In North Carolina, bicyclists have the same rights as motor vehicle drivers. Bicyclists are allowed to take the full lane when it’s necessary for safety or to avoid hazards in the road. Bicyclists are allowed to use all roadways except fully-controlled access highways such as interstates. Remember that motorists are more likely to see you and treat you with respect if you behave like a vehicle operator and communicate your intentions.

- Ride in same direction as motor vehicle traffic.
- Stop at stop signs and red lights.
- Ride as close to the right-hand edge of the road as practicable, except when making left turns or avoiding hazards.
- Always yield to pedestrians.
- Bicyclists under age 16 are required to wear helmets.
- For riding after dusk, equip your bicycle with a front lamp visible from 300 feet and a rear red light or reflector visible from 200 feet.
- Yield to vehicles and pedestrians when entering the main road from a side street, driveway or building entrance.
- Follow all applicable rules of the road, including stop signs.
- Pass other vehicles only on the left unless a marked bike lane allows you to pass safely on the right.
- Always be conscious of your surroundings, particularly if you’re riding alone and check ahead to anticipate changing situations.
- Bicyclists can be difficult for motorists to see at dawn and dusk so take special care at these times.
- If safety dictates it, take the full lane.
- Always signal your intention to turn or change lanes, so motorists can react properly. And be sure to check their mirrors.
- Always maneuver so you cross railroad tracks at a right angle.
- In a group, ride no more than two abreast and, where possible, move to single file when other vehicles are passing.
- Always make safety your byword, regardless of who has the legal right-of-way.

NC STATE LAW:
A BICYCLE IS A VEHICLE

In addition to state laws, the City of Winston-Salem has specific bicycle laws:

1. A bicycle should not be loaded with more than two passengers at one time.
2. Bicycles should not be loaded with packages or items that prevent the rider from keeping at least one hand on the handlebars.
3. Bicycles should be parked in a way that does not obstruct pedestrian traffic.
4. All bicycles should be equipped with working, functional, adequate brakes.

10 SAFETY TIPS

1. Gain motorists' respect by riding courteously and responsibly.
2. Follow all applicable rules of the road, including stop signs.
3. Pass other vehicles only on the left unless a marked bike lane allows you to pass safely on the right.
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**BICYCLIST RIGHTS IN NC**

In North Carolina, bicyclists have the same rights as motor vehicle drivers. Bicyclists are allowed to take the full lane when it's necessary for safety or to avoid hazards in the road. Bicyclists are allowed to use all roadways except fully-controlled access highways such as interstates.

1. Ride in the same direction as motor vehicle traffic.
2. Stop at stop signs and red lights.
3. Ride as close to the right-hand edge of the lane as practicable, except when making left turns or avoiding hazards.
4. Always yield to pedestrians.
5. For riding after dusk, equip your bicycle with a front lamp visible from 300 feet and a rear red light or reflector visible from 200 feet.

**NC STATE LAW: A BICYCLE IS A VEHICLE**

In North Carolina, bicyclists have the same rights as motor vehicle drivers. Bicyclists must obey traffic laws, including stop signs and red lights.

1. A bicycle should carry only the number of people for which it was designed.
2. Bicyclists should ride no more than two abreast.
3. When bicyclists are riding on a sidewalk, the bicycle must yield to pedestrians and give an audible warning to the pedestrian.
4. Bicyclists are not allowed on sidewalks in these locations:
   - Central business district—bounded by 8th Street, US 52, Business 40, and Broad Street
   - Sunset Drive from First Street to Glade Street.
   - Liberty Street from 14th Street to 17th Street.
5. A bicycle should not travel at a greater speed than is reasonable for the circumstances and conditions.
6. Bicyclists should not carry packages or items that prevent them from keeping at least one hand on the handlebars.
7. Bicycles should be parked in a way that does not obstruct pedestrian traffic.
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