1. **Remember, Most Bicycle Crashes Are Caused By**

   a. Running stop signs and red lights.
   b. Failing to yield to pedestrians.
   c. Riding on the wrong side of the road.

2. **Bicycle Safety Information**

   **Obey Traffic Signs, Signals and Laws**
   - Bicyclists must obey all the traffic rules that apply to the driver of a motor vehicle if they are to be taken seriously by motorists.
   
   **Bike Lane Safety**
   - Use bike lanes whenever possible.
   - In mixed traffic, ride to the right.
   - Always use the bike lane provided. If there is no bike lane, ride in the rightmost travel lane.

   **Obey Applicable Lane Rules**
   - Ride with traffic flow and as far right as possible. Use bike lane if available.
   - Ride to the right-most portion of road when side is too narrow to share safely.

3. **Use Lights at Night**

   - Headlights should be turned on at dusk and used until the vehicle is driven at a slow speed or when visibility is poor.

4. **Watch for Opening Doors**

   - When possible, ride about a car's door width away from parked cars.

5. **Never Weave Between Cars**

   - Ride in a straight line and avoid weaving between parked cars. Sudden movements may not be seen by you when you are near traffic flow.

6. **Use Hand Signals**

   - Hand signals signal intentions and precautions you might want to do. Signal as a matter of law, courtesy and of self-protection.

7. **Ride Slowly on Sidewalks**

   - On sidewalks, pedestrians have the right of way. You must give way to them.

8. **Scan the Road Around You**

   - Watch constantly for cars, people, debris, etc. Make eye contact with drivers if possible.

9. **Headsets**

   - Headsets can be used with caution, but they block out important audio cues to other traffic and pedestrians.

10. **Left Turns (see Section 316.151[b][c], F.S.)**

    - Most bicycle traffic is a right turn. A bicycle must obey all traffic controls and signals.

   - A bicyclist may yield to a pedestrian or another bicycle before entering the roadway.

   - A bicycle may continue in the lane to the left if the bicyclist is not capable of safely yielding or if through-traffic makes turning difficult.

   - A bicycle should remain in the lane to the left until the turn is completed.

   - Two-lane roads must be ridden in the same direction on a two-way street.

11. **Use of Bicycle Signal (see Section 316.304, F.S.)**

    - A bicycle signal may be used to provide for the safe and orderly movement of bicyclists.

12. **Observe Skill Level of Off-Road Trails**

    - Off-road trail systems vary in levels of difficulty. Choose a trail system that is appropriate for your personal skill level.

13. **Always Wear a Helmet**

    - Nearly 75 percent of all bicycle-related deaths result from head injuries. Wearing a helmet is critical.

    - Florida law requires a bicycle rider or passenger under 16 years of age must wear a bicycle helmet fastened securely to the head. A bicycle helmet may not be considered a head protection system if it is not a helmet system that meets the safety standards of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

14. **Obey Traffic Ordinances**

    - Traffic ordinances may vary from community to community.

    - Some communities allow bicycles on sidewalks.

    - Some communities have bicycle parking and loading areas.

15. **Use Bicycle Lights**

    - At night, bicycles must be equipped with a lamp on the front exhibiting a white light visible at least 600 feet from the front of the bicycle and a lamp on the rear exhibiting a red light visible at least 600 feet from the rear of the bicycle.

16. **Right-of-Way**

    - Bicyclists must yield to pedestrians and other bicyclists, have the right of way over oncoming traffic, and have the right-of-way when entering a roadway.

17. **Pedestrian Rights**

    - Pedestrians have the right-of-way when entering the roadway.

18. **Do Not Pass on the Right**

    - Do not overtake an automobile when approaching an intersection or when the automobile has given a left-turn signal.

19. **Never Ride Against Traffic**

    - Never ride against traffic because you may not have enough time to react to changing conditions.

20. **Observe Urban Speed Limits**

    - Ride slowly on sidewalks.

21. **Obey All Traffic Laws**

    - Bicyclists must obey all traffic laws as well as for moving and non-moving violations.

22. **Civil Penalties**

    - Bicyclists who violate any traffic law may be subject to civil penalties.

23. **Sponsors**

    - **Bike Route Information**

        - **Lee County Transit**
          - For more information about the “Bike Routes” go to: [http://www.rideleetran.com](http://www.rideleetran.com)
          - For the latest edition map is posted on the Lee County MPO’s website at [http://www.lee-county.com](http://www.lee-county.com)

        - **City of Fort Myers Recreation Department**
          - For information on Parks and Greenways, go to: [http://www.leeparks.org/greenways/greenways.cfm](http://www.leeparks.org/greenways/greenways.cfm)

        - **City of Cape Coral**
          - For more information on bike lanes, go to: [http://www.capecoralfl.gov](http://www.capecoralfl.gov)

        - **Florida Department of Transportation, Southwest Area Office**
          - For more information on bicycle safety, go to: [http://www.dot.state.fl.us](http://www.dot.state.fl.us)

24. **Florida’s Bicycle Safety Laws**

    - **Legal Status—Bicycles and Vehicles**
      - In Florida, the bicycle is legally defined as a vehicle. Bicyclists must obey the same traffic laws as operators of other vehicles.

    - **Traffic Law Highlights**
      - Bicycles may be used in the same manner as personal vehicles.

        - Bicycles may only be used on roads that are not closed to motor vehicle traffic.

        - Bicycles must be equipped with reflectors or lights visible at least 600 feet from the back which comply with the requirements for cars.

        - When approaching an intersection, a bicyclist must yield to vehicles, but not to pedestrians.

        - A bicyclist may continue in the lane to the left if the bicyclist is not capable of safely yielding or if through-traffic makes turning difficult.

        - A bicycle should remain in the lane to the left until the turn is completed.

        - Two-lane roads must be ridden in the same direction on a two-way street.

        - Pedestrians and bicyclists must not give way to other pedestrians except in the case of emergency.

        - Every bicycle must be equipped with a lamp on the front exhibiting a white light visible at least 600 feet from the front of the bicycle, and a lamp on the rear exhibiting a red light visible at least 600 feet from the rear of the bicycle.

25. **Headlights**

    - Bicycles must be equipped with a lamp on the rear exhibiting a red light visible at least 600 feet from the rear of the bicycle.

    - A bicycle must be equipped with a bicycle helmet meeting specific safety standards.

    - A bicycle rider or passenger under 16 years of age must wear a bicycle helmet fastened securely to the head.

    - Nearly 60 percent of all fatal bicycle accidents occur during twilight and night hours.

    - Nearly 75 percent of all bicycle-related deaths result from head injuries. Wearing a helmet is critical.

    - A bicycle rider or passenger under 16 years of age must wear a bicycle helmet fastened securely to the head. A bicycle helmet may not be considered a head protection system if it is not a helmet system that meets the safety standards of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

26. **Ride Slowly on Sidewalks**

    - Ride slowly on sidewalks, if applicable.

    - A bicycle rider or passenger under 16 years of age must wear a bicycle helmet fastened securely to the head.

    - Nearly 60 percent of all fatal bicycle accidents occur during twilight and night hours.

    - Nearly 75 percent of all bicycle-related deaths result from head injuries. Wearing a helmet is critical.

    - A bicycle rider or passenger under 16 years of age must wear a bicycle helmet fastened securely to the head. A bicycle helmet may not be considered a head protection system if it is not a helmet system that meets the safety standards of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).