

Set fines for cyclists

Dufferin County's picturesque landscape is a perfect environment for cycling. As a result, many local residents and visitors to our area take advantage of the rolling hills of Dufferin as a popular cycling location.

Many cyclists are well versed in their sport and know the rules of the road. This release will provide some of the rules and regulations under the Highway Traffic Act of Ontario.

Under the Ontario's Highway Traffic Act (HTA), a bicycle is defined as a vehicle and cyclists are required to obey the rules of the road.

The Highway Traffic Act requires vehicles to turn out to the right to allow the vehicle to pass when being passed by vehicles travelling at a higher rate of speed. The Act further requires that slow moving vehicles move to the right, but this is only when being passed. The move to the right is to facilitate the space to allow a faster vehicle to safely pass.

The OPP recommends that cyclists ride as close as practicable to the right curb of the roadway, except when:

- ? Travelling at the normal speed of traffic
- ? Avoiding hazardous conditions
- ? The roadway is too narrow for a bicycle and a motor vehicle to travel safely side-by-side
- ? Riding alongside another cyclist in a manner that does not impede the normal movement of traffic
- ? Preparing to make a left turn, passing another vehicle, or using a one-way street (in which case riding alongside the left curb is permitted).

Here is a cycling violations list of fines derived from the Highway Traffic Act of Ontario (which includes violation set fine, court cost, and victim surcharge): cyclist failure to signal \$110; cyclist fail to identify self when stopped by an officer \$110; careless driving \$490, drive on a closed road \$110; disobey stop sign, fail to stop \$110; fail to yield to traffic which has the right of way at an intersection, or from a driveway \$110; fail to yield at a yield sign \$110; unsafe turn movement or lane change \$110; fail to stop at red light \$325; drive the wrong way on a one-way road \$110; fail to bear right for an emergency vehicle with an active siren \$110.