

## National Spring Traffic Safety Initiative from Sat 6 to Mon 15 April



There have been many traffic accidents involving children lately, as they prepare to start school and kindergarten for the first time. Please drive safely and be on the lookout for kids dashing into the road.

Focuses of the initiative:

1. Securing a road traffic environment that allows children to pass through safely and practicing safe road-crossing techniques.
2. Ensuring a pedestrians-first mindset and enforcing considerate driving.
3. Wearing a helmet and following traffic rules when riding a bicycle or electric scooter.

Follow cycling safety rules to avoid accidents!

There are many bicycles in Shizuoka City and a large portion of traffic accidents are involving bicycles. Bicycles are classified as light vehicles (*kei sharyo*) by the Road Traffic Act, putting them in the same family as cars. Those who disobey traffic rules will be held criminally liable. In addition, those who cause damage to people or property will be held liable for civil damages.

Make sure you know and obey the Five Rules of Cycling Safety, as well as other traffic rules and manners to avoid becoming the victim or the perpetrator of a cycling accident. Also, make sure you are covered by bicycle insurance in case the worst comes to the worst.

The Five Rules of Cycling Safety

- ① As a general rule, cyclists should cycle on the left side of the road.  
Only use the sidewalk in exceptional circumstances and always give way to pedestrians.
- ② Stop at traffic lights and stop signs, and make sure it's safe before proceeding.
- ③ Turn on your light at night.
- ④ No cycling after drinking alcohol.
- ⑤ Wear your helmet.

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