

Beware of Motorists

Motorists are not normally looking for cyclists so we should do everything we can to help them see us. Don't assume they see you. You are about the size of a pedestrian, traveling at car-like speeds. You're frequently a surprise to motorists, particularly now that drivers have so many distractions such as phones, texting, etc.

Be Visible

A brightly colored, highly visible jersey and helmet are a good start. Low light situations (cloudy, dawn, dusk, rain, etc.) means we should have a front and rear light on. Many of us use a bright blinking red rear taillight daily. Being struck from the rear by a vehicle is not the most common accident, but it is the number one cause of fatalities.

Communicate

Make eye contact with drivers and use hand signals and other friendly gestures to let them know your intentions. A friendly wave of getting their attention is often all it takes. If you don't think the driver has made eye contact with you, then assume they have not seen you and proceed accordingly. Slow down and make sure you have an escape route if that car does something unplanned.