

Cycling in Jefferson County

Jefferson County is a popular place for outdoor recreation. Its foothills, parks and roads, and its proximity to Denver make it a great choice for people from all over the metro area.



Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
303-277-0211
www.jeffcosheriff.com

Jefferson County
Highways & Transportation
303-271-8495
<http://jeffco.us/highways/index.htm>

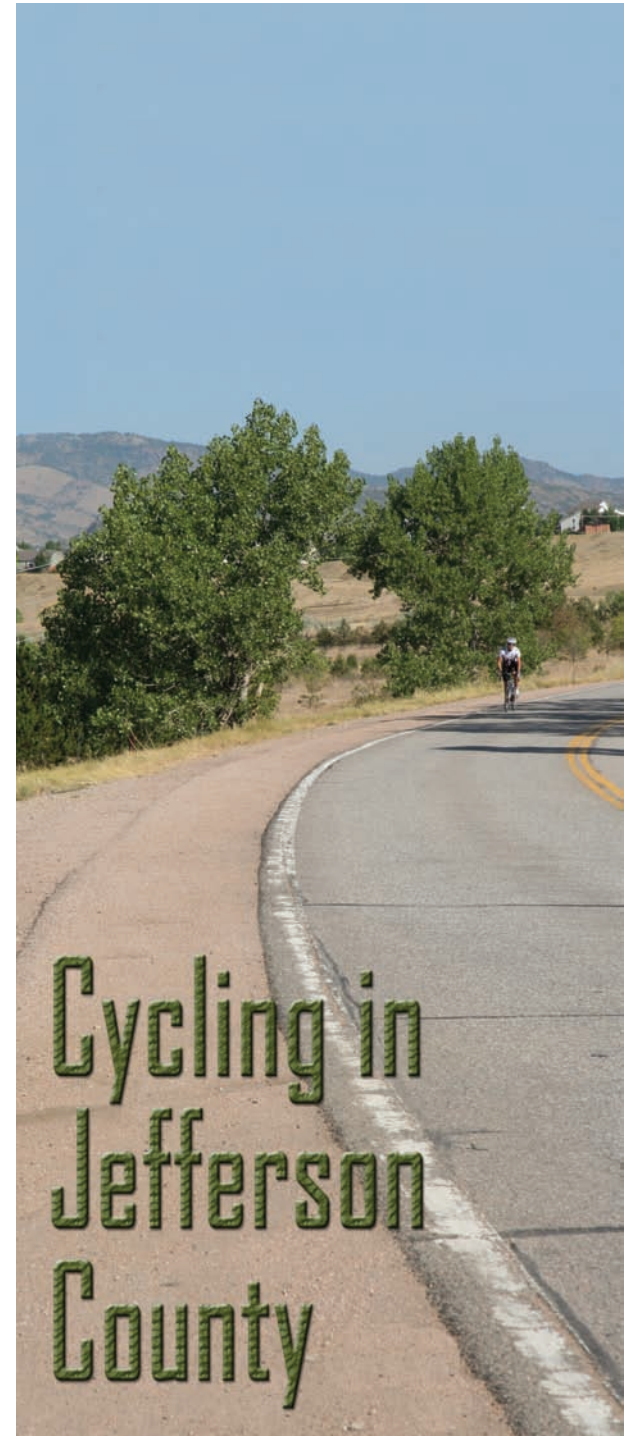
Local Cycling Clubs & Advocacy Groups:

Bicycle Colorado
www.bicyclecolorado.org

Bike Jeffco
www.bikejeffco.us

Team Evergreen
www.teamevergreen.org

Rocky Mountain Cycling Club
www.rmccrides.com



We welcome you to Jefferson County and remind you to consider the following.

Traffic Laws Apply to Everyone

Both motorists and cyclists are responsible for obeying traffic laws, and both may receive traffic citations for violations. Cyclists are expected to obey traffic signs and signals, ride single file on the roadway, and ride on the paved shoulder when possible. Cyclists may ride two abreast when doing so will not impede the reasonable flow of traffic. Riding abreast is also permitted when all cyclists are on the paved shoulder.

Cyclists should ride on the right (never against traffic), follow lane markings and use hand signals. For your safety, do not pass on the right, and be sure to use lights and reflective gear at night.

Choosing a Route

Cyclists find that riding on Jefferson County's roads — especially those that are steep and winding — is a great way to get in a good workout or train for an event. Drive a new route before you ride it to survey the paved shoulders, turns and traffic volume. Some roads are better suited than others for an activity like cycling. Be mindful of loose gravel, tight curves, wildlife and stretches without shoulders. Remember to wear light and bright colors, especially when cycling on a canyon road. Shadows can make cyclists very difficult to see. Your visibility is essential to your safety.



Speeds

Riding a bike down a hill at excessive speeds is a hazard to the cyclist, as well as any motorists, pedestrians or equestrian traffic the cyclist may encounter. It can also be dangerous in areas where wildlife crosses the roadway. Keep speeds within the posted limits; just like motorists, speeders on bikes may be ticketed.



Parking

In certain areas of the county, motor vehicle parking for cyclists can be hard to come by. The parking congestion in some locations results in some cyclists standing in the roadway while preparing for their rides. With vehicles passing through, this can present an unsafe situation. As a courtesy to other road users, please stand off the road.

Cyclists must avoid parking their vehicles too close to the roadway. Check for "No Parking" signs. In some areas, there is signage pointing cyclists toward recommended parking areas. Sometimes the best place to park is a little farther from the road.

Waste

Parking areas and bike routes themselves can become littered with garbage in the busy seasons. Please be responsible about discarding your litter, or hold onto it until you return home. Check around your vehicle after your ride to be sure you aren't leaving behind any litter. Leave no trace, and help us keep Jeffco's roadways beautiful.

Likewise, use public restrooms at or near your chosen route. Avoid encroaching on private property in search of a bathroom break.

Share the Road

Mutual respect and cooperation between motorists and cyclists makes the road safer for everyone. Under Colorado law, cyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as other vehicles. If you find yourself in a frustrating situation with a motorist, take a breath and find a way to accommodate their needs. Hogging the road perpetuates the idea that the two groups are at odds.

Conflicts between motorists and cyclists do occur. If you become involved with a reckless motorist, try to remember the license plate number and a vehicle/driver description. Keep your cool and call the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office at 303-277-0211. Remember that both motorists and cyclists are responsible for their own conduct, and that both can be cited for violations. Citations for harassment or reckless endangerment may apply. Call 911 in an emergency.

