

ROCKLAND COUNTY SAFE STREETS

rocklandsafestreets.org

FALL 2024 NEWSLETTER

As we see changes in weather the Rockland County Department of Health and New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee would like to remind you to stay safe on the roads. Follow New York State vehicle and traffic laws and show kindness to your fellow road users.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

Here are a few safety tips to make sure you arrive safely:

- Follow the rules of the road and obey signs and signals.
- Walk on sidewalks whenever they are available.
- If there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic and stay as far left as possible.
- Cross streets at crosswalks or intersections. Look for cars in all directions, including those turning left or right.
- If a crosswalk is not available, locate an area where you have the best view of traffic.
- Watch for cars entering or exiting driveways, or backing up.
- Avoid alcohol and drugs; they cloud your abilities and your judgment.
- Embrace walking as a healthy form of transportation – get up, get out, and get moving.



BICYCLIST SAFETY

Riding your bike offers fun, freedom, and exercise.

Here are some tips to stay safe while biking:



- Wear a helmet and make sure your bike has reflectors.
- Ride one per seat.
- Carry all items in a backpack or strapped to the back of the bike.
- Tie your shoelaces before riding.
- Pick routes with less traffic.
- Ride in the same direction as traffic.
- Obey street signs, signals, and road markings, just like a car.
- Assume that drivers cannot see you.
- Avoid distractions and watch for pedestrians.
- Pass pedestrians with care by first announcing "on your left" or "passing on your left" or use a bell.
- Always look when crossing the street or intersection.
- Slow down and watch for cars.



AVOID DISTRACTIONS

- Walk smart! Put your smart phone away!
- When crossing streets, look left, right, and all around – except at your cell phone.
- When crossing intersections remove ear buds and pause your conversation.

HALLOWEEN TIPS FOR PARENTS AND KIDS TO STAY SAFE ON TWO FEET OR TWO WHEELS

BE BRIGHT AT NIGHT

- Wear light-colored costumes and add reflective material, sashes, or vests.
- Carry a flashlight to increase visibility when Trick-or-Treating after sunset.
- Walk or bike on streets that are well lit.
- There's safety in numbers! Encourage school age children to walk or ride with friends and always be sure to have an adult with you.



Turn Up Traffic Safety: Youth Ambassador Program

The Rockland County Department of Health is looking for high school students who want to “Turn Up Traffic Safety”, an initiative funded by the New York State Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee.

This program is for young adults to create and implement a traffic safety program to educate their peers and the community on New York State Vehicle & Traffic Laws (V&TL). Candidates should have a strong sense of civic responsibility, a commitment to community development, and desire to develop leadership skills. As part of this after school program, you will:

1. IMPLEMENT an interactive bicycle and pedestrian safety education program to keep the youth and adults safe on the roadways while walking, bicycling, or driving.
2. RAISE AWARENESS on traffic safety and vehicle and traffic laws by educating the community and school-age youth.
3. PROMOTE safe walking and bicycling at a variety of community and school events and fairs, through social media, and to community groups.
4. RECEIVE a small stipend, guidance, and assistance developing the program on biweekly virtual meetings, and any materials needed!

To learn more about the program and/or to sign up, please email ContentJ@co.rockland.ny.us or call 845-364-2500.

TURN UP TRAFFIC SAFETY YOUTH AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

**NORTH ROCKLAND HIGH
SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE
INVITED TO JOIN!!**



**DEVELOP
A BICYCLE
AND PEDESTRIAN
EDUCATION PROGRAM TO KEEP
YOUTH AND ADULTS SAFE ON THE
ROADWAYS**



**RAISE
AWARENESS
OF TRAFFIC
SAFETY
APPROACHES AND
VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC
LAWS BY EDUCATING THE
COMMUNITY AND
SCHOOL-AGE YOUTH.**



**PROMOTE
SAFE
WALKING AND
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VARIETY OF
COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL
EVENTS AND FAIRS, THROUGH
SOCIAL MEDIA, AND TO
COMMUNITY GROUPS.**

- **YOUR HELP IS NEEDED TO DEVELOP A PROGRAM TO EDUCATE YOUR PEERS ON TRAFFIC SAFETY.**
- **CANDIDATES SHOULD HAVE A STRONG SENSE OF CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY, A COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT,**
- **YOU WILL RECEIVE: A SMALL STIPEND, MATERIALS NEEDED, AND GUIDANCE ON DEVELOPING THE PROGRAM.**
- **BI-MONTHLY MEETINGS.**
- **FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE YOUTH AMBASSADOR PROGRAM CONTACT: 845-364-2500**

THIS PROGRAM IS FOR YOUNG ADULTS TO CREATE AND IMPLEMENT A TRAFFIC SAFETY PROGRAM TO EDUCATE THEIR PEERS AND THE COMMUNITY ON NEW YORK STATE VEHICLE & TRAFFIC LAWS (V&TLS).



Rockland County
HEALTH

NEW YORK
STATE OF
OPPORTUNITY
**Governor's Traffic
Safety Committee**

About Micromobility

What are E-Bikes and E-Scooters?

E-Bikes have an electric assist, an electric motor, and operable pedals. E-Bike riders are granted all the rights and are subjected to the same laws a driver of a motor vehicle is subjected to. A bicycle with electric assist doesn't qualify for a registration as a motorcycle, limited use motorcycle, moped, or ATV and does not have the same equipment.

E-Scooters have handlebars, a floorboard or a seat, and can be powered by the electric motor and/or human power. E-Scooter riders, like E-Bikes riders, are granted all the rights and are subject to all the rules applicable to a driver of a motor vehicle.

Legal and Safe Operation of E-Bikes and E-Scooters in New York State:

In Rockland County, the same rules of the road apply to E-bikes or E-scooters as they do for non-motorized bicycles. Rockland County requires everyone to wear a helmet while riding an E-bike, E-Scooter, or a non-motorized bicycle.

Rules for operating an E-Bike or E-Scooter are not uniform throughout New York State as cities and towns have extensive local authority, including the ability to prohibit E-Bikes or E-Scooters, require helmets, or wear reflective clothing.

NYS laws on the operation of E-Bikes and E-Scooters:

- It is illegal to operate an electric scooter more than fifteen miles per hour.
- You can operate an electric scooter or bicycle with an electric assist on some streets and highways in New York State.
- You can operate these devices on highways with a posted speed limit of 30 MPH or less.
- You cannot operate these devices on a sidewalk except as authorized by local law or ordinance.
- Municipalities can further regulate the time, place, and manner of operation of these devices.

For more information about riding E-bikes and E-scooters click this link: <https://trafficsafety.ny.gov/micromobility>



Governor's Traffic Safety Committee

[TrafficSafety.ny.gov](https://trafficsafety.ny.gov)



NHTSA



Rockland County
HEALTH



Funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration with a Grant from the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee.