ADTSEA "SHARE THE ROAD" DRIVERS EDUCATION UNIT

(Motorists and Bicyclists Sharing the Road)

Item #	Objective
1	Students will be able to explain the meaning of "share the road".
	Share-the-Road signage may be found along the roadway in situations where there is a need to warn drivers to watch for other slower forms of transportation traveling along the roadway including bicycles, golf carts, farm machinery, and mopeds/scooters.
2	Students will be able to describe what to do when encountering a bicyclist in a bike lane or parallel path.
	Yield to bicyclists using either type of facility.
3	Students will be able to describe what to do and what not to do when passing a bicyclist on the road.
	a. Slow down as you approach and wait until it is safe and legal to pass.
	b. Change lanes to pass.
	c. Do not slow down, stop quickly or turn sharply to the right once you've passed the bicyclist.
	d. Do not startle a bicyclist with loud noises.
4	Students will be able to describe why extra precaution may be needed around bicyclists under wet conditions.
	a. A slick surface is more likely to result in loss of control of a bicycle.
	b. Wet bicycle rims increase braking distance.
	c. Wet windows reduce your ability to see and judge distances.
5	Students will be able to state three laws and/or rights that apply to bicycle operators.
	a. Bicycle operators have the right to full use of the traffic lane they are using.
	b. Bicycles are considered vehicles and bicyclists are drivers of vehicles with the same rights of the road and responsibilities as other drivers except where expressly prohibited.
	c. Bicycle operators must travel in the same direction as other traffic, not against traffic.
6	Students will be able to state the minimum passing distance and the ideal method for passing a bicycle operator.
	a. When passing a bicyclist, the minimum legal passing distance is <2><3><4> feet (3 ft in North Carolina), however, drivers are required to operate safely when passing, and more distance is safer, especially when passing at high speeds.
	b. Ideally, a motorist will change lanes to pass a bicyclist (as opposed to passing within the same lane as the bicyclist) just as you would do when passing a motor vehicle on the road.
7	Students will be able to state the most common motorist-caused, bicycle-motor vehicle collisions and describe how to avert them.
	a. Left cross, wherein the motorist turns left into the oncoming bicyclist.
	b. Drive out, wherein the motorist entering the roadway fails to yield to a bicyclist.
	c. Right hook, wherein the motorist passes and then turns right into the bicyclist.
	d. Overtaking, wherein the motorist strikes the bicyclist from behind or sideswipes the bicyclist.

8	Students will be able to explain why bicycles are more difficult to see in traffic than other vehicles.
	a. Bicycles are smaller and narrower than motor vehicles.
	b. Bicycles may be obscured by larger vehicles traveling behind or next to them.
9	Students will be able to explain why it's s important to understand how to "share the road" with bicyclists.
	a. A bicyclist has no protection in a collision with a motor vehicle and a collision often results in serious injury and/or death to the bicyclist.
	b. Motorists must be aware of and anticipate encountering bicyclists on the road in order to be able to react to their presence, which may mean slowing down.
10	Students will understand that bicycles are vehicles and that bicycle users are drivers of vehicles.
	a. For example, in NC, NCGS 20-4.01(49) defines bicycles as vehicles and bicycle users as drivers of vehicles. Students will be able to state similar information for the statute(s) in their state.
	b. Bicycle operators have the same operating rights and responsibilities as other drivers.
11	Students will understand that bicycles are not <i>motor</i> vehicles and why this distinction is important.
	Because bicycles are not <i>motor</i> vehicles, operators are exempt from needing a license, license plate, inspection, or insurance for their operation.
12	Students will be able to state the number of license points given for failure to yield the right-of-way to a motorcycle, moped or scooter, or bicycle in their state.
	In NC, NC 20-16 shows that failure to yield the right-of-way to a bicyclist, motor scooterist, or motorcyclist is 4 points, while failure to yield the right-of-way to other motor vehicle operators is 3 points.
13	Students will understand how to coexist with bicycle drivers.
	a. Bicyclists can be expected on all roads except freeways (on which they are expressly prohibited).
	b. Motorists must yield to bicycle drivers in the same way they would for other drivers (and pedestrians); e.g., if a motorist is passing a bicycle operator, the bicyclist is in front and therefore has the right-of-way in the lane space, even if the bicyclist is riding far to the right.
	c. In NC, the NCDOT Driver's Handbook provides the useful guidance: "Bicyclists usually ride on the right side of the lane but are entitled to the use of a full lane. When passing a bicyclist, always remember that the bicyclist is entitled to the use of the full lane."
	d. Change lanes to pass a bicyclist, or slow to the bicyclist's speed and pass with abundant clearance. The best protection a bicyclist has is the space cushion all around the bicycle.
14	Students will be able to explain why bicycle drivers may control a full lane.
	Controlling a full lane:
	a. Discourages unsafe passing by motorists.
	b. Makes the bicyclist more visible to motorists.
	c. Creates better sight lines and greater buffer with drivers entering the roadway.
	d. Maximizes the safety cushion of space around the bicyclist, reducing the risk of several different collision mechanisms.

15	Students will be able to recognize and understand universal hand signals and alternate hand signals used by bicyclists.
	a. Left turn
	b. Right turn and alternate right turn
	c. Stop and alternate stop/slow down
16	Students will be able to explain why following the vehicle ahead too closely can be dangerous for bicycle operators.
	If the vehicle in front quickly moves to the left to give room to a bicyclist traveling in the same lane, then the vehicle following too closely may not have enough time to react/move over and may strike the bicyclist.
17	Students will be able to state the helmet law for their state (even if it is that there is no helmet law) or city, if their city has an ordinance.
18	Students will be able to describe what happens to a driver's focus as speed increases.
	As a driver's speed increases, he/she becomes less focused on his/her entire surroundings and instead, focuses on a small area ahead in the distance (see Figures 1 and 2 below).
	Figure 1
	Figure 2