

SUNY NEW PALTZ UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Bicycle Safety



New Paltz
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

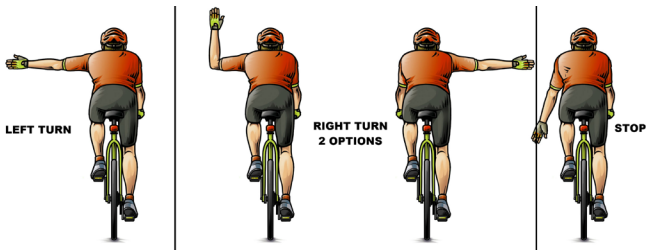
Bicycle Safety

The use of bicycles on campus is widely encouraged, however, it is imperative that everyone practice safety when riding and storing your bike on campus. When using a bicycle on campus, please do not lock it to or lean it against lamp posts, hand rails, benches, buildings, or any other campus property not intended to host bicycles since this action can create safety hazards, interfere with maintenance work, and cause damage to campus property and the bike.

Bicycles found in areas other than designated bicycle racks will be removed by Facilities staff. If an improperly stowed bicycle is locked, it may be necessary for the chain or lock to be cut, particularly if the owner cannot be identified or does not respond to a call from Facilities staff. The bicycle will be relocated to the nearest bike rack with a new lock installed, call 845-257-3301 for assistance with unlocking the temporary lock. If your lock/cable needs to be cut due to an individual locking it in an unintended area, the College will not be responsible for a replacement lock/cable. You must have proper identification to reclaim your bicycle.

All bicycles used on campus are recommended to be registered and have a sticker affixed to the bicycle. This will help identify any bicycle lost or stolen from the campus grounds. You may register your bike and get your sticker at no charge online or by visiting the Parking Office in Wooster Hall, Office of Student Accounts, Room 114. You will need to provide the make, color and serial number from your bike. Affix the sticker to the crossbar area of the bike near the handlebars.

- **Ride on the right side** of the street (or sidewalk).
- **Go with traffic, not against.**
- When riding at night a **white light in front and a red light or reflector** is required by state law.
- **Obey all traffic signals, signs and roadway devices.**
- **Always wear a helmet.**
- **Be aware** of cars and other vehicles.
- Slow down and **prepare to stop at all crosswalks.**
- **Use hand signals** to indicate turns, lane changes and stopping.
- **Always lock and secure your bike properly**, do everything you can to deter the theft of your bike.



Know The Law

- **Maintain your bicycle properly and have all required equipment**, i.e. brakes, bell or horn for passing, white front headlight visible for at least 500 feet and red or amber tail light visible for at least 300 feet. *Section 1236 of the NYS Vehicle & Traffic Law.*
- **Ride defensively and predictably** and remain alert at all times. **Do not ride with headphones or while talking on a cell phone.**
- **Maintain a safe and reasonable speed** at all times.
- Be considerate of pedestrians and **dismount and walk your bike on sidewalks.**
- **Cyclists must yield to pedestrians** at crosswalks and intersections
- **Pass with caution on the left and verbally, or through use of a bicycle bell**, alert the people around you before doing so.

Commuting

- The law requires that **bicyclists ride with traffic**. Bicycling against traffic are leading causes of crashes. Moving with traffic makes bicyclists more visible, and their movements more predictable to motorists. *Section 1234(a), NYS Vehicle & Traffic Law*
- **Cyclists must obey and follow all traffic signals, including stop signs, yield signs, and traffic lights.** When stopped at a traffic light, cyclists are expected to wait for a green signal and move with traffic.
- Generally, bicyclists should use the **same through or turning lanes as motorists.**
- When turning, bicyclists should **use hand signals** and should move to the center of the lane when preparing for either a right or left turn, to prevent a following motorist from sharing the lane. If there is more than one left turn lane, use the one furthest to the right. After any left turn, move to the right as soon as it is safe to do so.
- **Do not pass cars to the right at an intersection** where they are stopped at a traffic light. Do not stop in a driver's blind spot, move to the center and wait.
- **Wear bright and/or reflective clothing at all times.** Use reflectors and reflective tape.
- **Ride single-file and in a straight line.** Do not weave between cars or pass on the right at a stop.

PROTECTING NEW YORK'S FUTURE

NEW YORK STATE UNIVERSITY POLICE

SUNY New Paltz

1 Hawk Drive, Service Building 100

New Paltz, NY 12561

Main: 845-257-2222

TTY: 845-257-3369

Fax: 845-257-3334

Email: upd@newpaltz.edu

