

In 1995 the Enforcement For Bicycle Safety (EBS) curriculum was developed by WE BIKE® of Green Bay, Wisconsin under a National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) grant administered by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation - Bureau of Transportation Safety (WisDOT-BOTS).

EBS is a two day course for patrol officers. The course provides officers with the basic bicycle safety and education information that they need to do their jobs. The course has received very high ratings from both participants and supervisors and is gaining national recognition. The course is approved by the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) and can be funded with law enforcement training dollars.

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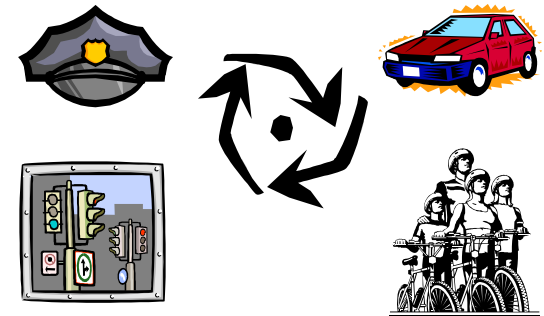
Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin
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A summary of WI bicycling laws available at:

http://www.bfw.org/new_bfw/projects/bicycle_laws.php

Wisconsin Department of
Transportation-BOTS

Enforcement for
Bicycle Safety:
FAQs



A Huge Success

“...it would be a good idea to send every officer through your class.”

—Sgt. F. Gonzales
Bayside PD

“...this is the first time an officer came back from a [class] and shared the information...thank you for the presentation...”

—J.O. Greg Daniels
Greendale PD

What is EBS? How does it work?

Many bicycle-motor vehicle crashes can be eliminated through the education and enforcement of existing laws. Selective enforcement, both for bicyclists and motorists, represents the most immediate opportunity that we have to improve bicycle safety and enjoyment in our communities.

Wisconsin's Enforcement for Bicycle Safety course (EBS) provides law enforcement officers with the additional training that they need to identify and correct behaviors that most commonly lead to bicycle crashes and other bicycle related issues.

This brochure answers some common questions about EBS:

Question: What exactly is Enforcement for Bicycle Safety?

Answer: EBS is a course designed to give law enforcement officers the basic bicycle safety information that they need to manage traffic and provide a safe bicycling environment in their communities.

Q: Why should officers attend this course?

A: How do officers know which laws to enforce, both for bicyclists and motorists, to improve bicycle safety if they don't know what the leading causes of bicycle crashes are?

Bicycles are legal vehicles and, unless specifically prohibited, can be expected on all roadways. Officers come in contact with bicyclists on a daily basis and are expected to be experts on bicycle safety. However, most have

never received any bicycle-specific training. EBS will teach officers which laws to enforce and how to enforce them to improve bicycle safety for young children, teens, adults and motorists alike. Enforcement complements other community education efforts.

Q: Who should attend?

A: The course is designed for all law enforcement officers who have patrol duties and will encounter bicyclists but, officers who patrol by bicycle and those who teach bicycle safety certainly should attend.

Q: Is this the same as cops on bikes training?

A: No. Police Cyclist courses, like those offered by the International Police Mountain Bike Association (I.P.M.B.A) and the Law Enforcement Bicycle Association (L.E.B.A.), focus on teaching officers how to do their jobs while using the bicycle as a patrol vehicle. These courses tend not to emphasize teaching officers about bicycle safety and related issues, EBS does.

Q: How long is the course?

A: The course is 12 hours long and is typically taught on two consecutive days.

Q: Do officers need to bring a bicycle to the course?

A: Yes. Each officer needs to have a bicycle in good working condition and a helmet.

Q: This sounds like pretty easy duty. Why do you have officers go for a bike ride?

A: Bicycling, like shooting a gun, is a skill. It is important for officers to understand, from the seat of a bicycle, what it is like to ride under different traffic conditions. Think of it this way, what officer would want to work with a partner who learned to shoot his gun by watching a video?

Q: What will officers be able to do after taking this course?

A: Officers will have the knowledge necessary to educate and enforce laws which, when enforced properly, will prevent the majority of bicycle-motor vehicle crashes from occurring. They will also have a better understanding of how bicycles fit into the total transportation system.

Q: How much does the course cost?

A: The cost of the course is \$100 per officer. Departments or agencies that sponsor a course will receive free spaces in the course once enrollment needs are met. EBS is approved by the Department of Justice and training dollars can be used.

Q: How can I sign up for a course?

A: To get course registration information contact Larry Corsi - Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Program Manager, Wisconsin Department of Transportation - Bureau of Transportation Safety - 4802 Sheboygan Ave. PO Box 7936, Room 951, Madison, WI 53707-7936, (608) 267-3154, E-mail: larry.corsi@dot.state.wi.us