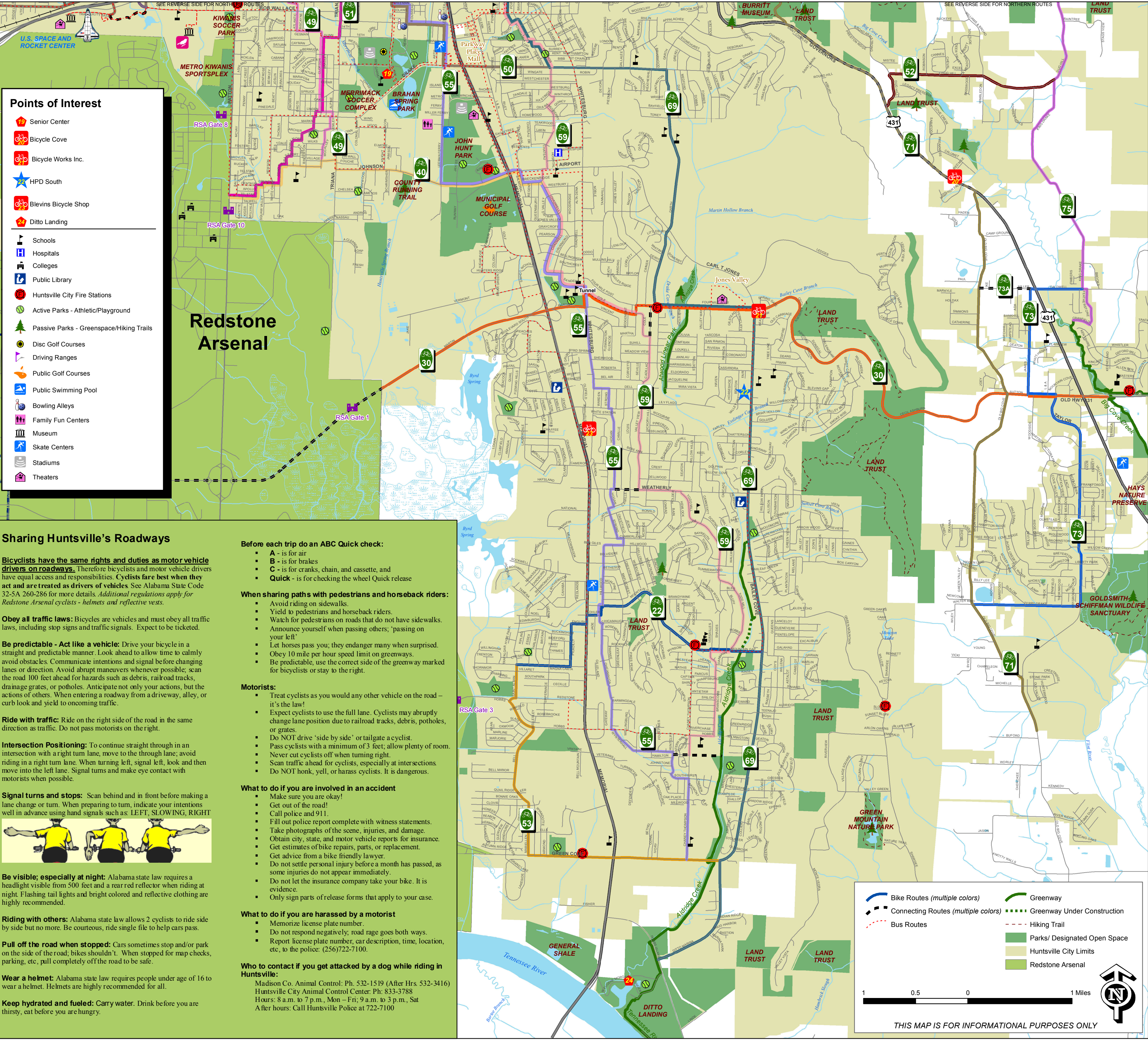




BICYCLE

SOME HELPFUL TIPS FOR MOTORISTS & CYCLISTS

Photo: Andy Brown and David Samsone



Bicycles on Shuttles They go together!

The buses for the 13 Huntsville Shuttle routes have bike racks on the front providing a convenient way to ‘bike-and-ride’.

At any shuttle stop you may load and unload your bicycle. Instructions on the racks help you load your bike securely.

Shuttles run M-F 6am-6pm. In addition, the Tourist Trolley Loop operates Sat 6am-6pm.

For shuttle routes, costs (including monthly discount tickets), schedules, and stop locations go to www.huntsvilleal.gov/PublicTrans or phone 256 427-6811 or ask a bus driver.



Shuttle



Data provided by: Huntsville GIS, Madison County 911 and USGS National Hydrography Dataset



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Map design by Peter J. Hannah, GISP. In cooperation with the Huntsville Bicycle Advisory and Safety Committee (BASCC)

Sharing Huntsville's Roadways

Bicyclists have the same rights and duties as motor vehicle drivers on roadways. Therefore bicyclists and motor vehicle drivers have equal access and responsibilities. **Cyclists fare best when they act and are treated as drivers of vehicles.** See Alabama State Code 32-5A 260-286 for more details. *Additional regulations apply for Redstone Arsenal cyclists - helmets and reflective vests.*

Obey all traffic laws: Bicycles are vehicles and must obey all traffic laws, including stop signs and traffic signals. Expect to be ticketed.

Be predictable - Act like a vehicle: Drive your bicycle in a straight and predictable manner. Look ahead to allow time to calmly avoid obstacles. Communicate intentions and signal before changing lanes or direction. Avoid abrupt maneuvers whenever possible; scan the road 100 feet ahead for hazards such as debris, railroad tracks, drainage grates, or potholes. Anticipate not only your actions, but the actions of others. When entering a roadway from a driveway, alley, or curb look and yield to oncoming traffic.

Ride with traffic: Ride on the right side of the road in the same direction as traffic. Do not pass motorists on the right.

Intersection Positioning: To continue straight through in an intersection with a right turn lane, move to the through lane; avoid riding in a right turn lane. When turning left, signal left, look and then move into the left lane. Signal turns and make eye contact with motorists when possible.

Signal turns and stops: Scan behind and in front before making a lane change or turn. When preparing to turn, indicate your intentions well in advance using hand signals such as LEFT, SLOWING, RIGHT



Be visible; especially at night: Alabama state law requires a headlight visible from 500 feet and a rear red reflector when riding at night. Flashing tail lights and bright colored and reflective clothing are highly recommended.

Riding with others: Alabama state law allows 2 cyclists to ride side by side but no more. Be courteous, ride single file to help cars pass.

Pull off the road when stopped: Cars sometimes stop and/or park on the side of the road; bikes shouldn't. When stopped for map checks, parking, etc., pull completely off the road to be safe.

Wear a helmet: Alabama state law requires people under age of 16 to wear a helmet. Helmets are highly recommended for all.

Keep hydrated and fueled: Carry water. Drink before you are thirsty, eat before you are hungry.

Before each trip do an ABC Quick check:

- A - is for air
- B - is for brakes
- C - is for cranks, chain, and cassette, and
- Quick - is for checking the wheel Quick release

When sharing paths with pedestrians and horseback riders:

- Avoid riding on sidewalks.
- Yield to pedestrians and horseback riders.
- Watch for pedestrians on roads that do not have sidewalks.
- Announce yourself when passing others; 'passing on your left'
- Let horses pass you; they endanger many when surprised.
- Obey 10 mile per hour speed limit on greenways.
- Be predictable, use the correct side of the greenway marked for bicyclists or stay to the right.

Motorists:

- Treat cyclists as you would any other vehicle on the road – it's the law!
- Expect cyclists to use the full lane. Cyclists may abruptly change lane position due to railroad tracks, debris, potholes, or grates.
- Do NOT drive 'side by side' or tailgate a cyclist.
- Pass cyclists with a minimum of 3 feet; allow plenty of room.
- Never cut cyclists off when turning right.
- Scan traffic ahead for cyclists, especially at intersections.
- Do NOT honk, yell, or harass cyclists. It is dangerous.

What to do if you are involved in an accident

- Make sure you are okay!
- Get out of the road!
- Call police and 911.
- Fill out police report complete with witness statements.
- Take photographs of the scene, injuries, and damage.
- Obtain city, state, and motor vehicle reports for insurance.
- Get estimates of bike repairs, parts, or replacement.
- Get advice from a bike friendly lawyer.
- Do not settle personal injury before a month has passed, as some injuries do not appear immediately.
- Do not let the insurance company take your bike. It is evidence.
- Only sign parts of release forms that apply to your case.

What to do if you are harassed by a motorist

- Memorize license plate number.
- Do not respond negatively; road rage goes both ways.
- Report license plate number, car description, time, location, etc., to the police: (256)722-7100.

Who to contact if you get attacked by a dog while riding in Huntsville:

Madison Co. Animal Control: Ph. 532-1519 (After Hrs. 532-3416)
Huntsville City Animal Control Center: Ph. 833-3788
Hours: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Mon – Fri; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sat
After hours: Call Huntsville Police at 722-7100