

Safe Routes Parent-Student E-bike Safety Contract

Riding an e-bike is a privilege and comes with increased responsibility due to its increased speed and maneuverability challenges. This contract grants you, my child, permission to ride an e-bike as long as the following behaviors are adhered to. Failure to follow the laws and ride safely will result in suspension or removal of e-bike privileges.

Students initial and sign below.

- ☐ I understand that my parents are legally and financially responsible for my behavior until I am 18 years of age.



BE PREPARED

- ☐ I will commit to wearing a buckled helmet. If my e-bike is built for carrying a passenger, I will ensure my passenger will as well.
- ☐ I will check my e-bike brakes, tires, battery and lights and report any maintenance needs before use.

FOLLOW LAWS

- ☐ I will ride solo unless my e-bike is specifically built to carry passengers (long "banana" seats are illegal for multiple passengers).
- ☐ I will adhere to legal speed limits on roads and pathways (15 mph unless posted).
- ☐ On pathways, I will ride to the right and give pedestrians the right of way.
- ☐ I will not ride on sidewalks and instead, will choose quiet streets recommended for riding on the road. (Many jurisdictions have laws against riding bicycles on sidewalks)
- ☐ I will take turns with vehicles at intersections after coming to a complete stop at stop signs.
- ☐ I will ride on the right hand side of the road WITH the flow of traffic and will not pass, or weave in and out of vehicles.
- ☐ I will use hand signals for turning right, left and stopping and will scan for on-coming traffic when merging onto roads and changing lanes.
- ☐ I will ride single file as far right as is practicable, using the bike lane if provided.

BE ALERT

- ☐ I will keep my eyes up and focused on the road and surroundings at all times.
- ☐ I will not hold my phone, beverages or other objects in my hands.
- ☐ I will not ride with earbuds/phones (only one earbud is permissible by law, but none is advised for children under 18).
- ☐ I will avoid talking or texting on the phone when driving my e-bike.

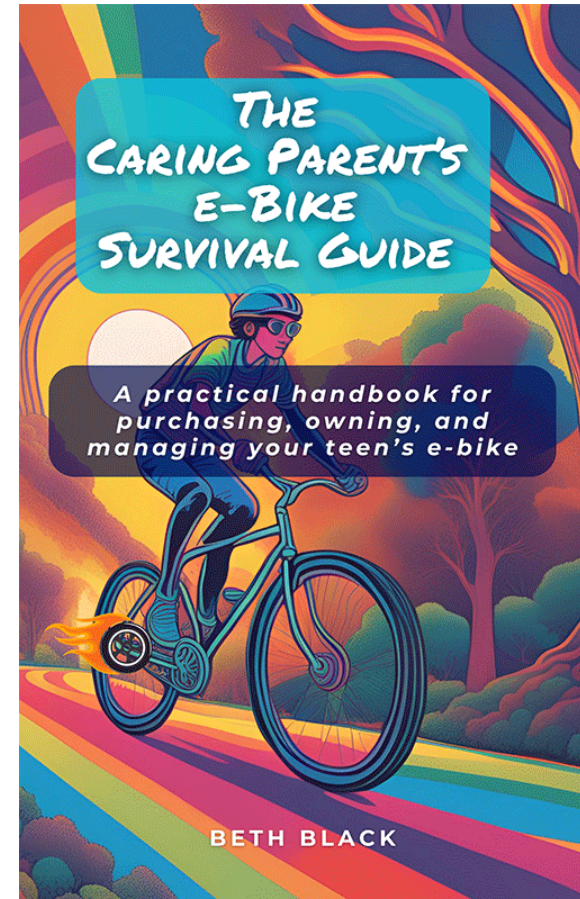
NO STUNTS, RECKLESS OR AGGRESSIVE RIDING

- ☐ I will never alter the speed of my e-bike to go faster than 20 mph and will not alter my brakes to do stunts (e.g. wheelies).
- ☐ I will refrain from dangerous activities such as speeding or stunts on streets, sidewalks, pathways and other public areas. I agree that such activities are only allowed on private property under adult supervision.
- ☐ I will never drive my e-bike in a way that may endanger or threaten others, such as pedestrians or other cyclists, whether intentional or not.
- ☐ I will not race my friends on e-bikes.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Credits: Beth Black, author of *The Caring Parents E-bike Survival Guide* and Marin Safe Routes to Schools



The Caring Parent's E-Bike Survival Guide by Beth Black – a comprehensive guide to buy, own and manage your student's e-bike, including a behavior contract for your child to sign.



**SAFE ROUTES
TO SCHOOLS**
MARIN COUNTY