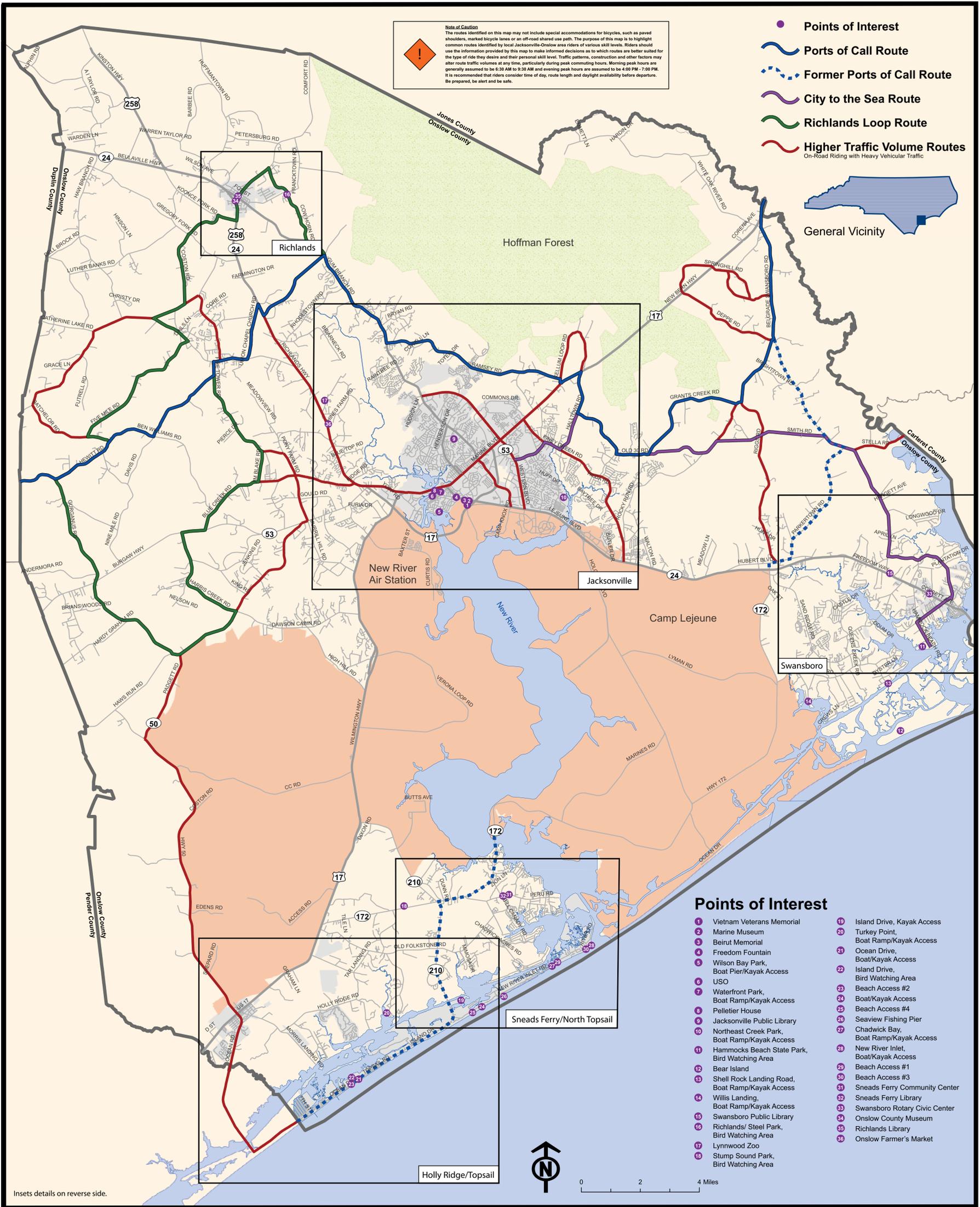


# Jacksonville-Onslow Area Bicycle Map



## Jacksonville-Onslow Area Bicycle Map

**Rails to Trails**  
 The Rails to Trails Route is an off-road trail created from an old railroad right-of-way that encourages bicycle and pedestrian travel in addition to conserving green space. The City of Jacksonville built the Rails to Trails Bridge (shown above) to provide safe passage over NC 24. This signature bridge is an artistic landmark that symbolizes the City of Jacksonville's commitment to the community and non-motorized forms of transportation.

**Ports of Call Route**  
 The Ports of Call Route, designated as NC Bike Route 3, extends from South Carolina to Virginia. The Jacksonville-Onslow section of the route extends west from Hewitt Road near the Onslow County border, east towards Maysville. The route is on-road, following rural roads that generally are low volume, but occasionally higher-speed vehicular traffic.

**Former Ports of Call Routes**  
 The Ports of Call Route originally followed NC 172 through a majority of Onslow County until a section of the highway, located on Marine Base Camp Lejeune, was closed to non-military personnel. Some of the route is still accessible to the public (shown on the map); however, the section of NC 172 on Camp Lejeune is only accessible to those with proper military identification and a bicycle helmet.

**City to Sea Route**  
 The City to Sea Route extends from Jacksonville west to Swansboro. The 21-mile route generally follows lower traffic secondary roads, beginning near the Jacksonville Mall and ending at Hammocks Beach State Park.

**Richlands Loop Route**  
 The Richlands Loop Route is a 50-mile on-road loop, following scenic rural roads that generally are low volume, but occasionally have higher-speed vehicular traffic. For a more leisurely ride, the route may be shortened to 25-miles by using the Ports of Call link (shown on the map).

**Be prepared, be alert and be safe.**

**Credits:**  
 Illustrations: N.C. Department of Transportation, Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation. Cover Photo: Lisa Miller 2011. Back Cover Photo: Althouse 2008.

**Jacksonville Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization**  
 In cooperation with the City of Jacksonville

## Jacksonville MPO

The Jacksonville Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (JUMPO) is the regional transportation planning organization for the Jacksonville, North Carolina metropolitan area. JUMPO consists of representatives from the City of Jacksonville, Onslow County, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and area military bases. The City of Jacksonville is designated as the Lead Planning Agency for JUMPO, which is responsible for transportation planning within the Jacksonville urban area. JUMPO facilitates a regional, cooperative planning process that serves as the basis for the expenditure of all federal transportation funds in the area for improvements to the transportation network including streets, highways, bridges, public transit, bicycle and pedestrian paths.

**Jacksonville Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization**  
 City Hall  
 815 New Bridge Street  
 PO Box 128  
 Jacksonville, NC 28541-0128  
 910-938-5200  
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**North Carolina Department of Transportation**  
 Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation  
 401 Oberlin Road, Suite 250  
 1552 Mail Service Center (Mail)  
 Raleigh, NC 27699-1552  
 www.ncdot.gov/bikeped

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## Bikes on Buses

In support of alternative forms of transportation, most of the Jacksonville Transit bus fleet is equipped with bike racks. The bicycle racks, mounted to the front of the buses, fold down for easy use. The bike racks can carry two bicycles and load independently. You must be able to lift the bike and place it on the rack yourself.

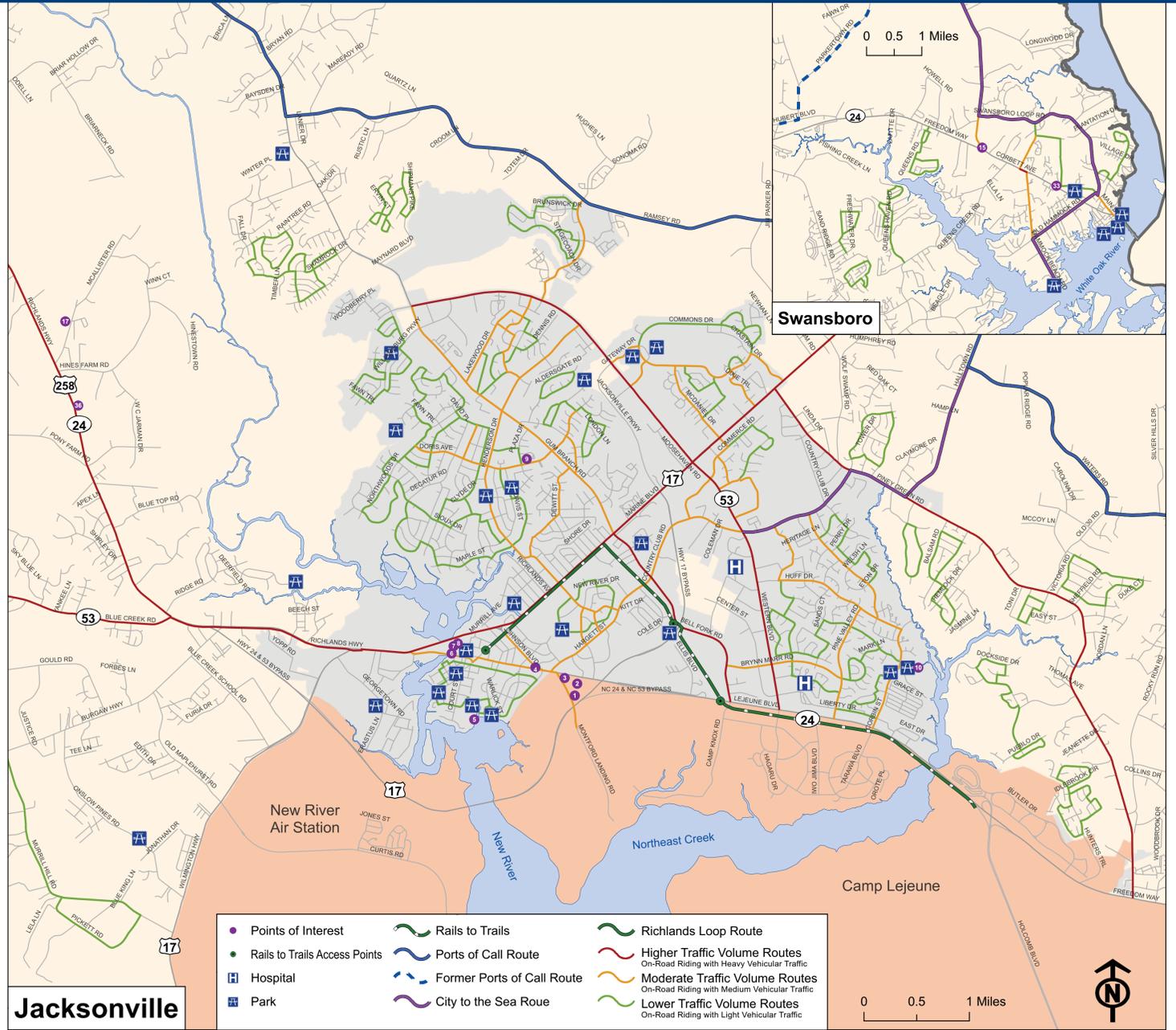
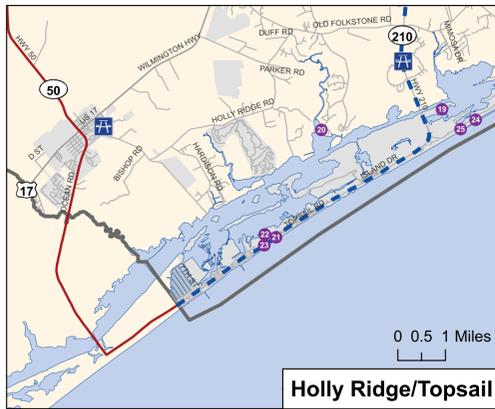
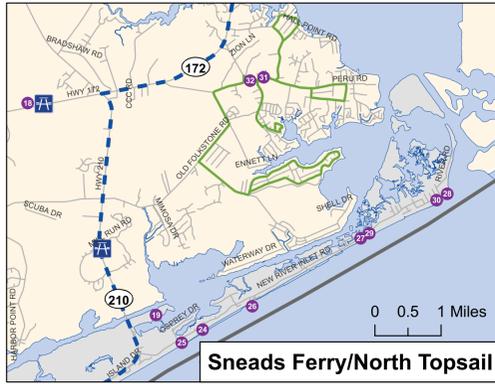
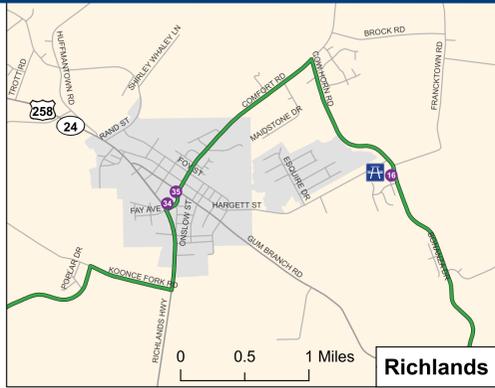
### How To Use Bike Racks

- 1 Be at a designated bus stop ready to load your bike.
- 2 Signal the driver that you will be loading a bike.
- 3 To release the rack, squeeze the center handle and slowly lower it down.
- 4 Place the front wheel on the side labeled "Front Wheel".
- 5 Pull up and out on the support arm and hook the arm securely over the top of the front wheel closest to the fork.
- 6 Board bus and let the driver know your intended bus stop.
- 7 Stay seated toward the front of the bus and watch your bike to ensure its safety.
- 8 Exit the front door. Tell the driver that you will be unloading your bike.
- 9 If you are the last person to unload a bike, return the rack to its upright position.

## Jacksonville-Onslow Area Bicycle Map

**Jacksonville Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization**  
 In cooperation with the City of Jacksonville

# Jacksonville-Onslow Area Bicycle Map



## Bike = Vehicle

In North Carolina, your bicycle is a vehicle and you are its driver. You share the rights and duties with all other drivers as you use the State's roadway network.

### Follow the Road Rules

- Ride on the right side of the road, going with the flow of traffic.
- Obey all traffic controls —like stop signs, traffic lights, and one-way signs.
- Signal whenever you intend to turn, merge to another road position, or stop.
- Yield the right-of-way whenever you enter the road or when you change lanes or road position.
- Use a good set of lights and reflectors whenever you ride after dark.
- Don't ride your bike on sidewalks and treat pedestrians with respect.

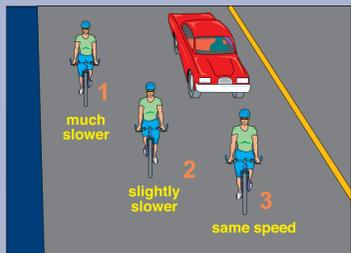
## Basic Traffic Riding Techniques

Riding confidently and skillfully in traffic takes practice and an understanding of some basic ideas. One of the most important ideas is road position. Where you ride on the roadway depends on several important things: your speed, the width and condition of the road, and your destination.

### Speed and road position

The closer you go to the speed of traffic, the closer you should ride to that traffic.

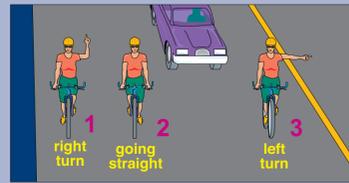
- When traffic is going a lot faster than you, keep well to the right.
- When traffic is going a little faster, ride near traffic. This encourages right-turners to slow and wait instead of passing at the last moment and cutting you off.
- When you are going the same speed as traffic, ride in the line of traffic. This is your most visible position and ensures you'll be where drivers look for traffic. There's no reason to ride fast near the curb and a lot of good reasons not to.



### Destination and position

Near intersections, it's a good idea to let your road position tell others where you're going.

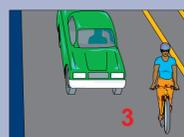
- To turn right, move towards the right edge of the roadway.
- To go straight, keep at least three feet from the curb and stay out of right turn lanes.
- To turn left, ride about three feet right of the center line or, if there is one, use the left turn lane.



### Making left turns

Making left turns is tricky but can be learned. Start on quiet streets and work up to busier ones. **When possible, always turn at designated intersections, with traffic.**

- As you approach an intersection where you want to turn left, look back. If someone is coming, decide whether you can move left across the lane before they arrive.
- If you can cross before they arrive, signal and merge across into a left turn position near the center line or in a left turn lane.



- Once you've merged to a left turn position, ride straight and watch what's going on around you.
- As you approach your turn, signal and watch for a break in oncoming traffic. After obeying traffic controls and yielding to crossing and oncoming traffic, make your turn.

As you practice, you'll get better and better at merging in traffic until it becomes second nature.

### Left turns on fast roads

On busy high-speed roads, it's very difficult to negotiate your way across traffic. In this case, it's a good idea to make your turn like a pedestrian and walk across when safe.

## Points of Interest

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Water Access</b><br>5 Wilson Bay Park Boat/Pier/Kayak Access<br>7 Waterfront Park Boat Ramp/Kayak Access<br>10 Northeast Creek Park Boat Ramp/Kayak Access<br>12 Bear Island<br>13 Shell Rock Landing Road Boat Ramp/Kayak Access<br>14 Willis Landing Boat Ramp/Kayak Access<br>19 Island Drive Kayak Access<br>20 Turkey Point Boat Ramp/Kayak Access<br>21 Ocean Drive Boat/Kayak Access<br>23 Beach Access #2<br>24 Boat/Kayak Access<br>25 Beach Access #4<br>26 Seaview Fishing Pier<br>27 Chadwick Bay Boat Ramp/Kayak Access<br>28 New River Inlet Boat/Kayak Access<br>29 Beach Access #1<br>30 Beach Access #3 | <b>Museums, Historic Areas</b><br>1 Vietnam Veterans Memorial<br>2 Marine Museum<br>3 Beirut Memorial<br>4 Freedom Fountain<br>8 Pelletier House<br>34 Onslow County Museum<br><br><b>Community, Civic Centers</b><br>6 USO<br>17 Lynnwood Zoo<br>31 Sneads Ferry Community Center<br>33 Swansboro Rotary Civic Center<br>36 Onslow County Farmers' Market<br><br><b>Public Libraries</b><br>9 Jacksonville Library<br>15 Swansboro Library<br>32 Sneads Ferry Library<br>35 Richlands Library |
|---|--|
- Bird Watching Areas**
- 11 Hammocks Beach State Park
  - 16 Richlands/ Steel Park
  - 18 Stump Sound Park
  - 22 Island Drive



## Bike Handling

Having good control of your bike makes riding in traffic easier and safer. Practice until you can look around, shift gears, use the brakes, avoid potholes, and stand up on the pedals without diverting your attention from traffic.

### Scanning and signaling

Looking back over your shoulder allows you to see what's going on back there. Do it occasionally, just to avoid surprises. And do it before you make any kind of move (like merging left to turn).

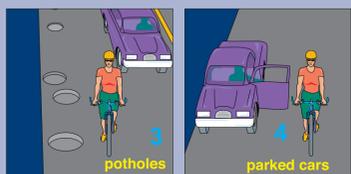
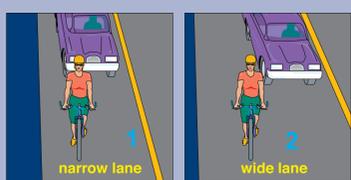
Practice in an empty parking lot until you can look over your shoulder without swerving. Try easing your grip on the handlebars or dropping the hand of the shoulder you're looking over.



Stop Right Left

### Width and road position

- On a road with very narrow lanes, ride far enough from the edge to discourage dangerously close passing. Many expert riders ride in the car's right wheel track.
- On a road with wide traffic lanes, ride just to the right of the traffic stream. This allows easy passing but reduces the danger caused by turning or crossing traffic.
- On a road with gravel, debris, or potholes on the right side, ride on the smooth pavement to the left of them.
- Always ride a good door's width from parked cars.



## "Share the Road"

Cars and bicycles frequently must "Share the Road". On roadways with high levels of bicycle traffic, but relatively demanding conditions for bicyclists, "Share the Road" signs have been installed. These signs are intended to increase motorists' awareness of bicyclists on a roadway without designating that roadway as a preferred route.

Bicyclists, however, must also be aware of the importance of sharing the road with motorists.

If someone comes up behind you, move to the right when safe to allow them to pass.

In groups, bicyclists should ride cooperatively and help motorists pass safely.



## Wear a Helmet!

If you don't already have one, get a bicycle helmet today. If you have one, wear it every time you ride.

Today's helmets look good, are very light, and let in those cooling breezes... all while protecting your head and brain!

Helmets cost as little as \$15 and could be your most important piece of equipment.