



BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

TIPS FOR
MOTORISTS

NCTCOG

Source: Thinkstock

NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Responsibilities as a Motorist



Bicyclists, pedestrians and motorists all have certain responsibilities when operating vehicles within or crossing the public right-of-way. This brochure offers important safety tips for motorists to help avoid conflicts with bicyclists and pedestrians, and make roadway, intersections, crosswalks and other facilities safer for all users.

General Motorist Safety Tips:

- Always observe posted speed limits. Driving at proper speeds allows motorists to notice and slow down for pedestrians and bicyclists.
- Obey traffic signs and signals. Following the basic rules of the road can help reduce the number of accidents among motor vehicles and also contribute to a safer environment for bicyclists and pedestrians.

PEDESTRIAN & CYCLIST FATALITIES

IN 2009 - PROVIDED BY - NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

48 DEATHS IN TEXAS



1.6% OF ALL TRAFFIC FATALITIES IN TEXAS



70% OF CYCLIST FATALITIES ARE IN URBANIZED AREAS

13%

OF CYCLISTS
KILLED WERE
CHILDREN



10TH IN
DANGEROUS
METRO AREAS
FOR CYCLISTS &
PEDESTRIANS

**DALLAS
FORT
WORTH
METRO
AREA**

{ 3 4 7 }

PEDESTRIAN
FATALITIES
STATEWIDE



Tips for Motorists to Promote Bicyclist Safety

Wait for oncoming cyclists before turning left. Drivers should be aware of cyclists operating within the roadway and yield to oncoming traffic when attempting a left turn.



Source: Bryan Goebel of Streetsblog San Francisco

Avoid “dooring.” After parallel parking, look for bicyclists riding along the side of your car or approaching quickly before opening the door.



Source: NCTCOG

Always allow three feet when passing a cyclist. Bicyclists have a right to the road. (see § 551.103. OPERATION ON ROADWAY, Texas Transportation Code.)



Source: League of American Bicyclists

Allowing a minimum of three feet when passing a cyclist permits motorists and bicyclists to maneuver safely.

Tips for Motorists to Promote Pedestrian Safety

- Yield to pedestrians crossing the right-of-way. Stop or yield to pedestrians at crosswalks, whether marked or unmarked. Watch for pedestrians at all times by scanning the road and sides of the road ahead for pedestrians.
- Never block or park in a crosswalk. Blocking or parking in a marked crosswalk is illegal. Preventing pedestrians from using designated crosswalks can create unsafe circumstances for pedestrians trying to cross traffic.
- Slow down when approaching a crosswalk or intersection. Marked crosswalks are part of the pedestrian realm. Anticipate pedestrians in these locations and be prepared to stop or yield to them.
- Right turn on red. When turning right on red, be sure to notice and yield to pedestrians who may be entering the crosswalk as the light turns green for them.

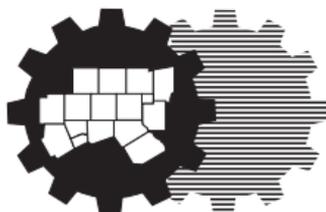


Source: NCTCOG

NCTCOG established the Bicycle and Pedestrian Program in 1992 to address the various activities related to implementing bicycle and pedestrian facilities as an alternative mode of regional transportation.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Education and Safety outreach is intended to promote safe, reliable and cost-effective mobility options for residents throughout North Texas.

BETWEEN 2003 AND 2010, THE NUMBER OF BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN CRASHES IN THE NCTCOG 16-COUNTY REGION DECREASED BY 8 PERCENT ACCORDING TO NCTCOG SAFETY DATA.



**North Central Texas
Council of Governments**

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