

Extra Care Checks Deaths

As if by magic with the coming of warm weather throughout the entire country, the nation's approximately 50 million bicycle riders began appearing on streets, sidewalks and parks.

Gerald E. Montgomery, Executive Director of the Greater Detroit Safety Council urges that both cyclists and motorists operate their respective vehicles defensively. In 1968, there were about 800 fa-

talities and 38,000 injuries resulting from collisions between bicycles and motor vehicles.

About three-quarters of the bicycle-motor vehicle collisions take place in the six-month period from April through September. According to a recent National Safety Council study, more boys than girls become involved in these collisions. The study also determined that bicycle-motor vehicle accidents were about

50% more prevalent among children in the 10 to 14 age group than children below age 10. The reason seems to be that younger cyclists are more likely to ride on sidewalks and other non-traffic areas.

CHECK YOUR LOCAL ordinance regarding where, your children can ride. In Detroit it is illegal for any child under 12 to ride in the public streets. At age 12 and older, he must have

written permission from his parents or guardian on his person if he rides in the streets.

The following tips should be observed by every cyclist interested in safety.

- Ride with traffic on the right side of the road, not against traffic on the left.
- Walk bicycles across heavily traveled intersections. To turn left at an intersection, stay to the right, dismount and walk the bicycle across one street, then head left to the opposite corner.
- If you ride in a group, travel single file, not side by side.
- Use hand signals to show the direction you intend to turn.
- If you ride at night, have a white front lamp and a red rear light in good working order. Reflective tape and light colored clothing are also recommended.

• Use both hands to control the bicycle at all times (except when signaling). Attach a basket or rack to the bicycle if you intend to carry books or packages when riding.


For a free copy of "What Every Bike Rider Should Know" mail a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Greater Detroit Safety Council, 857 Virginia Park, Detroit 48202.

Yankee

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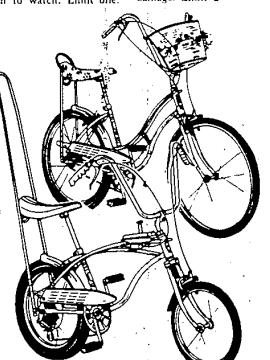


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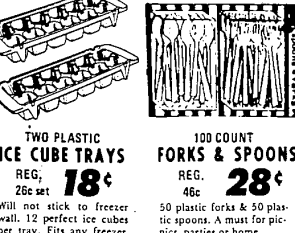


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