

Rules for Riding a Bike to Raymond E. Shaw Elementary School



You may...

- Ride your bicycle on any public road, street, or bikeway in the Commonwealth, except limited access or express state highways where signs specifically prohibiting bikes have been posted.
- Ride on sidewalks outside business districts, unless local laws prohibit sidewalk riding.
- Use with hand to signal stops and turns.
- Pass cars on the right.
- Have as many lights and reflectors on your bike as you wish.

You must...

- Obey all traffic laws and regulation of the Commonwealth.
- Use hand signals to let people know you plan to stop or turn.
- Give pedestrians an audible signal before overtaking or passing them.
- Give pedestrians the right of way.
- Ride single file unless passing
- Astride a regular, permanent seat that is attached to your bicycle.
- Keep one hand on your handlebars at all times.
- Wear reflectors on both ankles if there are no reflectors on your pedals.
- Notify police of any accident involving personal injury or property damage over \$100.00
- **If you are 12 years old or younger, you must wear a helmet that meets ANSI requirements on any bike, anywhere, at all times. The helmet must fit your head and the chin strap must be fastened.**

You may not...

- Carry a passenger anywhere on your bike.
- Use a whistle or siren on your bike to warn pedestrians.
- Park your bike on a street, road, bikeway or sidewalk where it will be in other people's way.
- Carry anything on your bike unless it is in a basket, rack, bag, or trailer unless designed for the purpose.
- Modify your bike so that your hands are higher than your shoulders when gripping the handlebars.
- Alter the fork of your bike to extend it.

Your bike must...

- Have a permanent, regular seat attached to it.
- Have brakes that are good enough to bring you to a stop, from a speed of 15 miles an hour, within 30 feet of braking. This distance assumes a dry, clean, hard level surface.
- Reflectors and reflective material on your bike must be visible from the back and sides.

Penalties:

- Violations of any of these laws can be punished by a fine of up to \$20.00. Parents and Guardians are responsible for cyclists under the age of 18. The bicycle of anyone under 18 who violates the law can be impounded by the police or town selectmen for up to 15 days.



PERMISSION SLIP FOR MY CHILD TO RIDE A BICYCLE TO SCHOOL

I give my child, _____

Permission to ride his/her bike to school. I have gone over the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Chapter 85, Section 11B with my child. If my child does not abide by the rules he/she will lose the privilege of riding his/her bike to school.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date