Bicycles must be driven like other vehicles if they are to be treated seriously by motorists. Never ride against traffic.

**Bicycling Tips**

- **Obey All Signs & Traffic Lights**
  - Motorists may not see you on their right, so stay out of the driver’s “blind spot.” Be very careful when overtaking cars while in a bike lane, drivers don’t always signal when turning.
  - There are two ways to make a left turn: 1) Like a auto: look back, signal, move into the left lane, and turn left. 2) Like a pedestrian: ride straight to the far-side crosswalk, then walk your bike across, or queue up in the traffic lane.
- **Use Hand Signals**
  - Hand signals tell motorists what you intend to do. For turn signals, point in the direction of your turn. Signal as a matter of courtesy and safety and as required by law.
- **Ride Consistently**
  - Do not worry about cars, trucks or buses. But, please do think about the speed and type of vehicle you are passing.
- **Chose the Best Way to Turn Left**
  - When turning left, choose where you will enter the traffic. If there is no left turn lane, use the bike lane.
  - Motorists may not see you on their right, so stay out of the driver’s “blind spot.” Be very careful when overtaking cars while in a bike lane, drivers don’t always signal when turning.
  - There are two ways to make a left turn: 1) Like a auto: look back, signal, move into the left lane, and turn left. 2) Like a pedestrian: ride straight to the far-side crosswalk, then walk your bike across, or queue up in the traffic lane.
- **Use Caution When Passing**
  - When passing, use an audible warning when passing a bike or pedestrian. Cross driveways and intersections at a walker’s pace and look carefully for traffic.
  - Cyclists are not allowed to ride on sidewalks in many Michigan communities.
- **Avoid Road Hazards**
  - Many people consider sidewalks a safe place to ride a bicycle. Unfortunately, sidewalks aren’t all that safe. Trees, parked cars and buildings can create blind spots, pedestrians can step suddenly, a child or animal can run into your path. In areas with higher speeds and/or volumes, combined shoulders and sidewalks have been identified as being hazardous.
  - There are two ways to make a left turn: 1) Like a auto: look back, signal, move into the left lane, and turn left. 2) Like a pedestrian: ride straight to the far-side crosswalk, then walk your bike across, or queue up in the traffic lane.
- **Use a Well-Equipped Bike**
  - Outfit your bike with a good bike lock, tool kit, fenders, and bike bags. You should use a strong head light (visible from 500’) and rear reflector (visible from 600’) at night and when visibility is poor.
- **Dress Appropriately**
  - Wear a hard shell helmet whenever you ride. Wear light-colored clothes at night. Make yourself as visible as possible.
- **Go Slow on Sidewalks**
  - To keep from scaring or injuring walkways. You must give an audible warning when you pass. Cross driveways and intersections at a walker’s pace and look carefully for traffic.

**Regional Bike Routes**

This map offers a range of bicycling options for commuting and recreational activities including on, off street, multi-use and multi-path options. Choose the route that is best for you, depending on the purpose of your trip, your riding ability, comfort, weather conditions and time of day.

This map covers the Cass River Greenway from Bridgeport to Vassar and shows all on-street bike routes, striped bike lanes, and off-street trails. It also lists some streets preferred by area bicyclists, but without any special accommodations.

**Multi-Use Paths, Pedestrians and Bikes**

Multi-use paths are great places to walk and bike without having to worry about cars, trucks or buses. But, please do think about the speed and type of vehicle you are passing.

- Use a moderate speed on paths, especially around slower users.
- Keep right, except when passing.
- If walking in a group, allow room for others to pass.
- When biking, use an audible warning when passing a bike or pedestrian (a friendly “ding” of a bell or a cheerful “on your left!”)
- Obey all trail and road signs, and use care where city streets intersect with paths.

**Sidewalks and Bikes**

Many people consider sidewalks a safe place to ride a bicycle. Unfortunately, sidewalks aren’t all that safe. Trees, parked cars and buildings can create blind spots, pedestrians can step suddenly, a child or animal can run into your path.

- And cars do use sidewalks — at every cross street and driveway. If you must, ride slowly on sidewalks and travel at a speed of pedestrians. Please pay special attention to local ordinances as it is illegal to ride on the sidewalk in many Michigan communities.

**In Case of Emergency...**

For all emergencies (Law Enforcement, Fire, Ambulance) in the Cass River area, dial 911. In order for emergency responders to locate you quickly, please be aware of your location at all times, particularly what county you are in (Bayonne or Tuscola). Secondly, please pay attention to nearby roads and how far you are from the nearest road. This will make it much easier and quicker for dispatchers to send the appropriate responders to your location.
Sharing the Resource

The Cass River Greenway attracts many different types of recreational users including fishermen, boaters, bird watchers, and cyclists. It is important that all recreational users understand and abide by a few simple guidelines:

- Know the boundaries of public and private lands. Respect public as well as private property – please be considerate of the privacy and rights of landowners and do not enter private land unless you have prior permission from the property owner.
- Respect wildlife and learn through quiet observation. Do not disturb wildlife, or plants just for a "better look". Observe wildlife from a distance so they are not scared or forced to flee. Large groups often cause more damage to the environment and can disturb wildlife to keep your group small.
- Be courteous and respectful of others. Respect their SPACE, PRIVACY, and SOLITUDE while on the river, in camp, on hikes and at boat ramps. Respect anglers’ water – boaters should look ahead for anglers, both on the shore and in the water, and give them a wide berth, passing by quietly.

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For maps and stories, visit mdc.state.mi.us or mdc.state.mi.us/greenways.