



building a network of cyclists in the greater Carrboro region

## EVENT CALENDAR

**CBC MONTHLY MEETINGS** The Carrboro Bicycle Coalition regularly meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 8 pm in the back training room of the Open Eye Cafe. **HOWEVER, PLEASE NOTE SPECIAL LOCATION FOR SEPTEMBER MEETING BELOW.** The meetings are open to everyone. Come a little early to grab a drink and to socialize. Join us and be a part of something big!

### ART OF THE BIKE ART EXHIBIT

**Now–OCT 23 Carrboro Branch Library**  
40 works from various artists are on display, all portraying the beauty of the bike or the bicyclist, on display and for sale

### THE WHEELS OF CARRBORO

**Now–OCT 23, various locations**  
In conjunction with the “art of the Bike”, 10 wheels decorated by local nonprofits are on display around town. We’ll be having some contests with these in September. Watch our Twitter and FB feeds

### UNC CYCLICIOUS EVENT

**FRI, AUG 26 11 am–2 pm, The Pit**  
Lots of info o biking in the town, plus bike registration, and prizes!



### SUMMER STREETS

**SUN, AUG 28 9 am–2 pm, W. Weaver St. between N. Greensboro and Lindsay**  
The Town of Carrboro will close the street to cars and open it to people, so come play in the street! The CBC will be doing a **fix-a-flat workshop** from 11–1. Come and learn this valuable skill in a hands-on setting.



### CHAPEL HILL MOBILITY PLAN

**input session**  
**TUE, SEP 6 4–7 pm drop in, Chapel Hill Public Library** (see article on p. 4)



### CBC MONTHLY MEETING & SOCIAL—note special location and time

**WED, SEP 14 Social from 6–8 pm, meeting follows at 8. Looking Glass Cafe**

Come meet your local bicycle advocates, along with some of your elected officials. Find out how you can be a part of improving and increasing cycling in our community. We’ll have lots of info and free food! We will follow the social with our regular monthly meeting.



### 2016 NC STATEWIDE BICYCLE SUMMIT

**FRI & SAT, SEP 16–17 Asheville**  
A gathering of planners, advocates, and experts in the field of bicycling and bicycle infrastructure. Special rates for students. Register at [BikeWalkNC.org](http://BikeWalkNC.org)

### BACH MONTHLY MEETING

**WED, SEP 28 6:30 pm, Vimala’s Curryblossom Cafe**  
Chapel Hill’s Bike Advocacy group regular monthly meeting.

### KIDICAL MASS

**SUN, OCT 2 2:30–4 pm, Carrboro Elementary**



An annual event! Introduce your children (and re-introduce yourself) to the joys of riding in large numbers and in a very visible and safe way. Fun and prizes. We’ll do a short ride (with assistance from the Carrboro PD) to let your kids experience riding on the road. Come see what all of the fun is about!

### CBC MONTHLY MEETING

**WED, OCT 12 8 pm, Open Eye Cafe**  
Monthly meeting of the Carrboro Bicycle Coalition, back at our regular location in the back room of Open Eye Cafe

### JEWELRY WITH INNER TUBES!

**WED, NOV 2, Firefly Jewelry Store, Carr Mill**  
Show your creative side. We’re going to make earrings from inner tubes! See more on page 4.

### BIKE FAIRIES

**Ongoing.** The Carrboro Bicycle Coalition has been known to give away gift cards to responsible cyclists.  
Following the same laws as motorists is state law, and it not only earns the motorist’s respect, it also makes the cyclist more predictable and safer. So stop at those stop signs—it could earn you a free cup of coffee.

For more events and updates: [bikecarrboro.com](http://bikecarrboro.com)

## New State Laws are Good News for Cyclists

Last year, the legislature asked NCDOT to study the existing laws that affect cyclists and to suggest revisions, stating that the laws were decades old and needed to be updated. Representatives from BikeWalkNC and other cycling entities in the state had a seat at that table and worked hard on behalf of cyclists and their safety. As a result, we now have some new laws coming from HB 959 that will help make roads safer for both cyclists and motorists. Lisa Riegel, Executive Director of BikeWalk NC, came to Carrboro last month and

spoke about the new laws. There were representatives from Carrboro and Chapel Hill planning departments, police departments, local bike clubs and advocacy groups, and some interested citizens. The new laws are outlined below.

### Existing Laws

Bicycles in North Carolina are considered vehicles and as such, cyclists need to follow the rules that apply to motorists. Following these rules makes a cyclist’s actions much

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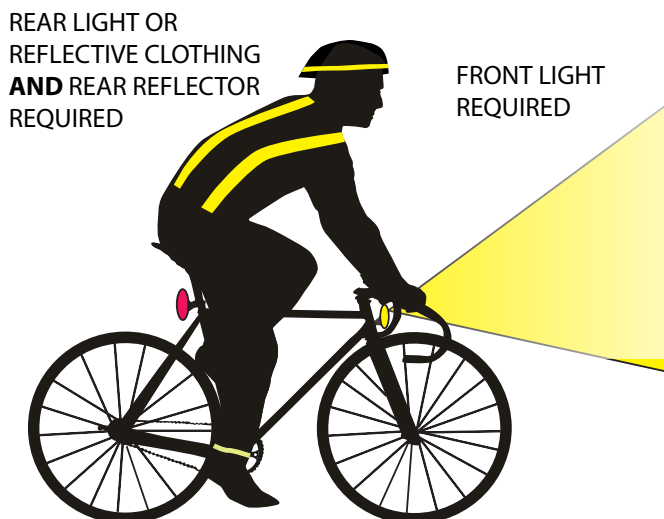
## New Laws (continued from page 1)

more predictable, and keeps the cyclist safer. These laws include: traveling in the same direction as the other traffic, obeying traffic signals, passing on the left and not filtering up beside stopped cars on the right, yielding to emergency vehicles, yielding to pedestrians, signaling for turns and stopping, using lights at night, and not riding while impaired (yep that's the law in NC). There are very few laws that apply solely to cyclists, though there are a few, such as helmets being required on cyclists 16 and under, and not riding on controlled access highways. There are also local ordinances which can restrict bike riding on sidewalks or in other areas.

## What's New

**Safer Passing:** Beginning October 1, it will be legal for motorists to cross a solid yellow/double yellow line to pass slower-moving bicyclists. The new allowance can be found in HB 959 *Section 5.5a of G.S. 20-150(e)* and, to summarize, says that cars may cross the double yellow line when passing a bike or a moped going in the same direction. In addition, the motorist is required to either give 4 feet or to change lanes when he passes the bicyclist. Some motorists were already passing in this manner, but others were hesitant to do it because it was not legal, which will no longer be an issue. (Of course the motorist still needs to have clear sight distance and only pass when safe.) We hope that the state will widely publicize this change in the coming months.

**New Rear Lighting Requirements:** *Section 5.1.a of G.S. 20-129(e)* Beginning December 1, Bicycles must have red rear light or operator must wear reflective clothing when operated at night. The current law says one needs either a rear reflector or a rear light. The new law **keeps** the requirement of a rear reflector, but adds the requirement of a rear light or reflective clothing. The current require-



ment for a front light will continue to be true. (Ed. Note: Several people have commented that it was odd to leave the rear reflector in addition to the rear light. This may be because reflectors are required on all new bikes, or it may be so if the rear light malfunctions, the cyclist has a backup.)

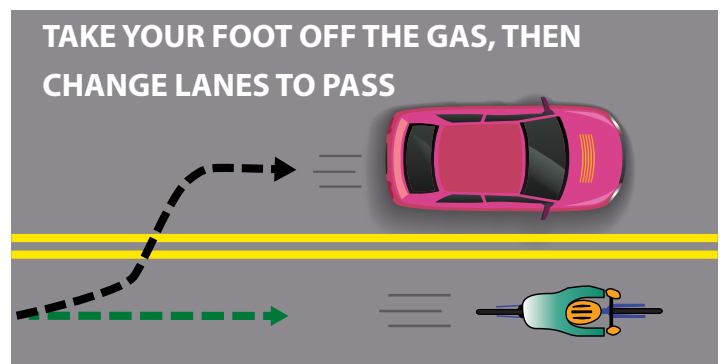
**Stiffer penalties for drivers:** *Section 5.5.c of G.S. 20-154 (a1)*. The new vulnerable user laws increase protection for motorcyclists and extend the protection to bicyclists. They increase penalties and monetary fines for motorists in motor vehicle-motorcycle/bicycle crashes, recognizing that cars and trucks can cause greater injury and property damage.

**Use of alternative right turn signaling:** *Section 5.5.(c) G.S. 20-154(b)*. The traditional way of signaling a right turn has been with your left arm out and bent with the hand pointed upward. The law now includes the alternative signaling of a right turn by extending your right arm out to the right.

**Definition of electric assisted bicycle:** *Section 13.(a) G.S. 20-4.01 (7), (27), (49)*. This enters into N.C. law definitions for electric assist bicycles and differentiates them from motor-driven bicycles and mopeds.

## What Lies Ahead

While the new laws are being well-received by the cycling community, the battle for safe cycling isn't over yet. The laws that were passed this summer were done during the legislative short session. It has been suggested that when the legislature returns in January for the long session, they will be discussing this topic again, and looking at some of the more controversial measures for cyclists that were not discussed in the short session. We will keep you posted about any updates in the fall, and about what you can do to help keep our roads safe and accessible for all road users.



BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, MOTORISTS ARE ALLOWED TO CROSS DOUBLE YELLOW LINE WHEN PASSING CYCLIST. IF THE MOTORIST DOES NOT CHANGE LANES HE MUST GIVE 4 FT. WHEN PASSING.

## Commuting through the Winter: Layers are Key

With summer still turning the corner toward fall, it's hard to imagine that one morning in the next few months your hands or feet will be signaling that not only do the seasons still change, but they can do so with little warning. So it's not too early to start thinking about staying comfortable as a year-round commuter. Here are some cold weather clothing tips to help.

**Extremities first.** Extremities are the most problematic part of winter biking. You don't want to arrive at work or class with fingers too numb to lock your bike. Full-finger gloves with nonslip materials on palms and fingers, especially with a wind blocker, are a good choice. "Lobster claw" cycling mitts are also an option, with the dexterity of regular gloves and the warmth of mittens. Thin liner gloves add another layer of protection. As for your feet, one word, or rather two: wool socks, with a sock liner for additional warmth.

**The noggin.** Your head will lose heat if you leave it uncovered. Pull on a thin cap under your helmet, or go for the full cycling balaclava to protect nose and cheeks as well. On the coldest days, consider goggles or sunglasses to keep that cold wind out of your eyes. (Motorcycle sunglasses have a foam seal to keep the wind completely at bay.) A neck gaiter or a scarf will keep cold air from rushing down the front of your jacket.

**The legs.** You will likely find that denim does little to insulate the legs. Invest in a good base layer of smart wool or other high tech material under your pants to keep you comfy. For the bitterest cold, add a pair of wind pants over the jeans. If your work attire includes a skirt, wear it over leggings or tights, perhaps doubled up with over-the-knee socks or leg warmers, and boots. You can easily shed a few of these layers at the office.

**The core.** Keep it warm without creating a sweaty hothouse environment. Start with a moisture-wicking, breathable base layer (microfiber or wool—cotton is rotten!). Depending on the temperature, a vest with wind proofing in the front and venting in the back might be sufficient. If not, top it with a lightweight jacket or shell that can be removed as you warm up.

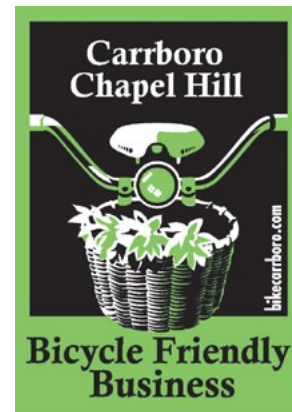
If it's raining, a waterproof or water resistant jacket is likely something you own, but take our advice and invest in a pair of rain pants, too, so you can arrive at your destination without the need to change clothes. Carry extra socks and consider keeping a change of footwear at work. If you have long hair, you might also keep a hair dryer and a towel there.

Finally, as convenient as it can be to shop online, please patronize our local merchants whenever possible. Shopping locally puts many more dollars back into our local economy. Plus, we want the Clean Machine, Back Alley Bikes, Townsend Bertram, and even the PTA Thrift Store (you think we're kidding?) to be there when we need them. Happy riding, and see you on the road this winter!

*Mo Devlin and Colleen Barclay*



Keeping your extremities covered and your core warm with base layers is key to comfortable commuting through the winter. (photo credit: alex888@deposiphotos.com)



## Our newest Bicycle Friendly Businesses

The following businesses have been recognized by the Carrboro Bicycle Coalition as our 2016 Bicycle Friendly Businesses. These businesses have been picked for their bicycle friendliness to cyclists and/or to their cycling employees. We hope you will give them your business! For a full list of our Bicycle Friendly Businesses, go to [bikecarrboro.com](http://bikecarrboro.com) (or look for the logo above on the doors of local businesses). The next round of applications will be in mid-January.

- O2 Fitness, Carrboro
- Interfaith Council for Social Service
- The Yogurt Pump
- Bowbarr
- Loving Kindness Yoga School
- Zog's/Imbibe
- Jimmy John's
- ParCycles

## Register your bike

Are you new to the area? Or did you recently purchase a new bike? Register it for free, and increase your chances of retrieving it if it gets stolen.

If you have a bike on campus, UNC requires that it be registered. Online registration is also available for both UNC and Carrboro on their websites.

Regardless of whether you register your bike(s), you should always photograph them and write down or take a photo of the serial number. And of course, the best deterrent to theft is to lock your bike. See our article elsewhere in this newsletter for tips on which lock to buy.



## From the Town

The Homestead-Chapel Hill Multi Use Path is under construction. GoTriangle Route 405 extension to Carrboro started on August 8. You can now ride from Carrboro to Durham in the morning, and from Durham to Carrboro in the afternoon. There is a stop on Jones Ferry Road at Collins Crossing apartments and one outside Weaver Street Realty on E. Main St. The Town installed a bike rack at Bank of America on E. Main St. for those that want to park their bikes and ride.

## ART OF THE BIKE Campaign

There is still time to see the Art of the Bike Art Exhibit at the Carrboro Branch Library (in McDougle Middle School). The exhibit runs through October 23, and features almost 40 beautiful photographs and paintings of bicycles or cyclists. Several are for sale, and they would make great presents!

In conjunction with the Art of the Bike exhibit, the Carrboro Bicycle Coalition, with support from the Town of Carrboro Arts Commission, has sponsored two community art projects. The first was the “**Wheels of Carrboro.**” We handed out 10 wheels to 10 nonprofits and asked them to decorate the wheels. We showed the wheels at a 2nd Friday Artwalk and asked the public to vote on their favorite wheel. The winning nonprofit, TABLE, received a \$100 donation to its program. In addition to TABLE, we had wheels from Art Therapy Institute; Blue Ribbon Mentor-Advocate; Carrboro Bicycle Coalition; Eyes, Ears, Nose, and Paws; KidSCOPE; Orange County Literacy Council; Planned Parenthood; PORCH; and WCOM. Look for the wheels as you go around town as they are being displayed at various locations through the middle of October. There will even be a few contests with prizes, so be sure to follow bikecarrboro on Facebook or Twitter!

The second event was a **poster contest** for school-aged children with the theme, “Happy on a Bike.” Elizabeth Kuhlman was the top prize winner, followed by Stella Moorman and Anna Maiwald. The top 3 winners received cash prizes, and their posters are hanging in the library with the art exhibit.

The third event will be coming up in November. We will have a **jewelry workshop** held at Firefly jewelry store in Carr Mill Mall, making earrings from **inner tubes**. No prior experience needed! Firefly will provide us with the tools, and Clean Machine will provide us with the inner tubes. Come make someone a unique birthday present!

## Chapel Hill Mobility Plan Needs Your Input

Where does Chapel Hill need new bike lanes, sidewalks and other improvements?

The Town of Chapel Hill wants your input in developing a **Mobility and Connectivity Plan** that will recommend sidewalk priorities, connections to significant destinations, closing gaps in walkability, and encouraging healthier and more active behavior in residents and visitors. Residents are asked to provide input on the plan’s goals and objectives, and its vision statement.

The next drop-in public input session will take place on Tuesday, **Sept. 6**, in Meeting Room A of the Chapel Hill Public Library. Drop in any time between 4 and 7 p.m.

Don’t Want to Wait? You can give your feedback right now. Visit [townofchapelhill.org/mobilityplan](http://townofchapelhill.org/mobilityplan) to take the Mobility and Connectivity Plan survey and leave your feedback on Chapel Hill’s WikiMap.

The **Carrboro Bicycle Coalition (CBC)** is a 501(c)3 nonprofit advocacy group that seeks to create a bicycle friendly community through cycling awareness, education, safety advocacy and promotion of bicycling for transportation, recreation, fitness, and a livable future. The CBC is a member of 1% for the Planet.

## Locks, Locks, Locks

You have a bike you like, right? Let’s start there.

Do you have a good enough lock to keep that bike from disappearing? There’s so many ways to lock up a bike—bad ones, good ones, great ones.

Here’s a quick rundown on all of your lock options. Some are more expensive than others, but think of bike locks as bike insurance—if you pay for a nice lock, it’ll probably serve you better than a cheap one. And every time you have lug that thing around, run a quick mental cost/benefit analysis. Would you rather wake up to a gone bike?

**Cable locks:** A really bad idea. Yes, they are lightweight and flexible, but they can be cut with a \$15 pocket tool. We live in a college town with a lot of bikes, and those looking for an easy theft rely on this inferior style of lock. (By the way, fat cable locks aren’t any better.)

**Chain locks:** A splendid alternative to the dismal cable lock—they have that same attractive flexibility, and only weigh and cost a wee bit more. Now, three foot bolt cutters are needed to yank your beloved bike. Check out the Abus Catena lock, available at our shop. Three feet of covered chain (to protect the bike). Just wrap around your seat post for easy carrying. A good lock.

**U-locks:** Old reliable. In my sixteen years at the Clean Machine, I’ve only heard of one U-lock being busted, and that was to retrieve a stolen bike. It took quite a while with a cordless angle grinder. (FYI, no one walks around with those here.) The downside to U-locks is that rigid U shape. You’ve got to get right up against the rack or signpost. The carrying bracket is also annoying, but, hey, these do great at their main job of protecting. (My personal fave in this department is the smallest U along with a set of bolt-on (i.e., not quick-release) skewers.

*Note: Heavy steel U-locks have so much been the standard for so long, some lightweight aluminum imitators have recently emerged on the market. They look identical (to fool thieves), but they can be easily cut. To replace Old Reliable with a product that protects purely on deception might not be the best plan.*

**Folding locks:** Of course, somebody somewhere had to develop something better than our U-lock standard. Enter the Abus Bordo. Lightweight, flexible, great carrying bracket, easily fits around the bike/front wheel/bike rack combo, AND takes an unseen craftiness to bust through. Whoa! What’s not to love?! The price tag. These pups are twice the price of a good U-lock. But if you fall into that “purchase the best and don’t look back” category, these are so worth it. Most definitely a superb lock.

So there you are. Boom. The quick and dirty of bike locks.

*Tamara Sanders, Manager of the Clean Machine*

ADVERTISEMENT

# BIKE & CHILL

A benefit event for Split Rock

A 30 mile ride with the best-ever after-ride party. Catered lunch, local beers, an awesome raffle, lake with a zipline, and more!



Visit [www.romr.com/events/splitrockbike](http://www.romr.com/events/splitrockbike)