

Safety Reminders to Start 2005 Cycling Season

The weather is starting to improve, the ride schedule is filled and Tuesday night rides have begun . . . it must be Spring. Listed below are some safety reminders for everyone. If you are new rider and have questions about riding, please ask a fellow rider. The club members have lots of experience and are a wealth of information.

1. **Stop at stop signs**, especially when there are vehicles at or near the stop sign.
2. When you are going to pass a rider, announce “**Passing on your left**” before you get there, don’t just breeze by. Always pass on the left.
3. **Stay to the right**, do not ride in the middle of the road.
4. **Communicate**, if riders in front or behind you say “car up” or “car back” pass the information along. Car up or back is a gentle reminder to “Get out of the middle of the road.”
5. At intersections keep an **awareness** of intentions and positions of cars/trucks. Cars turning right may not see you next to them. Pay attention to the car’s turn signals and the direction that their wheels are turned.
6. **Don’t ride erratically**, other riders and drivers can’t guess what you plan to do. Learn to ride in a straight line and until you do, don’t crowd other riders.
7. When a fellow rider announces “**Clear**” when crossing a road, intersection, etc. – don’t rely 100% on the other rider’s judgment.
You are responsible when riding your bike and it is your responsibility to make decisions based on the assessment of a specific situation.

It only takes a few seconds to lose your concentration and make a mistake and when riding, some mistakes are much more serious than others.

Tailwinds,
Nancy