) Use subject line "Bike Center"

### Bike Rental

#### Bike and Roll

[www.bikeandrolldc.com](http://www.bikeandrolldc.com)

### Bicycle Routing Sites

#### Car Free A to Z

[www.carfreeatoz.com/planner](http://www.carfreeatoz.com/planner)

#### Commuter Connections

[www.commuterconnections.org](http://www.commuterconnections.org)

#### Google

[www.google.com/maps](http://www.google.com/maps)

#### Map My Ride

[www.mapmyride.com/routes](http://www.mapmyride.com/routes)

#### Ride the City

[www.ridethecity.com](http://www.ridethecity.com)

### Acknowledgments

Martin Gутtenplan, "Developing Successful Bicycle Pedestrian Commuter Programs: A Handbook for Employers."

Energy Outreach Center and the Capital Bicycling Club, of Olympia, Washington, "Bicycle Commute Guide."

COG/TPB Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee.



For electronic version of this guide and for information on all types of alternative commuting throughout the Washington region, contact COG's Commuter Connections program at (800) 745-RIDE, [www.commuterconnections.org](http://www.commuterconnections.org)