

## Be Safe!



One of the goals of the Brewster Police Bicycle Unit is to keep cyclists safe through education.

## Always Wear a Helmet!!

Regardless of age, it is always the smart & safe choice to wear a helmet. The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety statistics show that 89% of bicyclist deaths are people over age 16. The same study shows that helmets reduce the risk of head injury by 85%.

**THE LAW:** In Massachusetts anyone age 16 and under must wear a helmet. Failure to comply could result in the youth's bicycle being impounded by police for 15 days.

## Keep Children Safe!!

Children ages 1-4 must be in a child seat, or on a tandem bike, or in a trailer (no helmet required for children in a trailer).

An infant under 1 year of age cannot be transported by any means on a bicycle.

**THE LAW:** Violations of the above can result in a citation and fine.

## Know the Law

### Follow All Traffic Rules!!

Cyclists must follow all the same traffic rules as someone operating a motor vehicle. Including following street signs and markings.

**THE LAW:** Some of the most common infractions by cyclists include:

- Stop sign/Red light violation.
- Failure to yield when entering road or turning left.
- Failure to yield to a pedestrian in a crosswalk.
- Failure to ride on the correct (right) side of the road.

Notable Exceptions:

Cyclists may ride safely on sidewalks outside of business districts.

Cyclists may pass on the right.



The Brewster Police Bicycle Unit will be out in force monitoring activity on the roadways and bike paths.

## The Bike Path



Here in Brewster, we are fortunate to have six miles of bike paths which are part of the Cape Cod Rail Trail. The Rail Trail is popular for walkers and cyclists alike. There are some important rules of the road to remember when enjoying the bike paths in town:

- When overtaking another cyclist or pedestrian make your presence known first with a bell or a polite "On your left."
- At crosswalks, pedestrians have the right of way, cyclists DO NOT. The stop signs at intersecting roads apply to bicycles. You do not become a pedestrian unless you dismount your bike and walk it across the street. If you opt to stay on your bike, you are just like any other vehicle waiting to pull out of a side street. **Please obey the stop signs!!**

