



For Immediate Release  
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## City Launches Safety Campaign

Harrisonburg, VA – The City of Harrisonburg is partnering with the community to spread safety messages to pedestrians, motorists, and bicyclists.

The goal of this safety campaign titled, “Share the Road” is to remind those traveling through Harrisonburg of their duties and responsibilities, and to be mindful of others.

Each month, different tips will be distributed to remind the community of ways to travel safely. These tips are also frequent complaints that are received and the most common errors that pedestrians, motorists, and bicyclists make.

“We want to keep everyone safe when traveling throughout Harrisonburg and work to educate the public so accidents can be prevented,” said Sergeant Pete Ritchie, Harrisonburg Police Department.

He added, “It is important that our community understands the rules of the road for all modes of transportation to better anticipate other’s needs.”

The month of May is recognized as National Bike Month, which makes for an ideal time to launch this safety campaign.

With a host of upcoming events to celebrate this month, motorists are encouraged to be mindful of additional bicyclists in the area for Bike to School Day on May 7 and Bike to Work Day on May 16.

## Safety Tips for May

- Bicyclists and skateboarders may travel on the roadway or the sidewalk, but pick one. Being predictable is safer.
- Bicyclists and skateboarders traveling on sidewalks have the same rights and duties as pedestrians.
- Riding a bicycle or skateboard on sidewalks in downtown Harrisonburg is NOT permitted.
- If traveling on the roadway, bicyclists and skateboarders have the same rights and duties as motorists.
- Ride your bike and skateboard on the right side of the road, traveling in the same direction and going with traffic.
- When available, pedestrians should walk on sidewalks instead of in the roadway. If there is no sidewalk, pedestrians shall walk on the left side of the roadway, facing traffic, and as near as practicable to the outside edge of the roadway.
- Motorists should always travel the speed limit and watch for bicyclists and pedestrians.
- Motorists must give bicyclists three feet of space when passing them.
- All motorists, bicyclists, and skateboarders should abide by traffic signs, signals, lights, and markings. Come to a complete stop at stop signs and red lights.

Additional information is available online at [www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/Share-the-Road](http://www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/Share-the-Road).

Members of the community are invited to share this information with a friend, family member, or neighbor. **Let's all remember to Share the Road!**

*Who will notify you if an emergency-related event is happening in Harrisonburg or Rockingham County? Sign up to receive free alerts through the **Harrisonburg and Rockingham County Emergency Alert System** by visiting [www.HREmergencyAlert.com](http://www.HREmergencyAlert.com).*

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