

Walking & Biking in South Kingstown



ARE YOU A DRIVER OR A BIKER?

Check out these **Biking Safety Tips from the RI Bicycle Coalition:**

Check behind you before changing lanes

Ride in a predictable fashion

Ride as if you were invisible. That does not mean BE invisible. This simply means do not expect that drivers see you.

Be seen. Wear bright colors, reflective tape or vests, have reflectors and lights on your bike, get a bike bell.

See the road. Periodically look ahead 100 feet for hazards in the road such as potholes or debris.

Get a helmet! Helmets decrease the risk of head injury in accidents by 85% when worn properly.

Check Up! Both you and your bike need to be ready to ride.

Know the Rules of the Road

For the most part Rhode Island law treats bicycles as vehicles just like cars, motorcycles, limos etc. So, just like a driver, there are certain laws that you have a responsibility to follow. Here are the three most important for day-to-day cycling:

- Ride to the right of the road; go with the traffic not against it. Drivers are used to looking a certain way to see if anyone is coming before they turn. Riding the wrong direction (against traffic) makes you more likely to get hit. As you ride with traffic keep to the far right of the lane you need to use.
- Obey all traffic laws. Just like a driver of an automobile you must follow traffic signals and road signs. Again, this is for your safety.
- Use turn signals. But bicycles don't come with turn signals! So use your hands.

Getting the most out of the South County Bike Path:

This path served as a rail spur from the main line to Narragansett Beach. It begins at historic Kingston Station and passes through sections of the Great Swamp. It then connects to Peace Dale and Wakefield, passing many commercial areas as it makes its way into Narragansett.

Where to Park:

- Kingston Station on Route 138
- Intersection of Railroad Street and Route 108 in Peace Dale
- Main Street at Robinson Street in Wakefield

Attractions Nearby

- Wildlife observation, hiking and paddling in Great Swamp Management Area, Tri-Pond Park and Saugatucket River, recreation fields, beach with swimming at Narragansett Town Beach.
- Kingston Station, Kingston village, main street area of Wakefield, South County Museum, art galleries.
- Shops, restaurants, grocery stores, schools, college, library, bike shop.

Rules of the Bike Path

- The Bike Path is open for public use from dawn to dusk.
- Weather Permitting, bicycling, walking, jogging, and roller blading are permitted.
- Obey all traffic rules and signs:
 - Ride on the right in single file.
 - Walk, job and skate on the left side, facing oncoming bicyclists.
 - Use proper hand signals.
- Warn others of your intentions – verbal notification is required when passing others.
- Wear protective equipment.
- Walk your bike across curbs and intersecting streets.
- Dogs must be on a leash that is a maximum of six feet in length and must be controlled in accordance with regulations noted in the Town Code under Chapter 3. Animal and Fowl, Article II.
- Remember the bike path is off limits to horses and all unauthorized motorized vehicles.
- Alcoholic beverages and glass containers are not allowed.
- Snow and ice will not be routinely removed from the bike path due to liability concerns. Cross country skiing will be permitted when the bike path has adequate snow cover.
- Snowmobiles are prohibited.
- The bike path can be used for non-competitive community events under specific stipulations authorized by the South Kingstown Parks and Recreation Commission.



For more information or to get involved in Healthy Places by Design, please contact Vincent Murray, Town Of South Kingstown Planning Department at 789-9331 x1244 or Kathi Crowe, South County YMCA at 789-3900.