

Tips For Riding Safely

- * Obey traffic signs, signals and pavement markings.
- * Drive on the right-hand side of the street. Move with the flow of traffic.
- * At busy intersections, get off and walk your bicycle across.
- * Help drivers see you by wearing light or brightly colored clothing.
- * Use proper hand signals when turning.
- * Keep your bicycle in good repair.
- * Stop and check for traffic before you enter a street from a driveway, parking lot or sidewalk.
- * Bicyclists share the roadway with other vehicles and must obey the same traffic laws.

Bicycle Law Violations

- Not wearing required helmet
- Wearing radio, headset while riding
- Riding on wrong side of street
- Carrying more people than bicycle designed to carry
- Riding at night or early morning without lights and/or reflectors
- Other _____

Date _____ Time _____

Location _____

Officer _____

This warning is issued to make you aware of a violation of Florida's Bicycle Regulations. Subsequent violations may result in a traffic citation.

For additional information on Florida's bicycle laws or bicycle safety, contact the

**Crime Prevention Bureau
Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office
2008 E. 8th Avenue
Tampa, FL 33605**

or

Telephone (813) 247-8115

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Florida's Laws on Bicycle Riding and Use of Helmets



Presented in the interest of public safety
by Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office
Crime Prevention Bureau

David Gee, Sheriff



A Message From Sheriff David Gee

Bicycle riding is a popular recreational activity as well as a means of transportation. All cyclists – children, teenagers and adults – should realize that a bicycle is a **vehicle** and must be ridden responsibly.

I urge you to read this safety brochure. If a law enforcement officer has given this to you in conjunction with a warning for a violation of the bicycle regulations, please take the appropriate action to comply with the law.

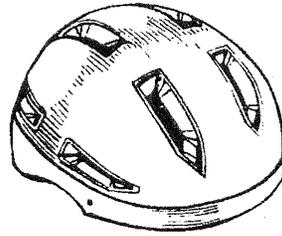
Remember, your bicycle is not a toy. Even if you are a careful rider, mishaps do happen and head injury is the most common cause of death in bicycle accidents.



Our state now has a bicycle helmet law. Wear an approved and properly fitted helmet, obey bicycle regulations, and ride responsibly.

David Gee

Bicycle Helmets Required By Florida Law



As of January 1, 1997, Florida law 316.2065 regarding bicycles and the use of helmets on public roads or bike paths has been amended and now requires:

- * Bicycle riders and passengers 16 years of age must wear a properly fitted and secured bicycle helmet that meets nationally recognized standards for bicycle helmets. This includes a child who is riding in a trailer or semi-trailer attached to a bicycle.
- * A bicycle may not be used to carry more people than it is designed or equipped to carry.
- * Bicycle riders carrying a passenger under 4 years old, weighing 40 pounds or less, must secure the child in a seat or carrier that is designed to carry a child of that age and size and protect them from the moving parts of the bicycle. An adult rider may carry a child secured in a backpack or sling.

- * Bicycle riders may not allow passenger to remain in a child seat or carrier on a bicycle when the rider is not in immediate control of the bicycle.
- * A person may not rent or lease any bicycle that will be ridden by a child under 16 years of age unless the child possesses a bicycle helmet or is provided a helmet by the person renting or leasing the bicycle.

Under the new provisions, law enforcement officers and school crossing guards may issue a bicycle safety brochure and a verbal warning to a bicycle rider passenger who violates this law.



On January 1, 1998, law enforcement officers may start issuing non-moving traffic citations that carry a fine of \$17 for any violations of Florida law 316.2065. The court shall dismiss the charge against a bicycle rider or passenger for the first violation of not wearing a



secured bicycle helmet that meets required standards on proof of purchase of a bicycle helmet that complies with this law.