

What is the Vermont Safe Streets Network?



The Vermont Safe Streets Network was launched in 2008 after a pair of hit-and-run collisions seriously injured two Burlington residents, one walking and the other bicycling. Community members responded by organizing a campaign to increase civility and safety on our streets for everyone – whether driving, biking, skateboarding, or walking.

The Vermont Safe Streets Network has since expanded statewide and is committed to educating motorists, walkers, and bicyclists about the rules of the road and sharing space safely. To that end, we have developed a suite of materials and educational strategies:

- Safe driving outreach to students
- "Rules of the Road" flyers and brochures
- Bicycle helmet distribution events
- Safety outreach to young adults
- Bike light outreach and distribution
- "Pass with Care" campaigns
- Police trainings on safety enforcement

We are dedicated to making Vermont's roads safe for everyone.

Want to be a part of the Safe Streets Network?

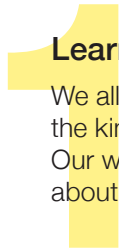
Volunteers, ideas, and donations are always welcome. To get involved or to learn more, please contact:

Local Motion
www.localmotion.org
info@safestreetsvt.org
www.safestreetsvt.gov
 802-851-ROAD (7623)

Primary funding for the Vermont Safe Streets Network generously provided by:

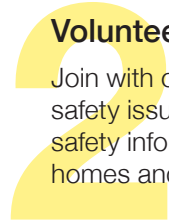


Three Ways You Can Help



Learn the Rules of the Road

We all can make our streets safer by giving others the kind of respect we'd like to get ourselves. Our website offers more detailed information about the rules of the road.



Volunteer for the Safe Streets Network

Join with others from your community to identify safety issues that need to be fixed, distribute safety information and reflective gear at retirement homes and local schools, and more.



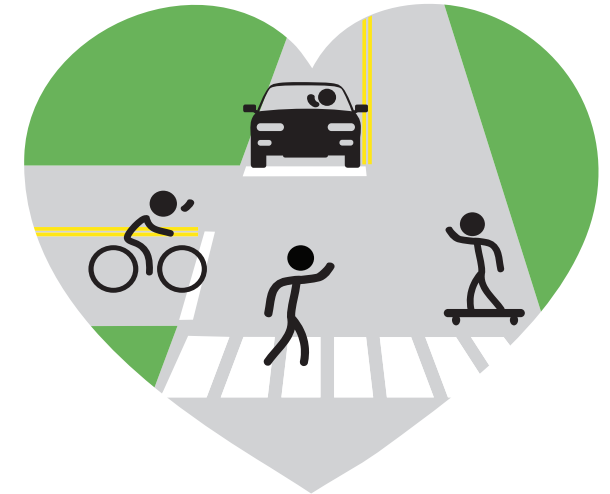
Spread the Word

Brochures, handouts, stencils, safety guides, video PSAs and more – if you want to show your support for Safe Streets, we've got you covered!

Visit www.safestreetsvt.gov to learn more.



Vermont Safe Streets Network



**Give some love.
 Get some love.
 Safety is a two-way street.**

SAFE STREETS PARTNERS



a project of



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love to drive?



It's a privilege,
not a right.

Be Alert And Control Your Vehicle

One moment of inattention can take someone's life. Don't take the road for granted!

Slow Down

Don't drive faster than the speed limit; slow down when conditions are poor or hazards are present. If you hit someone walking when you are going 20 MPH, they will likely live — but at 40 MPH, they will probably die.

Avoid Distractions

Use of any handheld electronic device while driving is illegal in Vermont. If you must make or receive a call, pull over. Do not text while driving. Save \$162* and 2 points.**

Pass Bikes Only When Safe

Unless specifically signed otherwise, cyclists have a right to be on the road. Don't pass until it is safe. When you do, plan ahead so you can pass with a recommended 4 feet of clearance in compliance with VT laws. Save \$277* and 4 points.**

Yield At Crosswalks

People walking always have the right of way at all unsignalized crosswalks, including mid-block crosswalks. They also have the right of way at signalized crosswalks unless the "do not cross" signal is solid. Give them space. Save \$220.*

Don't Block Sidewalks Or Bike Lanes

People need to get through, especially those in wheelchairs or with other mobility impairments. Never park on or across a sidewalk or bike lane. Save \$50.*

Keep Your Cool

Throwing things at people who are walking or biking is illegal, as is opening a door in the path of someone on a bicycle. Save \$392* and 4 points.**

Don't Pass Stopped School Buses

Children are our most vulnerable road users. There is never a good reason to pass a stopped school bus. Save \$249* and 5 points.**

Yield Anyway

When in doubt, yield. Preventing a crash is more important than being right. Think about it.

love to bike?



Same roads,
same rules.

Make Sure Your Bike Is Working

Check your bike over before you go for a ride. Make sure the brakes work, the tires are inflated and the chain is properly lubricated.

Control Your Bike

Most bike crashes don't even involve a car. Make sure you know how to control your bike before you take it out on the road. Local Motion offers classes to help you improve your riding skills.

Obey All Traffic Laws

Bicyclists have many of the same rights as drivers, but you also have many of the same responsibilities. For example, bike riders have to make a complete stop at stop signs and red lights. Save \$162.*

Use Lights At Night

Use a headlight and a red rear reflector (or better yet, a red taillight) when riding at night. Save \$76.*

Claim Your Space and Be Predictable

Ride on the road, take the space you need to be safe, and ride straight. For a practiced rider, the street is generally a safer place to ride than the sidewalk, as you are much more visible to drivers when you are on the street.

Yield to People Walking

On busy streets or when riding with children, you may decide to ride on the sidewalk, which is legal in Vermont unless specifically prohibited by local ordinance. But people walking on sidewalks always have right of way over people biking. Be courteous — when approaching from behind, slow down and ring your bell or give a friendly greeting.

Ride In the Same Direction as Traffic

Riding against traffic is dangerous. Follow the law (and common sense) and ride in the same direction as cars.

Signal Your Turns

Look back before you make a lane change or a turn and make sure it is safe to change positions. Use your arm to signal where you are going.

Ride to the Right

Ride on the right side of the rightmost lane. Exceptions: if there are hazards in the road, if you are turning left, if you are in a right-turn lane and not planning on turning right, or to stay out of the "door zone" of parked cars. Stay as far right as is safe: generally at least two to three feet from the edge of the road. Ride two abreast only where not prohibited by local ordinance. Save \$100.*

love to walk?



Take charge of
your safety.

Use Crosswalks

If there is a crosswalk nearby, take the time to walk to it before crossing the street.

No Crosswalk? Yield to Cars

If there is no crosswalk nearby, you may cross the street anywhere you like, but only when there is a safe gap in traffic.

Obey Pedestrian Signals

If a crosswalk has a pedestrian signal, it is illegal to start crossing when the signal says "Don't Walk." Save \$105.*

Look Before You Cross

Cars are required to yield only if the pedestrian gives the driver enough time to react. So make sure there's room for the car to stop before stepping out.

Use the Sidewalk

If there is a sidewalk, you are not allowed to walk in the roadway. Save \$220.*

No Sidewalk? Walk Facing Traffic

If there isn't a sidewalk, walk on the left side of the road facing oncoming traffic.

Wear Bright Clothing

Reflective clothing will help you to be seen, especially at night.

Use Lights At Night

Use a headlamp or carry a good flashlight when walking along rural and unlighted roads.



Be Kind

A kind gesture goes a long way to making our streets a friendlier — and safer — place to be. Practice waving and smiling!

*Amount represents 'waiver' penalty. Actual fine amounts may vary.

**Points refer to those against you on a Motor Vehicle record.