ON-peats & f hl d 's r to the right in all lanes. Along with this right comes the responsibility to obey the same laws as other drivers. Understanding a few basic concepts can help reduce conflicts between motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

BIKE PATH ETIQUETTE

There are many rules of local and regional bike paths in and around Elgin. These paths are used by a variety of users, including bike commuters, recreational cyclists, families, pedestrians, dog walkers, and skaters.

SAFETY RIDING COMMUNICATION

State Law (625-2-11) requires cyclists to obey all the same traffic laws as motorists. This means stopping at stop signs and stop lights, and yielding to pedestrians in crosswalks.

BIKES ON PACE & METRA

Always ride with traffic. 
When riding with children, ride a little slower. 
When riding around parked cars, do not rely on the driver to use turn signals. 
Always use a high-quality u-lock and cable. 
Always lock your bike in a well-lit, well-traveled area.

BIKE MAINTENANCE

Always perform a "quick check" bicycle test. 
Check your tires for proper inflation and for bulges or bad spots. 
Check your brakes to be sure they are working properly. 
Check your lights to make sure they are functioning.

BIKING IN ELGIN

BIKING WITH CHILDREN

1. Wear a helmet. You and your child should always wear a helmet to protect from injuries during a fall.
2. Be aware on sidewalks. Children should ride on sidewalks until they gain skills to ride on streets. Teach them to be aware of driver blind spots such as drays, trains, and buildings.
3. Step first and look. Teach children to look left, right, and left again for approaching traffic. Emphasize that they have to turn their head when crossing to traffic.
4. Ride in the direction of traffic. Riding against the flow of traffic can create dangerous situations for bicycle and motorbike riders.
5. Ride in a straight line. Teach your children not to swerve or weave in and out of parked cars.
6. Buy the right size bike. Your child should be able to place both feet flat on the ground with their feet flat on the ground with an inch or less than ½ inch between your chin and the handlebars.
7. Check their bike frequently. Teach your child’s bike and perform regular "quick checks."

SAFETY NOTE/DISCLAIMER

This map was produced by Active Transportation Alliance, with input from Ride Illinois, the Elgin Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC), City of Elgin, and other local stakeholders. Elgin Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee, City of Elgin developed this map to help people encourage map users to use the safety tips on this map. This map should not be relied upon as an alternative to personal judgment and awareness.

ABOUT THIS MAP

The Active Transportation Alliance, Bike Elgin, Elgin Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, Elgin Economic Development, and City of Elgin developed this map to help people plan their bike trips. We encourage you to use a helmet, lights, and riders responsibly by knowing the rates of the road. Conditions on roads vary depending on time of day, day of the week, season, or other changes may call for extra caution on these routes. Routes marked on this map are subjective. You should be prepared to make your own evaluation of traffic and other conditions to see if the map routes are appropriate for your riding skills. The Active Transportation Alliance, Bike Elgin, Elgin Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, and City of Elgin in no way guarantee the safety and suitability of the recommended routes, and the user of this map bears the full responsibility for his or her safety.

DON'T LOSE IT, LOCK IT

Never Leave Home Without It

Your helmet should fit flat (level) on your head and not be tilted back or forward. When you shake your head from side to side, a correctly fitted helmet will stay in place.
1. Two-finger width between eyebrows and helmet.
2. Side-strap make a "B" below your ear.
3. Less than 1/2 inch between your chin and buckle strap.

FITTING A HELMET

SAFETY NOTE/DISCLAIMER

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DO NOT LET IT RIDE WITH YOU

• Keep it in a well-ventilated area. Always lock your bike in a well-ventilated area. Always lock your bike in a high-traffic area.
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