

What is a Bicycle Lane?

- A bicycle lane is a portion of a street next to the travel lane reserved for cyclists.
- Bike lanes are designated with bicycle pavement markings and arrows that direct cyclists in the direction to travel.

How Should Motorists and Cyclists Operate on a Roadway with a Bike Lane?

- Vehicles are not allowed to drive or park in the bicycle lane. Vehicles are only allowed to cross the bike lane when entering or exiting driveways.
- Bicyclists are reminded to follow the rules of the road and obey all traffic control devices, including signals and stop signs.

Rules for Motorists

- When turning right, a motorist should always yield to bicyclists going straight and wait until after they clear the intersection or driveway.
- Ideally, once the cyclist passes through the intersection, the motorist should then begin their right turn, but if this is not possible, a driver should never pass a cyclist and “hook” them by making a turn immediately in front of them.

CT State Laws on Bike Lanes

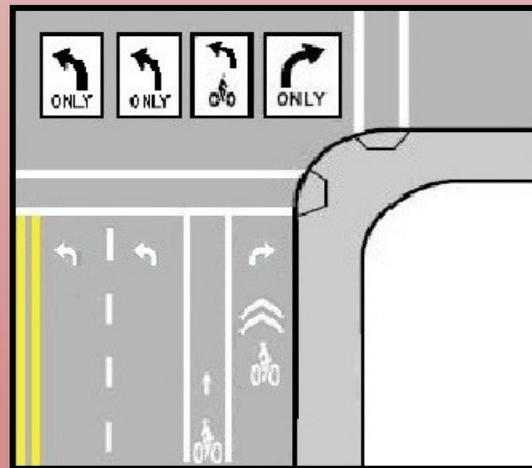
Conn. Gen. Stat. § 14-286a: Rights, duties and regulation of cyclists: Every person riding a bicycle upon the traveled portion of

a highway shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of any vehicle.

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 14-232: A "safe distance" means not less than three (3) feet when the driver of a vehicle overtakes and passes a person riding a bicycle. These laws seek to ensure that when passing bicycles, vehicles allow adequate space to avoid sideswiping bicyclists or causing them to overcorrect to avoid a vehicle.

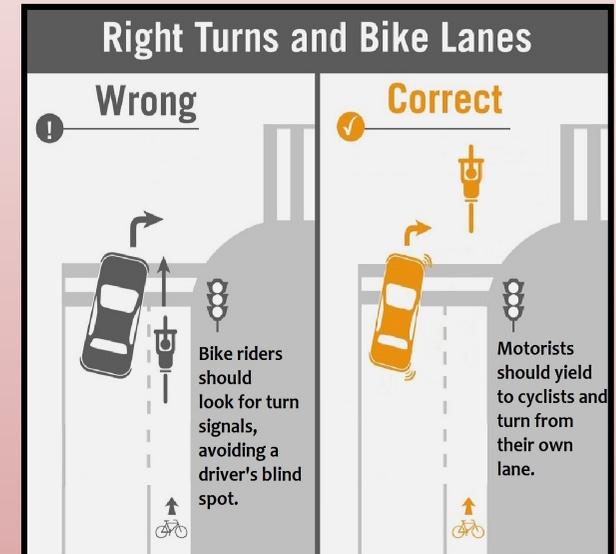
Riding in Bike Lanes

Riding in bike lanes provides a certain amount of separation from the motor vehicle traffic and gives cyclists an added sense of comfort while riding in urban areas.



When riding in a bike lane that is leading up to two left turning lanes and one right turning lane, remain in your lane. This is so you are protected from any vehicle that may be turning.

It is always safest to position yourself on the outer side of any vehicle turns, rather than inside the turn area. This is the best way to ride safely.



Ride in the Right Direction

Always ride the same direction as other traffic. It is extremely dangerous and illegal to ride the wrong way in a bike lane.

Be Aware of the Door Zone

Some bike lanes may be close to parked cars or cars may park close to the lane and the door can reach into the bike lane.



Check Behind You for Traffic before Exiting the Bike Lane

Check behind you before merging left into traffic to make a turn or going straight through an intersection. When a bike lane stops at an intersection, you should look over your left shoulder for oncoming traffic.

A B C Bike Checklist

Air

- Inflate tires to rated pressure.
- Check air pressure with a gauge.
- Spin the wheel to check for tears and repair any damage.

Brakes

- Check levers.
- Inspect brake pads.
- Check for brake wear.

Cranks and Chain

- Tighten cranks if they are loose.
- Check chain for rust or debris.

Wear a Properly Fitted Helmet

Follow the 2-V-1 rule:



Ensure that your helmet is securely fastened and properly fitted.

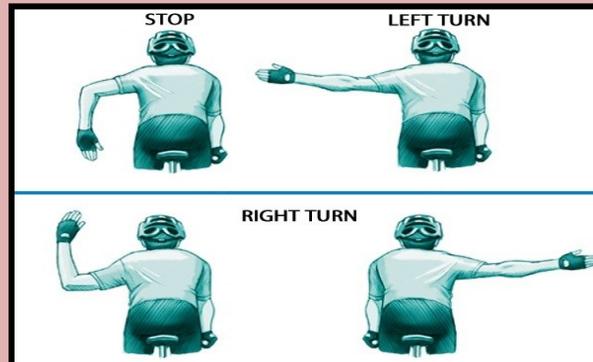
Use Hand Signals, Bike Lights and Reflectors

To make your ride safer, consider investing in bike lights and reflectors. Always use the correct hand signals when riding your bike:

A Left Turn: Fully extend your left arm out.

A Right Turn: Fully extend your right arm out or bend your left arm up at a right angle with your hand flat.

Slowing Down or Stopping: Extend your left arm out facing down at a right angle with your hand open.



For more information, please visit:
www.burnsideave.com

SafeRoutes
Connecticut Safe Routes to School



East Hartford Bike Lane Informational Guide



U.S. Route 44
Burnside Avenue
East Hartford, CT