

## May is Bike Month

Bike to School Day  
[www.walkbiketoschool.org](http://www.walkbiketoschool.org)

Annual event held in early May promotes fun and safe travel to school by bike.



Bike to Work Day  
[www.biketoworkmetrodc.org](http://www.biketoworkmetrodc.org)

Free annual event held on a Friday in mid-May draws nearly 20,000 regional participants.



There are three bike repair stations throughout the City of Takoma Park. The stations offer basic tools for bike maintenance and a bike pump.



## Share the Road and Be Safe

### Motorists

- Respect bicyclists — share the road with cyclists and drive with courtesy and tolerance.
- Check your blind spots — a bicyclist could be there!
- Come to a complete stop at every stop sign and red light.
- Signal all turns and lane changes 100 feet in advance. When turning right, safely enter the bike lane before completing the turn.
- See the signs — bike lanes, signs and pavement markings indicate cyclists are nearby.
- Be patient — pass bicyclists only if it is safe to do so and with at least 3 feet of clearance.
- Be courteous — yield to pedestrians and bicyclists at crosswalks.



### Cyclists

- Follow the rules of the road — Cyclists have the same rights and duties as other drivers and must follow the same traffic laws.
- Be predictable — ride in a straight line, signal turns and look back before turning or changing lanes.
- Come to a complete stop at every stop sign and red light.
- Use a bell and lights (both front and rear), and keep your bike well-maintained.
- Don't ride with headphones.
- Be courteous — pedestrians have the right of way on trails and sidewalks.
- Wear a helmet — If you're under 18, it's the law in Montgomery County!

## Capital BikeShare

Capital Bikeshare is a unique transportation system designed to get you from point A to point B, similar to a bus or a train.

Join Capital Bikeshare by choosing a membership, take a bike from one of hundreds of stations, ride to your destination and return your bike to any station. Repeat as many times as you would like throughout your membership period.

All trips under 30 minutes are free!



Capital Bikeshare provides members with shared access to thousands of bikes and hundreds of stations throughout the District, Arlington, Alexandria and Montgomery County.

For station locations, visit [capitalbikeshare.com](http://capitalbikeshare.com).

1-877-430-BIKE (2453) • [CapitalBikeshare.com](http://CapitalBikeshare.com)

- Join at the Stations
- Join Online



join.



take.



ride.



return.

### Capital BikeShare Stations in Takoma Park

1. Philadelphia and Maple Avenue
2. Maple and Richie Avenue
3. Carroll and Westmoreland Avenue
4. Carroll and Ethan Allen Avenue
5. Washington Adventist University (Flower Avenue and Division Street)
6. Takoma Park Recreation Center
7. New Hampshire and Kirklynn Avenue

## Pavement Marking

Bicycle pavement markings reinforce the legitimacy of bicycle traffic on the street. Motorists must share the road with cyclists, and show them courtesy and respect.



Shared lane markings or "sharrows" communicate shared spaces for bike to all road users, and help direct cyclists at traffic circles and key turns along neighborhood bike routes.

Some streets in Takoma Park have striped shoulders marked for bikes. If space exists for a striped shoulder or bike lane on only one side of the road, it is usually placed in the climbing direction for slower moving cyclists.



Contra-flow Bike Lanes are bike lanes designed to allow bicyclists to ride in the opposite direction of motor vehicle traffic. This is demonstrated on Grant Avenue in Takoma Park.

## Follow the Signs



Ride the "Takoma Greenways," neighborhood routes that connect regional trails with local destinations on quiet streets shared with traffic. Cyclists should watch for speed bumps and pedestrians in the roadway.



These small signs will help you get to know the Metropolitan Branch Trail, linking Silver Spring with Union Station through a combination of signed on-street routes and off-road trails. Learn about the history and future of the trail: [www.metbranchtrail.com](http://www.metbranchtrail.com)

City of Takoma Park  
Housing and Community Development  
7500 Maple Avenue  
Takoma Park, Maryland 20912  
301-891-7119  
[planning@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:planning@takomaparkmd.gov)

We hope this map will help guide your cycling adventures in and around Takoma Park with safety tips and resources along the way.



WELCOME!

## Bike to School

The Takoma Park Safe Routes to School program aims to encourage students to safely walk or bike to school. Safe Routes offers regular school based programs to teach students the best safety practices when walking and biking to school and around town. Schools are invited to participate in the annual Bike to School Day event in May.

[www.takomaparkmd.gov/hcd/safe-routes-to-school](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/hcd/safe-routes-to-school) or contact: [lucyn@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:lucyn@takomaparkmd.gov).

## Safety Tips



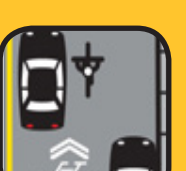
**Use Appropriate Hand Signals**  
Tell motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians what you intend to do. Be predictable.



**Always Wear a Helmet**  
Helmets dramatically reduce the risk of head injury in a bicycle accident. Montgomery County law dictates that all riders under 18 years of age must wear a helmet.



**Follow All Traffic Laws**  
Like motorists, bicyclists are required to obey all regulatory signs and traffic signals.



**Share the Road**  
Lanes marked with a bicycle symbol and/or "Share the Road" signs are to be shared by both motorists and bicyclists.



**Be Alert, Scan the Road**  
Always know your surroundings and check over your shoulder before initiating maneuvers. Watch for storm drains, wet pavement, loose gravel, and other potential obstacles.



**Never Ride Against Traffic**  
Ride with traffic to avoid potential crashes. (Unless bike facility is contra-flow).



**Ride in the Appropriate Position and Lane**  
Do not ride in a Right Turn-Only lane if you are going straight. In narrow lanes or slow traffic it may be safer to take the whole lane.



**Be Careful at Intersections and Driveways**  
Use caution since most collisions occur at intersections. Watch for turning vehicles and cars leaving driveways.



**Walk Your Bike at a Crosswalk**  
Remember, pedestrians present at a crosswalk always have the right-of-way when crossing a road.



**See and Be Seen**  
Establish eye contact to ensure motorists know you are there. Wear bright or reflective clothing.



**Options for Turning Left**  
1. - Make the left turn as a vehicle, or  
2. - Cycle straight through to the far right corner of the intersection and cross as a pedestrian.



**Don't be a Distracted Bicyclist**  
Do not use headphones or hand-held devices while riding your bicycle.



**Beware of Car Doors**  
They can open any time. When possible ride at least 5 feet away from parked vehicles, as well as buses making scheduled stops.



**Remain Visible**  
Use lights when riding in low visibility conditions, including darkness. At least one front white light and one rear red flashing light. Wear bright clothing and make sure your bike has reflectors.



**Use the Bike Rack on Buses**  
The bike rack on the front of each bus can store two bikes. Customers are responsible for loading and unloading their bikes.

## Bike and Transit

Most Metro stations have bike racks and some have lockers available for rent, so you can ride your bicycle to a station, leave it there and take Metrorail or Metrobus. Bike & Ride facilities at some Metro stations provide inexpensive, yet secure bike parking with card access. This is a great option for those that live far from work.

Bicycles and folded bicycles are permitted on Metrorail during all operational hours on any car of any train, provided space is available. Metro reserves the ability to restrict bicycles for special events such as Fourth of July or Inauguration Day.



Metrobus and RideOn are equipped with a rack that can hold two bikes, including children's bikes. Riders are responsible for loading, securing, and removing your bike from the rack.

More information can be found at: <https://www.wmata.com/service/bikes/>

## Bike Smart & Connected

There are a number of interactive maps and online tools which can help experience riders and beginning cyclists to navigate on two wheels.

**Montgomery County Interactive Bike Map**  
<http://bikemap.montgomerycountymd.gov/>

**Maps and Guides for DC and Northern Virginia**  
[www.waba.org/resources/maps-and-documents/](http://www.waba.org/resources/maps-and-documents/)

**Google Maps** can also be used to view on-street and off-street bike facilities and plot routes to your destination. Set the filter to provide bike directions: [www.google.com/maps](http://www.google.com/maps)

**Smart Phone Apps**  
**Transit** — <https://transitapp.com/>

**The Transit app** shows the location of all available bikeshare systems including Capital Bikeshare, dock-less bikeshare, and electric scooters.

**Regional Bike Organizations**  
**Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA)**  
[www.waba.org](http://www.waba.org)

**Montgomery Bicycle Advocates (MoBike)**  
[www.internetigloo.com/mobike](http://www.internetigloo.com/mobike)

**Bike Maryland**  
[www.bikemd.org](http://www.bikemd.org)

**Montgomery County Commuter Services**  
[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dir/commuter/](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dir/commuter/)

**League of American Bicyclists**  
[www.bikeleague.org](http://www.bikeleague.org)

## Bike Friendly Living

Takoma Park's vibrant and unique commercial districts and farmers markets are all accessible by bike. For more information, see:

**Crossroads Farmers Market**  
[www.crossroadscommunityfoodnetwork.org](http://www.crossroadscommunityfoodnetwork.org)

**Takoma Park Farmers Market**  
[www.takomaparkmarket.com](http://www.takomaparkmarket.com)



**Crossroads Development Authority**  
[www.takomalangleycrossroads.com](http://www.takomalangleycrossroads.com)

**Long Branch Business League**  
[www.discoverlongbranch.com](http://www.discoverlongbranch.com)

**Old Takoma Business Association**  
[www.mainstreettakoma.org](http://www.mainstreettakoma.org)

Travel by bike to the Takoma Park Community Center and Takoma Park Maryland Library to access a variety of cultural, civic, and recreational activities!

### Bike Shops in Takoma Park

**Takoma Bicycle**  
7030 Carroll Avenue  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
(301) 270-0202

[www.takomabicycle.com](http://www.takomabicycle.com)

## City Bikeways

The City of Takoma Park works to maintain and improve a growing network of signed on- and off street bike routes and infrastructure. This includes striped shoulders, sharrows, contra-flow bike lanes, and 2.5 miles of the Sligo Creek Trail maintained by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. A small section of City-maintained Metropolitan Branch Trail is in Takoma Park which connects to the Montgomery College campus.

The City makes improvements in the Takoma Park bikeways network as projects occur, installing pavement markings, signing routes, adding bike parking, and supporting the expansion of bikeshare facilities. City-sponsored bikeway projects, bike programs, and events are interdepartmental efforts including Housing and Community Development, Public Works, Police, and Recreation.

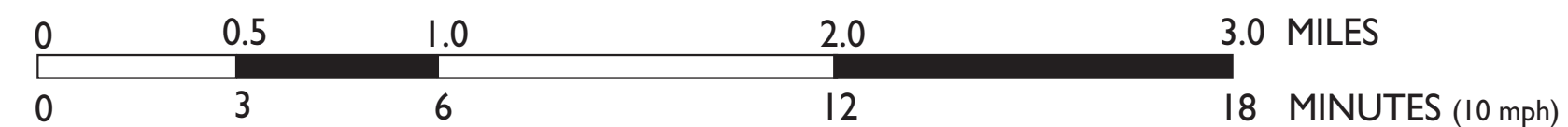


Bike Takoma Park





# TAKOMA PARK BIKE MAP



## LEGEND

- SHARED-USE TRAIL (may be crushed gravel)
- BIKE LANE / PAVED SHOULDER
- SIGNED BIKE ROUTE / SHARED ROAD
- ROAD CLOSED TO TRAFFIC ON WEEKENDS
- CITY OF TAKOMA PARK
- UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK CAMPUS
- PARK (City/County/National)
- STREAM / POND
- METRO LINE (green/yellow/red)
- CAPITAL BIKESHARE (5/1/14)
- BIKE SHOP
- COMMUNITY / RECREATION CENTER
- PUBLIC LIBRARY
- UNIVERSITY / COLLEGE
- SCHOOL
- BIKE REPAIR STATIONS

This edition of the Takoma Park Bike Map was updated in 2019.

See something that needs to be added, improved, or made clearer on this map?

**Contact:**  
Takoma Park Planning Division  
[planning@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:planning@takomaparkmd.gov)



**Contact:**  
City of Takoma Park  
7500 Mapla Avenue  
Takoma Park, MD 20912

[takomaparkmd.gov](http://takomaparkmd.gov)

