

There are lots of great reasons to ride a bicycle: health, fitness, fun, environment, transportation. The Haliburton Highlands has great scenery, fresh air, interesting destinations and an extensive roads system for travelling by bicycle.

Same Roads ~ Same Rules ~ Same Rights

Being a rural area, almost all of our roads are two-lane, which means bicyclists and motorists will often be sharing the road. We want everyone to have a safe and enjoyable experience on our roads. When both bicyclists and motorists drive with care and courtesy, it is easy to share the road!



Photo courtesy of Yours Outdoors

Bicyclist Information

Bicycles are considered vehicles under the Ontario Highway Traffic Act, and have the same rights and responsibilities on public roadways as motorists. Bicyclists fare best when they act and are treated as drivers of vehicles. **When you as a bicyclist fail to obey the rules of the road, you lose the support of motorists.** Do your part by being a good ambassador for bicycling!

Follow Rules of the Road

Obey all traffic laws, signs and signals.



Ride on the Right

Always ride in the same direction as traffic, far enough from the road edge to keep a straight line

Ride single file, except when passing.

You may occupy any part of a lane when your safety warrants it e.g. to avoid obstacles, or if the lane isn't wide enough to safely pass.

Be Predictable

Ride in a straight line – don't weave around obstacles.

Stay about one metre from the edge/curb or parked cars to avoid hazards.

Use hand signals to communicate turns and stops to other road users.



Be Visible

Wear brightly coloured clothing, including reflectors. Use lights in low light conditions (red rear, white front). Stay out of motorists' blind spots – especially truck drivers.

Make eye contact with motorists – it's the best way to know they see you.

Be Courteous

When riding in groups, leave gaps to allow space for motorists or other bicyclists to pass.

Acknowledge motorists with a wave when they've passed you safely.

Yield to pedestrians. Warn others with a ring of your bell or friendly greeting before passing.

Take Care of Your Gear and Yourself

Your bike is a machine and works best and safest when it is well-maintained.

Wear a helmet and make sure it fits correctly.

For more detailed information see "Cycling Skills – Ontario's Guide to Safe Cycling", Ministry of Transportation.