

Good Morning Barton,

Last week as I headed home, two bicyclists pulled out of Barton. Although that time of year is coming to a close, there are still a number of people biking. Those bikers split up. One went on the right side of the road, and one on the left. At first I was pretty annoyed that people don't have the basic skills to safely ride a bike. The annoyance subsided when I realized that they had found the next safety topic for me to write about.

Growing up the bicycle rule was simple, and still applies today- Ride with traffic, walk against traffic. Bikes are a vehicle and follow the same rules. Ride on the right NOT on the sidewalk and follow traffic signs. And of course, don't drink and drive. Seriously. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reviewed data from 2013 and found that 24% of all deaths while riding a bike had a Blood Alcohol Content of .01. That's one in for deaths on bikes, the bicyclist had alcohol. 20% of deaths on bikes, the rider had a BAC of .08.

Look through this quick chart when you have the time. Get those basic rules back. After the chart is our officer for the week. Enjoy!



1. **Protect Your Head,** wear a helmet.



6. **Act like a Car** Drivers are used to the patterns of other drivers. Don't weave in and out of traffic. The more predictably you ride, the safer you are. Check for traffic. Be aware of traffic around you.



2. **Stay Visible** If drivers can see you, they are less likely to hit you. Use lights when biking at night or in low-light conditions.



7. **Don't Get Distracted** Don't listen to music or talk on the phone while riding.



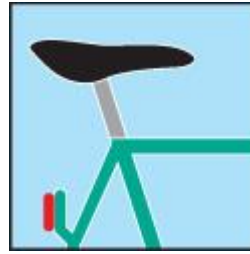
3. **Look, Signal & Look Again** Use hand signals to let drivers and other bicyclists know where you're going. Look and make eye contact. Don't assume drivers will stop.



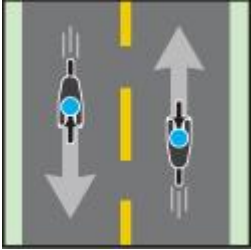
8. **Obey all Traffic Laws & Lights**



4. **Stay Alert** Keep a lookout for obstacles in your path.



9. **Assure Bicycle Readiness** Is your bicycle properly adjusted? Is your saddle in a comfortable position?



5. **Go with the Flow** Bike in the direction of traffic.



10. **Do a Quick Bicycle Test** Check your brakes and your wheels. Make sure that “quick release” wheels are properly secured.

Know your Campus Safety Officers:



This week’s officer is Jim Ireland. Jim’s title is the Coordinator of Facility Management. Not only is he in charge of Campus Safety, but also in charge of all custodial, maintenance and grounds keeping. Jim has worked at Barton for a long, long time. He is married and has a son and daughter. His hobbies are watching his children’s sporting events and BIKING!!!



Lucas Stoelting
Campus Safety
Lead Officer

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