

For Immediate Release

Kalamazoo Bicycle Club launches 2017 riding season

With the advent of daylight savings time, The Kalamazoo Bicycle Club is optimistic we will begin our season of weekly club rides. Rides will be starting at 5:30pm on March 13 and are usually short to avoid riding after dark. Throughout the year there are group rides scheduled every weekday evening. New rides are being added to the calendar by groups within the club and affiliated bike shops in the city. Participation has grown tremendously with club membership and the popularity of cycling. The club is increasing the number of ride leaders to accommodate beginners and senior participants who prefer a more leisurely riding pace. There are also several specialty rides being developed for those who might want to pursue longer distance and tours as well as country roads

The club would like to remind cyclists that adding daylight to the evening hours extends darkness in the morning. Those who start commuting to work, or students riding to school, should be careful to wear light colored or reflective clothing. Headlights and rear reflectors are not just a good idea, they are required by law. Always obey traffic laws, ride designated bike routes or paths whenever possible and try to avoid riding on sidewalks. According to the Michigan State Police, 5 times more injury accidents occur to cyclists riding on sidewalks than those riding on streets.

The club would like to remind drivers that ordinances have been adopted in both Kalamazoo and Portage requiring 5 feet of clearance when passing non-motorized users on shared facilities.



It's safer, courteous, and the law!

The club maintains an active relationship with the county road commission and provides feedback to help maintain and develop safe road conditions for both motorists and cyclists. Each year the club holds a Bike Camp to educate new and returning cyclists, and promote safer cycling. The club also holds the annual KalTour, a scenic and well supported tour of the country side surrounding Kalamazoo. Information about membership, scheduled group rides and the club's community activities can be found at <http://www.kalamazoobicycleclub.org/>

The non-profit Kalamazoo Bicycle Club was formed in 1971 to promote bicycling in the region. The club's activities include bike safety, advocacy, club rides, racing, touring, and the development of a bicycle-friendly infrastructure in the community.