At every age, whether you cycle for fun or to get where you are going, be sure to cycle safely.

Follow these tips inside to help you stay safe.

For more information, please visit us at http://bike.charmeck.org

or contact us below:

Charlotte Department of Transportation
Bicycle Program
600 East Fourth Street
Charlotte, NC 28202
704-336-2278
**KNOW THE LAW...**
- Ride on the right side of the lane in the same direction as traffic.
- Observe all traffic signs and signals.
- Use hand signals before making a turn or stopping.
- Use lights and reflectors when riding at night or in low light.
- Cyclists under 16 years old are required to wear a helmet.

**BE AWARE OF...**

**The “Door Zone”**
Be sure to leave enough space between you and a parked car.

**Hazards**
Hazards include drainage grates, uneven or cracked pavement, broken glass, low hanging branches or other obstacles.

**Turning Vehicles**
- Failure to yield when turning left...
- Failure to yield when turning right...
- Failure to yield when pulling out...

**FOR YOUR SAFETY...**
- Ride in a straight line. Do not weave between parked vehicles.
- Wear a helmet.
- Lose the headphones. Your hearing keeps you aware of your surroundings and can help you detect overtaking vehicles.
- Keep your bike maintained. Check brakes and tighten any loose bolts, nuts or screws.
- Look for alternate routes using low traffic neighborhood streets.
- Ride defensively and predictably.
- Wear bright colored clothing to increase your visibility.

**How to use hand signals:**
Use your left arm to signal.

- **Left Turn**
- **Right Turn**
- **Stop**

**FOR YOUR SAFETY...**
- Be Courteous
  Keep traffic flowing by helping motorists pass safely.