

What Can You Do?

- Expect to see motorcyclists **LOOK TWICE!**
- Try to anticipate a motorcyclist's movements - be especially cautious at intersections and during lane changes.

TAKE A SEC - DOUBLE CHECK!

- Allow more space between your vehicle and a motorcyclist than you would for another vehicle. **DRIVE AWARE!**
- Be courteous - signal your intentions well in advance.



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Motorist Awareness
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"There is no need to drink and ride a motorcycle — the ride alone is intoxicating!"

Gold Wing Road Riders Association

Double Check



Space Cushioning

Motorcyclists, who have significant room to maneuver while riding within a traffic lane, can use this margin to position themselves for maximum visibility to other motorists while maintaining safety and control of the traffic situation."

(NAMS, 2001)

**"Motorcyclists are Dying
To Be Seen."**



WHY DOUBLE CHECK?

- About 3/4 of motorcycle accidents involve another motor vehicle.
- Two-thirds of these accidents were caused by the motorist failing to yield the right of way.
- The most common reason given by the motorist is, "I didn't see the motorcycle".

WHY DON'T MOTORISTS SEE MOTORCYCLISTS?

- Motorists, for the most part, are unfamiliar with motorcycles.
- Motorists tend to look for and see the familiar – the familiar being other motorists.
- Motorcycles have a much smaller profile than vehicles; therefore judging speed and distance of an approaching motorcycle is more difficult.

WHERE ARE ACCIDENTS MOST LIKELY TO OCCUR?

- LEFT TURNS - Over 40% of all motorcycle accidents occur at intersections.
- CARS BLIND SPOT - Motorcyclists are often hidden in a vehicle's blind spot or missed in a quick look due to their smaller size.

LOOK TWICE - SAVE A LIFE!

Environmental Factors

- **M**otorcyclists have to be much more concerned about road obstructions such as debris, potholes, and railroad tracks.
- **M**otorcyclists braking and handling abilities are impaired by wet roads, icy roads, and roads with loose gravel.
- **W**ind gusts and gusts from large vehicles can be a serious hazard for motorcyclists.
- **A** large vehicle can completely hide a motorcycle from view of other vehicles.

Only by actively looking for motorcyclists can you increase your awareness of them on the highway.

Soon, it will be second nature and you will have greatly reduced the possibility that you would one day accidentally have a collision involving a motorcyclist!!

Ask yourself each day on the highway,

**"Have I seen
a motorcycle today?"**

If the answer is "Yes" that's GREAT!

Then, look for another one.

Safety Initiatives

All states permit motorcycles to use high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes with a single rider on the motorcycle. Limited studies evaluating this practice have shown no traffic or safety problems. (Jernigan, 1995)

Federal and State statutes permit motorcyclists to have modulating headlights operating during daylight hours. The purpose of this is to make it easier for you the motorists to see us the motorcyclists.



How Many MOTORCYCLISTS Have You Seen Today?

LOOK Twice!

CMCA Motorist Awareness Division (301) 336-4710

Conspicuity, A Motorcycling Must
