This map is intended to provide information to help you get out and ride your bicycle in Monroe County. Whether commuting to work or school, going shopping or to the park, or just riding for fun, bicycling is a great way to get around and to experience Monroe County.

This map is for illustrative purposes only and the features depicted on it are approximate. Roads on this map were categorized using road width, traffic volume, traffic speed, and community input to approximate bicycling suitability. The categorizations are intended to help you get around, but do not represent a declaration of safety of any particular road and neither the County nor the City of Bloomington in no way warrant the safety of the roadways. Please ride the roads and trails in Monroe County and the City of Bloomington at your own risk. Note that some sections of roads in Monroe County and the City of Bloomington are narrow, winding and steep with limited sight distances, and have high seasonal traffic volumes. Consider your bike handling skills, riding experience, the weather, and road conditions when deciding when and where to ride.

FOR A SMOOTH RIDE:
Motorists may not expect bicyclists on the roadway, and faster speeds are common on many county roads. Pause in high-visibility places to have a snack, check your bike, or take a rest. Hills can be rewarding to conquer and a blast to cruise down. To stay safe, be alert to road conditions and approaching cars, especially entering curves. Maintaining your center of gravity towards the rear of the bike can help you maintain control while going downhill.

IF YOU ARE CHASED BY A DOG:
Retreat if you simply shout a firm “No!” or “Go Home!” These phrases are heard often enough to cause the dog to stop and remind him that you are human—not a scary extraterrestrial invading its territory. You might also spray it with your water bottle.

FOR YOUR PERSONAL SAFETY:
For your personal safety, wearing a helmet while bicycling is the most effective way to protect your brain if you’re in a crash. Make sure your helmet fits properly. Wearing a helmet improperly is the same as not wearing a helmet at all.

HOW TO FIT A HELMET:
1. Place the helmet on your head without fastening the straps. There should be a two finger width between your eyebrows and helmet.
2. There should be little movement when you shake your head from side to side.
3. The side straps should come to a point just below your ears forming a “Y” shape.
4. When your mouth is closed, there should be about half an inch between the chin strap and your chin.

NOTES:

- For map revisions go to www.bloomington.in.gov/bike
- Monroe County Bike Trails may use a variety of surfaces on the connecting roads. Bicyclists should be aware of potential hazards while using these roads.
- Monroe County Public Access Trails have varying levels of difficulty and may require the use of mountain bike tires.
- Monroe County Public Access Trails are open to bicycles, horses, and hiking. Horses are only allowed on designated trails.

BIKE RIDE – John F. Kennedy

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

1. Always ride on the right side of the road.
2. Always use hand signals when changing lanes.
3. Always yield to pedestrians.
4. Always yield to other bicycles.
5. Always yield to cars.

THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR:

1. Road hazards such as potholes, cracks, and debris.
2. Other cyclists.
3. Pedestrians.
4. Other vehicles.

THINGS TO BE AWARE OF:

1. Weather conditions such as rain, snow, and wind.
2. Traffic conditions such as heavy traffic.
3. Road conditions such as construction.
4. Other cyclists.

THINGS TO DO WHEN RIDE IN LOW LIGHT:

1. Use reflectors and lights to stand out to motorists.
2. Be aware of your surroundings.
3. Use rear-view mirrors and shoulder checks.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Always think about your surroundings.
2. Always think about your safety.
3. Always think about other people.
4. Always think about the weather.

THINGS TO KNOW:

1. Always know your limits.
2. Always know your route.
3. Always know your bike.
4. Always know your destination.

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

1. Always remember to have fun.
2. Always remember to ride safe.
3. Always remember to ride smart.
4. Always remember to ride strong.

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