

NOTICE OF PROPOSED GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

043018-Share the Road news release

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. s. 227.112, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation is hereby seeking comment on 043018-Share the Road news release [Wis. Stat. ch. 343], a proposed guidance document.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

Comments may be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for 21 days by:

1. Department's website: <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/dot/guidance-docs?guidDocId=OPA169>

2. Mailing written comments to:

Office of Public Affairs
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
4822 Madison Yards Way
PO Box 7910
Madison, WI 53707-7910

WEBSITE LOCATION OF FINAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

The final version of this guidance document will be posted at wisconsindot.gov to allow for ongoing comment.

AGENCY CONTACT

DOTOPAGuidanceDocs@DOT.WI.GOV



State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation

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Motorists asked to look twice, share the road with motorcycles

Release date: April 30, 2018

With over 535,000 Wisconsin residents holding a motorcycle license or permit -- combined with the return of warmer weather -- motorists can expect to see more motorcyclists on roadways. May has been designated "National Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month" and traffic safety officials with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) ask motorcyclists and all other motorists to share the road, be alert and safe.

"Because of their smaller profile, it's easy to misjudge the speed and distance of an approaching motorcycle," said David Pabst, Director of WisDOT's Bureau of Transportation Safety. "That's why we ask car and truck drivers to look twice for motorcycles before pulling out from a stop sign, turning left at an intersection or changing lanes."

Safety tips for motorcyclists:

- Wear all the gear, all the time, including visible and protective equipment
- Pay attention to the road ahead - gravel or other debris on roadways present special challenges for motorcyclists
- Get properly licensed

Motorcyclists have two options to get the required Class M license: pass a motorcycle driving skills test after making an [appointment](#) at a [Division of Motor Vehicles service center](#) or successfully complete a [WisDOT-approved rider education course](#). For successfully completing an approved education course, motorcyclists earn a skills test waiver they use to obtain their Class M license.

"Education courses are designed for beginners as well as other classes aimed at experienced riders," Pabst said. "One trend we see is middle-aged people who drove a motorcycle many years ago, then resume riding on a cycle that's larger and more powerful. A safety refresher course would be a wise investment, and what you learn could save your life." As a group, the motorcycling community is aging. The average age of a motorcyclist involved in a fatal crash increased from 30

years old in 1992 to 44 in 2017.

For more information, contact:

WisDOT Office of Public Affairs
(608) 266-3581, opa.exec@dot.wi.gov

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