May is Bike Month

Bike to School Day

www.walkbiketoschool.org

Annual event held in early May promotes fun and safe travel to school by bike.



Bike to Work Day

Free annual event held on a Friday in mid-May draws 15,000 regional participants



Bike to Market Day

www.takomaparkmarket.com

Bike to the Takoma Park Farmers Market the Sunday following Bike to Work Day.



Check with the Takoma Park Recreation Department for seasonal bike workshops teaching basic bike safety and bike maintenance (like how to fix a flat!). Workshops are available to riders of all skill levels, ages 8 and up. See: www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation

The Takoma Park Safe Routes to School program

aims to encourage students to walk or bike to

programs to teach students the best safety

school. Safe Routes offers regular school based

practices when biking to school and around town.

Schools are invited to participate in the annual

Bike to School Day event in May. A bulk helmet

For more information, see www.takomaparkmd.

gov/hcd/safe-routes-to-school or contact

quality helmets at a reduced price.

lucyn@takomaparkmd.gov.

Photo: Bianca Delaglio

purchase in the fall allows families access to high

Bike to School

Share the Road & Be Safe

- Respect bicyclists share the road with cyclists and drive with courtesy and tolerance.
- Check your blind spots a bicyclist could
- Come to a complete stop at every stop sign and red light.
- Signal all turns and lane changes 100 feet in advance. When turning right, safely enter the bike lane before completing the turn.
- See the signs bike lanes, signs and pavement markings indicate cyclists are nearby.
- Be patient pass bicyclists only if it is safe to do so and with at least 3 feet of clearance.
- Be courteous yield to pedestrians and bicyclists at crosswalks.
 - Come to a complete stop at every stop sign and red light.
 - Use a bell and lights (both front and rear), and keep your bike well-maintained

OND

USE

PED

SIGNAL

Follow the rules of the road — Cyclists have

the same rights and duties as other drivers

Be predictable — ride in a straight line, signal

and must follow the same traffic laws.

turns and look back before turning or

- Don't ride with headphones.
- Be courteous yield to pedestrians on trails and sidewalks.
- Wear a helmet If you're under 18, it's the law in Montgomery County!



Capital Bikeshare provides members with shared access to thousands of bikes and hundreds of stations throughout the District, Arlington, Alexandria and Montgomery County. For station locations, visit capitalbikeshare.com.

1-877-430-BIKE (2453) • CapitalBikeshare.com

HOW IT WORKS













bicycle traffic on the street. Motorists must share the road with cyclists, and show them courtesy and respect

Pavement Markings

Bicycle pavement markings reinforce the legitimacy of

Shared lane markings, or "sharrows", communicate

direct cyclists at traffic circles and key turns along

shared spaces for bike to all road users, and help

neighborhood bike routes.

Capital Bikeshare is a unique transportation system designed to get you from point A to point B, similar to a bus or a train. oin Capital Bikeshare by choosing a membership, take a bike from one of hundreds of stations, *ride* to your destination and return your bike to any station. Repeat as many times as you would like throughout your membership period. All trips under 30 minutes are free!

> To start, choose a membership (How long do you want access to the bikes?)

STATIONS

District Departs



Daily Key \$10

JOIN ONLINE

Annual

YOUR COST = Membership fee + Usage fee per trip The first 30 minutes of EVERY trip are FREE out your membership period. Trips beyond 30 minutes will incur usage fees.









An increasing number of interactive maps and tools online can help you navigate on two whee and live a more bike friendly life in our region: information, see:

Maps and Guides for DC and Northern Virginia

Montgomery County Bikeway Map (online)

Google Maps is another handy resource to view on-street and off-street bike facilities and plot your route to your next destination. Set the filter to provide bike directions: www.google.com/maps

FREE SMART PHONE APPS

This handy bike share system companion app lets you locate nearby bike stations for bike and bike dock availabilities, view bike paths and helps you get to places you want to be.

The Washington Area bicyclist Association mob app can be used to accurately record information at the scene of a bicycle crash and reference current local bike laws.

REGIONAL BIKE ORGANIZATIONS Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA)

Montgomery Bicycle Advocates (MoBike)

Bike Maryland

League of American Bicyclists

Bike-Friendly Living

Crossroads Farmers Market

www.crossroadscommunityfoodnetwork.org

Takoma Park Farmers Market



Long Branch Business League www.discoverlongbranch.com

www.mainstreettakoma.org

Takoma Bicycle 7030 Carroll Avenue Takoma Park, MD 20912 (301) 270-0202

Follow the Signs



'Takoma Greenways,' neighborhood routes that connect regional trails with local destinations on quiet streets shared with traffic. Cyclists should watch for speed bumps and pedestrians in the



may be operating anywhere within the traffic lane on a Maryland State Highway, such as New Hampshire Avenue (MD650). Motorists must share the road with cyclists, and show them courtesy

These small signs will

help you get to know

the Metropolitan Branch

Trail, linking Silver Spring with Union Station

through a combination of

signed on-street routes

and off-road trails. Learn

www.metbranchtrail.com

about the history and

future of the trail:

ransportation-planning

Find it online for download at:

Takoma Park residents bike

to work, school, Metro, shops, socia

events, and also just for fun. The

cycling into more facets of your

life, as a clean, healthy, safe, and

This map will help guide your two-

wheeled adventures in and around

Takoma Park, with safety tips and

Printed copies of this bike map are

Community Center on Maple Avenue

and the Takoma Park Recreation

Center on New Hampshire Avenue.

handy resources along the way.

available from the Takoma Park

convenient alternative to driving.

City encourages you to incorporate

City of Takoma Park **Housing and Community Development** 7500 Maple Avenue Takoma Park, Maryland 20912 301-891-7119

planning@takomaparkmd.gov

Safety Tips



Photo: © Sam Kittner

ISE APPROPRIATE HAND SIGNALS Tell motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians what you intend to do. Be predictable.



LWAYS WEAR A HELMET Helmets dramatically reduce the risk of head injury in a bicycle accident.



LLOW ALL TRAFFIC LAWS Like motorists, bicyclists are required to obey all regulatory signs and traffic



HARE THE ROAD

Lanes marked with a bicycle symbol and/or "Share the Road" signs are to be shared by both motorists and



Always know your surroundings and check over your shoulder before initiating maneuvers.

NEVER RIDE AGAINST TRAFFIC

Ride with traffic to avoid potential

E ALERT, SCAN THE ROAD



RIDE IN THE APPROPRIATE OSITION AND LANE Do not ride in a Right Turn-Only lane

if you are going straight. In narrow

take the whole lane.

lanes or slow traffic it may be safer to



BE CAREFUL AT INTERSECTIONS Use caution since most collisions occur at intersections. Watch for turning vehicles.



WALK YOUR BIKE AT A CROSSWALK Remember: pedestrians present at a crosswalk always have the right-ofway when crossing a road.



SEE AND BE SEEN Establish eye contact to ensure motorists know you are there. Wear bright or reflective clothing.



ONS FOR TURNING LEFT) Make the left turn as a vehicle, or 2) Cycle straight through to the far right corner of the intersection and cross as a pedestrian.



DON'T BE A DISTRACTED BICYCLIST Do not use headphones or hand-held devices while riding your bicycle.



BEWARE OF CAR DOORS They can open any time. Please ride at least 5 feet away from parked vehicles, as well as buses making scheduled stops.



LIGHTS FOR YOUR BIKE Use lights when riding in low visibility conditions, including darkness. At least one front white light and one rear red flashing light.

JSE THE BIKE RACK ON BUSES The bike rack on the front of each bus can store two bikes. Customers are responsible for loading and unloading their bikes.

Bikes and Transit

Most Metro stations have bike racks and some have lockers available for rent, so you can ride your bicycle to a station, leave it there and take Metrorail or Metrobus. New Bike & Ride facilities at some Metro stations provide inexpensive, yet secure bike parking with card access.

Bicycles are always permitted on Metrorail, except for weekdays during peak hours (7-10 am and 4-7 pm), and holidays/special events (July 4th, Inauguration Day, etc.). Folded bicycles are allowed on Metrorail during all operational hours, but must remain folded and securely fastened during weekday peak hours.

Metrobus and RideOn are equipped with a rack that can hold two bikes, including children's bikes. You are responsible for loading, securing, and removing your bike from the rack. For more information on using bikes on transit, and to learn how to use bus bike racks, visit www.wmata.com/getting_around/bike_ride, or pick up a *Bikes and Metro* brochure from the Takoma Park Community Center (3rd Fl.), 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland 20912.



Denmark? No, Takoma Park!

Takoma Park's vibrant and unique commercial districts and farmers markets are accessible by bike. For more

Sections of Carroll Avenue in Takoma Park have striped

shoulders marked for bikes. Motorists must respect the

bike lane, taking care when making right turns. Where

space exists for a wider shoulder or bike lane on only

one side of the road, it is usually placed in the climbing

direction for the comfort of slower-moving cyclists.

www.takomaparkmarket.com

Crossroads Development Authority www.takomalangleycrossroads.com

Old Takoma Business Association

Travel by bike to the Takoma Park Community Center and Takoma Park Maryland Library to access a wealth of cultural, civic, and recreational activities!

The Green Commuter 7320 Carroll Avenue Takoma Park, MD 20912 (301) 580-6967 www.thegreencommuter.ne

LOCAL BIKE SHOPS

www.takomabicycle.com



City Bikeways

The City of Takoma Park maintains a growing network of signed on-street bike routes, some of which are marked with shared lane ("sharrow") pavement markings. On sections of Carroll Avenue, the striped shoulders are marked as bike lanes (though less than the standard four feet wide). 2.5 miles of the Sligo Creek Trail runs through Takoma Park, maintained by the Commission. A small section of City-maintained Metropolitan Branch Trail in Takoma Park connects to the Montgomery College campus.

The City makes improvements in the Takoma Park bikeways network as projects occur; installing pavement markings, signing routes, adding bike parking, and supporting Montgomery County's expansion of Capital Bikeshare. City-sponsored bikeway projects, bike programs, and events are interdepartmental efforts, including Housing and Community Development, Public Works, Police,

www.facebook.com/TheNewAve

www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD

THE ROAD

Photo: Bianca Delaglio

'Like' our Facebook pages to keep up on bike projects and events in Takoma Park and on The



