

## **BICYCLE SAFETY**

Police Chief Benjamin C. Fox would like to remind everyone of the following bicycle safety reminders:

- Always wear an approved bicycle safety helmet. Protect your head from serious injury by wearing a helmet when riding. All riders under the age of 17 are required by law to wear a helmet.
- Stop and check for traffic before you enter a street from a driveway, parking lot or sidewalk.
- Avoid riding after dark or if the weather is bad. All cyclists are at risk during the hours of darkness.
- Obey traffic signs, signals and pavement markings. Obeying the law can keep you out of many hazardous driving situations.
- Drive on the right-hand side of the street. Move with the flow of traffic.
- Be extra careful turning left. Vehicles approaching or following you don't expect you to go left and often don't see left-turning cyclists.
- Slow down, when you approach intersections; stop, look and listen at stop signs. Walk your bike across busy intersections and streets.
- Give cars and pedestrians the right-of-way. It's an act of courtesy and it is safer, too.
- Avoid broken pavement, litter, loose gravel, mud, or leaves. Any of these can cause you to lose control of your bike.
- Help other drivers to see you. Wear light or brightly colored cloths. A "Day-Glow" flag on a 6-foot flexible staff on your bike warns motorists of your presence.
- On streets where cars are parked watch for car doors opening into the roadway.
- When riding with a group, form a single line, one bike length apart, on the right-hand side of the roadway.
- Carry packages in a basket, carrier or back-pack and keep both hands on the handlebars.
- Keep your bike in good repair. Check and adjust loose parts and tire pressure weekly. Clean and lightly oil moving parts regularly. Store your bike indoors if possible.
- Don't take chances. Watch what is going on around you.