

# DID YOU KNOW?

**IN 2018** - 11 pedestrians and 2 cyclists were killed in New Hampshire.

**In 2016** - 5,987 pedestrians and 840 cyclists were killed in traffic crashes in the United States. Most fatalities occurred in urban areas (76%) at "non-intersections" between 6 and 9 PM.

**Bicycles** are vehicles. In NH, cyclists have the same rights and duties as drivers of motor vehicles. (RSA 265:143)

**Motorists must yield** to cyclists when turning, merging into bicycle lanes, and opening doors. (RSA 265:96)

**Every Driver** of a vehicle, when approaching a cyclist, **shall** ensure the safety and protection of the cyclist and **shall** exercise due care by leaving a reasonable and prudent distance between the vehicle and the bicycle. The distance shall be presumed to be reasonable and prudent if it is at least 3 feet when the vehicle is traveling at 30 mph or less, with one additional foot of clearance required for every 10 mph over 30 mph. (RSA 265:143-a)

**Equal Respect. Equal Responsibility** refers to pedestrians, cyclists and motorists. It is everyone's responsibility to travel safely.

## SAFETY TIPS

**Look** ahead for road hazards. Maneuver safely to the left, as traffic permits, if you see one. **Check** steering, brakes, tires, chains and cables before every ride. **After** dark, use a white front headlight and a red rear light or rear reflector visible from 300 feet.



## New Hampshire Office of Highway Safety

33 Hazen Drive  
Concord, NH 03305

Phone: 603-271-2131

E-mail: [HWYSAFETYMAIL@dos.nh.gov](mailto:HWYSAFETYMAIL@dos.nh.gov)

Website:  
[www.nh.gov/hsafety/](http://www.nh.gov/hsafety/)



## Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety

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# Driver Responsibility



**Expect** bicycles to use designated turn lanes and to move away from the right edge of the road to avoid hazards. (RSA 265:144-XI-(d))

**Before** turning right, slow down and merge behind a cyclist.

When turning left, **yield** to oncoming cyclists or any other vehicles. (RSA 265:29)

A stop sign means you **must stop** and wait until no traffic, whether a bicycle or car, is close enough to be a danger. (RSA 265:30-I)

A yield sign means you **must** wait for traffic, cyclists included. (RSA 265:31) This may require you to stop.

**Signal well in advance of turns** (at least 100 feet), so that cyclists and other vehicles know your intentions. (RSA 265:45-II)

Every driver of a vehicle **shall** exercise due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian or any person propelling a human-powered vehicle. (RSA 265:37)



# Pedestrian Responsibility

**Shall** obey traffic signs, unless directed otherwise by a police officer. (RSA 265:34)

**Shall** be subject to traffic and pedestrian control signals. (RSA 265.9 & 265.34)

**Pedestrians** crossing a roadway outside of a crosswalk or other designated pedestrian crossing **shall** yield the right of way to all vehicles. (RSA 256.36 I & II)

**No** pedestrian shall cross a roadway intersection diagonally unless authorized by traffic control devices; **No** pedestrian shall cross at any place other than a marked crosswalk between adjacent intersections where traffic control signals are in operation. (RSA 265;36 III & IV)

Pedestrians **shall** use the right side of crosswalks. (RSA 265:38)

Pedestrians **cannot** walk along the road **if** there is a sidewalk provided. (RSA 265:39-I-III)

Pedestrians **can** hitchhike only if not standing on a paved portion of roadway. (RSA 265:40)

Motorists & Cyclists **must** stop for pedestrians IN all crosswalks. **DON'T PASS VEHICLES STOPPED AT A CROSSWALK.** (RSA 265:35-1&IV)

FOR COMPLETE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED (RSA) Chapter 265 "Rules of the Road", visit:

<https://gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/NHTOC/NHTOC-XXI-265.htm>

# Cyclist Responsibility

**Yield** the right of way to approaching traffic before entering the roadway. (RSA 265:32) **Stop** at all stop signs. (RSA 265:30-I)

**Don't** cross the stop line when the traffic signal is red. (RSA 265:10-III a&d)

Take left turn from the outermost left turn lane **when** multiple left turn lanes are available. (RSA 265:42-II)

**Do not** operate on sidewalks (RSA 265:26-a), or ride the wrong way on one-way streets. (RSA 265:23-II)

Cyclists **must** wear at least one item of reflective apparel from 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise. (RSA 265:144-XII)

**Helmets are required** <16 years of age. (RSA 265:144-X) Ride on the right side of the road, with traffic. (RSA 265:16-II) Riding against traffic **is** illegal.

Cyclists traveling upon a way at a speed less than the normal speed of traffic moving in the same direction shall remain as far to the right as practicable except when:

- ❖ **Overtaking** or passing another bicycle or vehicle moving in the same direction;
- ❖ **Preparing** to make a left-hand turn;
- ❖ **Proceeding** straight through an intersection where right-hand turns are allowed;
- ❖ **Necessary** to avoid hazardous conditions like broken pavement, glass, debris, sand, ice, the opening of doors of parked vehicles;
- ❖ **Necessary** to avoid fixed or moving objects like vehicles, other bicycles, pedestrians, or animals. (RSA 265:144-XI)