Bicycle Rules and Safety Tips

- ***Before You Ride***
  Wear a helmet and wear brightly-colored, close-fitting clothes.
  Stay-fitting clothing not only cuts down on wind resistance, but is less likely to snag on your bicycle.
  Make sure your bicycle is in tip-top condition. Check tires, chains, brakes, and other moving parts. If you are not sure how to check your bicycle, visit a bicycle shop or talk to a more experienced bicyclist.

  Plan your route carefully. This map may help you avoid more hazardous routes which will contribute to a safer and more pleasant trip.

- ***When Riding***
  Obey all traffic safety laws and rules as if you were driving an automobile, including all traffic signs, signals, and pavement markings.
  Ride as close as practicable and safe to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway, except to avoid hazards such as gutters, broken glass or road debris.
  Ride single file on trails and no more than two abreast on roads.
  Watch for signs prohibiting bicycles. Be aware that in Illinois bicycles are prohibited on some Interstate highways, tollways, and tollways. Other roads may also prohibit bicycles and are marked as such.

- ***Night Riding***
  Take extra precaution when riding at night. When riding at night, you must have the following:
  1. Front white light visible for a distance of at least 500 feet.
  2. Red rear reflector visible for a distance of up to 600 feet or a steady or flashing red rear light visible from 500 feet.
  3. Pedals must be equipped with reflectors and wear brightly-colored clothing with reflector stripes for high visibility.

- ***Making Turns***
  Use hand signals for turns and stops:
  1. For a left turn, extend your left arm out.
  2. For a right turn, extend your right hand out or bend your left arm 90°at the elbow with your hand pointing upward.
  3. For a stop, extend your left arm 90° at the elbows with your hand, pointing downward.

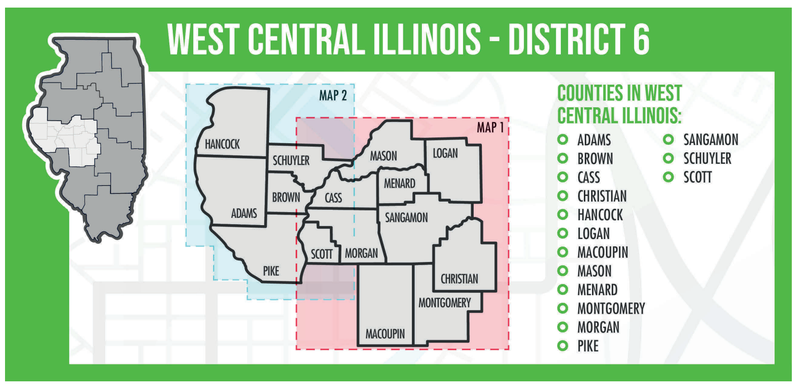
  A left turn may be made in one of two ways:

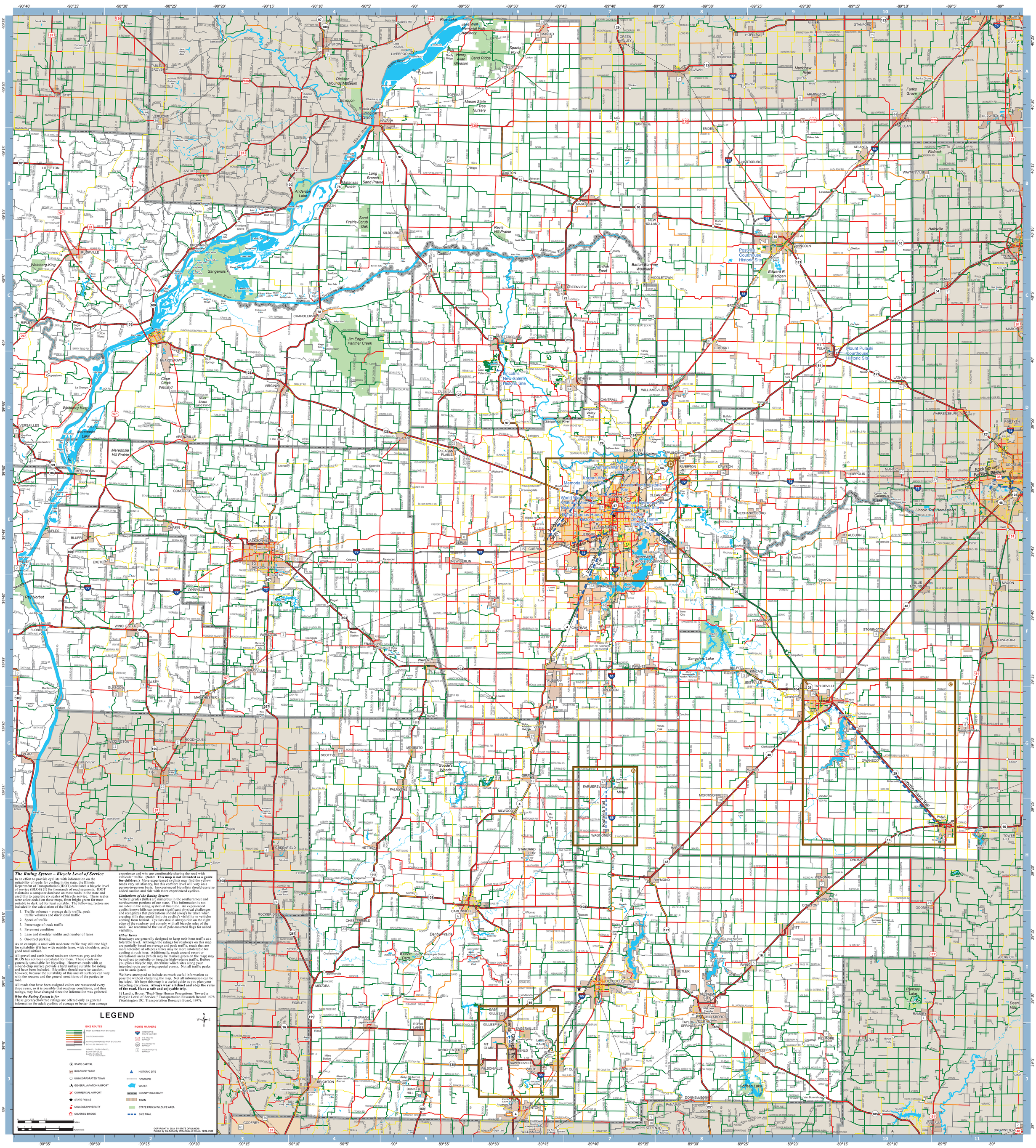
  1. Like a car:
  Use the left-turn lane or left-most lane, stay to the right-hand side of the lane, make your turn when safe and legal to do so;
  2. Like a pedestrian:
  Stay to the right side of the road,
  cross straight ahead when safe and legal to do so, after crossing, wait at corner for signal or safe passage cross again when safe and legal to do so.

- ***Riding on a Sidewalk***
  Local ordinance may prohibit bicyclists from using sidewalks. Where permitted, bicyclists must yield to pedestrians and give audible signals before passing them. Bicyclists using sidewalks have all the rights and duties of pedestrians. Ride slowly. If you wish to ride fast, ride on the road.

- ***Designated Bicycle Lane***
  When the bicycle lane is properly marked on city streets, the bicyclist should always stay within these boundaries. As bicyclists are riding in their designated lane, they should be aware of parked vehicles and be prepared for a door that could unexpectedly open the door. The "Dutch Reach" method is completed when the motorist reaches across with the hand farthest from the vehicle door when preparing to exit. By performing this simple method, the motorist may automatically turn their torso and look back for cyclists. Bicyclists should also look for oncoming bicyclists or other traffic. Some municipalities have roadways with designated bike lanes. Even if bicyclists are not present, vehicles are not allowed to drive, park, idle in this space or pick up passengers in these designated lanes. Bicyclists may need to ride outside the bike lane and motorists should give bicyclists the same amount of space they would give a car. Be aware of the directions a moving vehicle is traveling when properly completing a left or right turn.

Information courtesy Illinois Secretary of State and Ride Illinois.




Illinois River
Mississippi River
Sangamon River
Macinaw River
Kickapoo Creek
Lake Michigan
Rice Lake
Jake Wolf Memorial Fish Hatchery
Henry Allan Gilmason
Sand Ridge
Sparks Pond
Dickson Mounds Museum
Emiquon
Illinois River Biological Station
Mason State Tree Nursery
Long Branch Sand Prairie
Matanzas Prairie
Anderson Lake
Sand Prairie-Scrub Oak
Revis Hill Prairie
Barton-Cormer Woodland
Gunther Farm
Edward R. Madigan
Postville Courthouse Historic Site
Mount Pulaski Courthouse Historic Site
Lincoln's New Salem Historic Site
Sangamon Valley Trail
Rail Splitter
Vietnam War Memorial Historic Site
Korean War Memorial Historic Site
World War I Illinois Veterans Memorial Historic Site
Dana-Thomas House Historic Site
Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum
Lincoln Home National Historic Site
Lincoln Depot Historic Site
Old State Capitol
Illinois State Capitol
Illinois State Museum
Illinois State Fairgrounds
Illinois State Fairgrounds Historic District
Illinois State Fairgrounds Coliseum
Illinois State Fairgrounds Grandstand
Illinois State Fairgrounds Horse Barn
Illinois State Fairgrounds Swine Barn
Illinois State Fairgrounds Sheep Barn
Illinois State Fairgrounds Poultry Barn
Illinois State Fairgrounds Dairy Barn
Illinois State Fairgrounds Beef Barn
Illinois State Fairgrounds Exposition Building
Illinois State Fairgrounds Pavilion
Illinois State Fairgrounds Arena
Illinois State Fairgrounds Stadium
Illinois State Fairgrounds Racetrack
Illinois State Fairgrounds Grounds
Illinois State Fairgrounds Parking Lot
Illinois State Fairgrounds Entrance
Illinois State Fairgrounds Exit
Illinois State Fairgrounds Restroom
Illinois State Fairgrounds Concession Stand
Illinois State Fairgrounds Vendor Booth
Illinois State Fairgrounds Information Booth
Illinois State Fairgrounds Lost and Found
Illinois State Fairgrounds First Aid Station
Illinois State Fairgrounds Emergency Exit
Illinois State Fairgrounds Fire Extinguisher
Illinois State Fairgrounds Fire Hydrant
Illinois State Fairgrounds Fire Alarm
Illinois State Fairgrounds Fire Department
Illinois State Fairgrounds Police Department
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Camera
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Gate
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Fence
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Lighting
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Alarm
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Patrol
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Tower
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Station
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Post
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Uniform
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Badge
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Weapon
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Training
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Manual
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Handbook
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Policy
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Procedure
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Report
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Log
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Schedule
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Roster
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Training Manual
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Training Video
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Training Course
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Training Instructor
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Training Facility
Illinois State Fairgrounds Security Guard Training Equipment
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