

Bicycle Safety

Helmets: Bicyclists are strongly encouraged to wear a helmet at all times.

Railroad Tracks: Cross railroad tracks as close to a right angle as possible.

Be Predictable: Avoid sudden movements. Do not surprise motorists, pedestrians, or other bicyclists.

See and be Easily Seen: Wear brightly colored clothes and reflectors. Try not to ride alone. Even two bicyclists are more visible than one. When bicyclists are sharing the roadway with trucks and wide vehicles, a rear view mirror can be a valuable safety benefit.

Use Paved Shoulders: When riding on highways having paved shoulders, it is strongly encouraged to ride on the paved shoulder, if at all possible. Surface shoulder roadways and higher volumes of commercial vehicles (trucks) go hand and hand.

Use Hand Signals: Signaling your intentions is essential to let motorists and riding companions know what you are about to do.

ALWAYS RIDE DEFENSIVELY

Hand Signals



Right Turn



Left Turn



Right Turn



Slow Down or Stop

Nebraska Bicycle Laws Summary

The following is a summary of bicycle laws in Nebraska. This is not an inclusive listing of laws for bicyclist. For more detail, see Nebraska Revised Statutes 60-611, 60-6, 142-144, and 60-6314-319

In Nebraska, bicyclists are required to follow the same rules of the road as motorists. A bicyclist riding on a highway generally has all of the rights of a vehicle and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle (some exceptions do exist).

Restricted Highways (Interstate & Freeway)

Bicyclists are not allowed to ride on Interstate highways or freeways in Nebraska (a freeway is defined as a fully access controlled highway with "no" at-grade crossings).

Mandatory Side Path Law

Nebraska has a mandatory side path law that states that you should not ride your bicycle on the highway if a usable bikepath is adjacent. This does not apply when riding on surface (paved) shoulders.

Equipment on Bicycles

- Have brakes that can stop your bicycle within 25 feet at 10mph. (based on ideal conditions)
- Have a red reflector on the rear of your bike when riding at night.
- Have an attached light on the front of your bike for night riding.
- Have side reflectors on your bicycle wheels when riding at night.
- Have reflectors on your pedals (or shoes) when riding at night.

Note: Although Nebraska has laws that require reflectors and a light on bicycles for riding at night, the Nebraska State Patrol does not recommend riding a bicycle on rural state highways at night due to the higher speeds and reduced visibility.

Ride Single File When Riding on the Highway

When on the highway, bicyclists must ride single file. This does not apply when riding on the surfaced shoulder. However, bicyclists must signal their turn if they leave the shoulder to ride on the highway and must yield the right-of-way to all other vehicles.

Ride as near to the right side of the roadway as practical.

- Unless you are overtaking and passing another bicycle or vehicle;
- Unless you are preparing to make a legal left turn;
- Unless you are traveling the same speed of the current traffic;

Bicycle Laws Continued

- Unless you are traveling on a paved shoulder of a highway;
- Unless it is reasonably necessary to avoid unsafe conditions;
- Unless the lane you are in is too narrow for both vehicle and bicycle to travel side by side;
- Unless you are on a multilane one-way 35mph or less, you may ride as near to the left side of roadway.



Bicycle safety course sponsored by NDOR

For Information On:

Lodging, Attractions & Events:
Nebraska Division of Tourism
PO Box 98907,
Lincoln NE 68509-8907
Website: www.visitnebraska.org
Phone: 1-800-228-4307

Cowboy Trail Information:
Nebraska Game & Parks
Commission
2201 N. 13th St,
Norfolk NE 68701
Website: www.ngpc.state.ne.us
Phone: 402-370-3374

**Bicycle Route Planning, Highway
Construction, and General Bike Info:**
State Bicycle Coordinator
Nebraska Department of Roads
PO Box 94759,
Lincoln NE 68509-4759
Website: www.dor.state.ne.us
Phone: 402-479-4338

EMERGENCY HIGHWAY HELP
Nebraska State Patrol
Phone: 1-800-525-5555
Cellular *55

Nebraska

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Bicycle Guide



Department of Roads

Mike Johanns
Governor

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Director NDOR

BICYCLE GUIDE MAP

STATE HIGHWAYS AND COUNTY ROADS

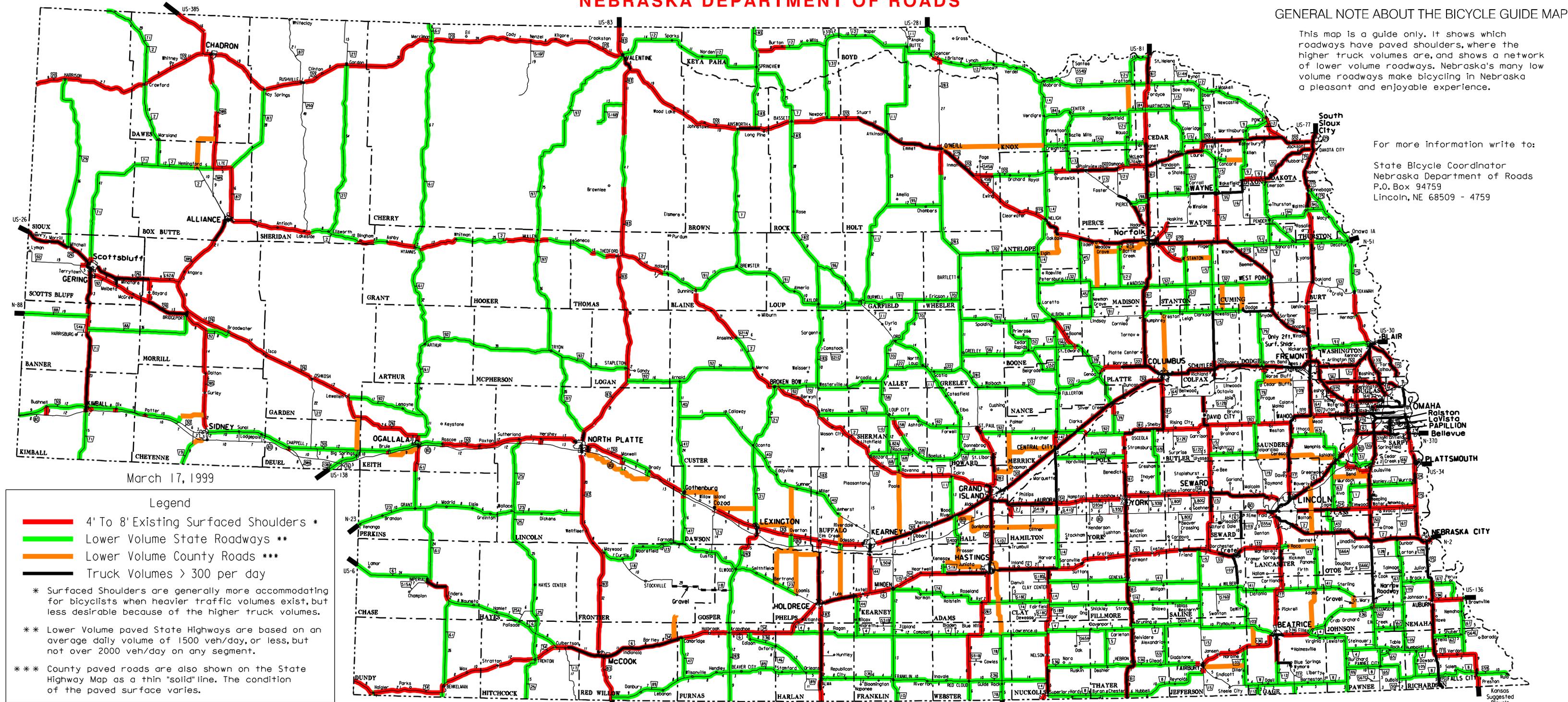
NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ROADS

GENERAL NOTE ABOUT THE BICYCLE GUIDE MAP

This map is a guide only. It shows which roadways have paved shoulders, where the higher truck volumes are, and shows a network of lower volume roadways. Nebraska's many low volume roadways make bicycling in Nebraska a pleasant and enjoyable experience.

For more information write to:

State Bicycle Coordinator
Nebraska Department of Roads
P.O. Box 94759
Lincoln, NE 68509 - 4759



March 17, 1999

Legend

- 4' to 8' Existing Surfaced Shoulders *
- Lower Volume State Roadways **
- Lower Volume County Roads ***
- Truck Volumes > 300 per day

* Surfaced Shoulders are generally more accommodating for bicyclists when heavier traffic volumes exist, but less desirable because of the higher truck volumes.

** Lower Volume paved State Highways are based on an average daily volume of 1500 veh/day, or less, but not over 2000 veh/day on any segment.

*** County paved roads are also shown on the State Highway Map as a thin "solid" line. The condition of the paved surface varies.

Kansas Suggested Bicycle Route