

# Crash Information

## Crash Types

The type of motor vehicle/bicycle crashes involving adult bicyclists are different from those involving child bicyclists. You can prevent your involvement in most traffic crashes if you know how to anticipate and avoid hazardous situations. Most bicycle crashes do not involve motor vehicles, but are a result of excessive speed, surface condition, mechanical failure, loss of control, or a collision with a pedestrian.

### **MOST COMMON MOTOR VEHICLE/BICYCLE CRASHES INVOLVING CHILDREN:**

1. Cyclist rides on wrong side of road against oncoming traffic
2. Cyclist turns or swerves left without looking, hit from the rear by passing vehicle
3. Cyclist rides out from residential driveway or off sidewalk or curb into traffic
4. Cyclist does not stop at stop sign or signal

### **MOST COMMON MOTOR VEHICLE/BICYCLE CRASHES INVOLVING ADULTS:**

1. Motorist turns left into oncoming bicyclist heading straight in opposite direction
2. Motorist turns right into bicyclist heading straight in the same direction
3. Motorist drives out from driveway or through stop sign

We hope it never happens to you, but getting hit by a car is an unfortunate possibility for cyclists. Accident statistics only show the tip of the iceberg, as many minor crashes go unreported. Too often, victims fail to get critical information, either because they are so relieved to be alive or so confused they simply want to be left alone.

## What To Do When a Crash Occurs

Consider clipping the checklist from the next page and tucking it in your tool kit or bike bag. The instructions apply to both cyclists and pedestrians in Colorado. If you are in a crash, pull out the checklist and follow the instructions.

Notify the appropriate law enforcement agency. A written accident report of the crash must be submitted by the law enforcement agency to the Department of Revenue under the following circumstances:

- A crash involving a bicycle only, if the crash involves serious bodily injury, death or if more than \$1,000 of total property damage occurs.
- A crash involving both a bicycle and a motor vehicle in which there is serious bodily injury, death or total property damage in excess of \$1,000. Also, a written report must be filed if the motor vehicle driver fails to show proof of insurance or if any of the parties involved requests that a report be filed.

