Sioux Falls Bicycle Laws

Traffic regulations
Every bicyclist has the same rights and responsibilities as any other driver of a vehicle except where specifically prohibited by law. Bicyclists must ride with the flow of traffic and obey all traffic laws and traffic signs.

Bicycling on city streets
A bicycle and motor vehicle must “share the lane” when there is adequate room available in the lane with the bicycle riding as far to the right in the lane as allows. When there is not enough room available in the lane for both motor vehicles and bicycles to share, the bicyclist may “take the lane” to signal to a motor vehicle that it is not safe to pass in the same lane.

Safely passing bicyclists—3 feet separation
A motor vehicle must allow a bicyclist at least a three-foot separation (6 feet on roadways over six feet wide or greater, unless marked as prohibited) but they must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and stop at every intersection. Always be sure vehicle drivers see you before proceeding.

Bicycling in city parks
Bicyclists riding in city parks and greenways are required to follow the same laws as bicyclists on city streets. Bicyclists riding in city parks and greenways are required to operate their bicycles in a careful manner with concern for the safety of others and concern for the preservation of park property.

Riding on a one-way road with two or more lanes
A bicyclist may ride as far to the right as allows and also as far to the left as allows on a one-way road with more than one lane.

Two bicycles riding within the same lane
Two bicycles may ride side by side within a single-lane except when a motor vehicle approaches from behind.

Interfering with pedestrians
Bicyclists must not interfere with pedestrians while riding their bike.

Parking bicycles on sidewalks
A person may park a bicycle on a sidewalk which is six feet wide or greater, unless marked as prohibited or restricted by an official sign. The bicycle must be parked so that it does not block traffic.

Street-smart cyclist (be seen and avoid injury)
Always wear a bicycle helmet to reduce the risk of permanent injury or death from a crash. Make sure your helmet fits right, wear bright clothing, use lights, reflectors, a bell and a mirror to see, be seen and be heard. Consider using the other equipment illustrated below to make your ride safer and more comfortable.

Share the Road

Communicate with drivers
Use hand signals so that drivers know where you’re going. Signal all your turns and stops ahead of time. Also, before turning, look over your shoulder for any traffic. Check and only move when it is safe.

Bicycle facilities, as shown on map
—— Beginner street signed route
A signed bicycle route that is appropriate for a rider with basic riding skills and comfort level.
—— Advanced street signed route
A signed bicycle route that is appropriate only for riders with more advanced riding skills and capable of riding in higher traffic speeds and volumes.
—— Sidewalk (off-street)
A bicycle sidewalk is a path next to a road, like a sidewalk, except it is wider and signs are posted designating it for bicycle use.

Bike lane
A bicycle lane is defined as a portion of the roadway that has been designated by striping, signage, and pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists.

Sharrow (shared road)
A shared lane marking on a roadway surface indicating that bicyclists may use any portion of the lane.

Bicycle shoulder
A shoulder on a rural section roadway that has been designated by striping, signage and pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists.

Bike & Bus
Bike your way to any bus stop and then you, and your bike, can take the bus from there to any other stop. Complete the rest of your trip on your bike. Call 367-7151 with questions or visit www.siouxfalls.org.

It’s easy to use
1. Each fixed route bus is installed with a rack.
2. Bike racks are mounted on the front of the bus along with instructions.
3. The rack holds up to two bicycles.
4. The rack allows for most bicycle wheel and frame sizes.
5. The bike doesn’t touch the other bike, the bus or other vehicles.
6. There is no additional charge for your bicycle.
7. Training is available at the Downtown Bus Stop.

Safety tips
1. When stopped, move off the trail. Don’t block the trail.
2. Wear protective gear such as a helmet.
3. Be aware of your surroundings, and watch out for unsafe situations.
4. Be aware of changing weather conditions and places you can go to in an emergency.
5. In case of an accident or other type of emergency, call 911.

Be patient and courteous of others using the trail and routes. Control your Speed! The trail is not a race track.