## ADTSEA "SHARE THE ROAD" DRIVERS EDUCATION UNIT

(Motorists and Bicyclists Sharing the Road)

| Item \# | Objective |
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| 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 $\langle 2><3><4>$ 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. |
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|  | 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 motor vehicles and why this distinction is important. |
|  | Because bicycles are not motor 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. |
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|  | 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 <br> Figure 2 |

