SPECIFIC BICYCLING RULES

	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	VIRGINIA	MARYLAND
BICYCLE ON RIGHT NEAR CURB	Bicycle in the right-most lane available for traffic, or as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway, except when turning left or passing.	Bike as close to the right as possible, except when turning left, passing, or avoiding hazards or traffic in mandatory turn lane. Does not apply in lanes too narrow to share with motor vehicle.	Bicycle as close to the right as practicable, except when turning left, passing, or on a one-way street.
PASSING CARS	Pass on the left; may pass on right when automobile is turning left or when street is of sufficient width for two lines of moving vehicles.	Permitted to pass on right or left, pass in same lane or change lanes, or pass off road.	Pass on left; not required to pass on left on one-way street or when passing a vehicle turning left.
BICYLING TWO ABREAST	Permitted when it does not endanger bicyclist or impede traffic.	Banned except on bike paths or on parts of highways designated for bikes.	Same as D.C.
TURNING RIGHT	Stay as close as practicable to right-hand curb.	Same as D.C.	Same as D.C.
TURNING LEFT (see diagram)	*From two-way to two-way streets:* enter and leave intersection near center line of roadway. *One-way to one-way:* keep as close as practicable to left curb.	Three ways permitted: motorist, pedestrian, and crosswalk.	Same as D.C.
RESTRICTED ROADS	No restricted roads. Bicyclist also allowed in bus lanes.	Prohibited from interstate and controlled access highways, as marked.	Prohibited from expressways, toll bridges, toll tunnels, and other marked roads. Must use shoulder where speed limit is over 50 mph and where shoulder is as smooth as road.
CYCLING ON SIDEWALKS	Allowed except in the Central Business District, which is bounded by 23rd St. NW, Massachusetts Ave., 2nd Street NE-SE, D St. SE to 14th St. NW, and Constitution Ave. to 23rd St. NW. Allowed where posted in this area.	Allowed except where prohibited by local jurisdictions, such as Prince William County.	Banned except where allowed by local jurisdictions.
MANDATORY USE OF BIKE PATHS AND LANES	Not required.	Localities (such as Arlington County, Alexandria, and Falls Church) may require use of bike paths when adjacent to road.	Use of bike lane required when available. No required use of separated paths.
HELMETS	No provision.	No provision.	Required for cyclists aged 17 and under in Montgomery County, aged 15 and under in Howard County.