

SECURITY FLASH

Commute

La Belle Maison will focus more on road safety in the near future. The VR bicycle simulator at our festival "Happyland" is the start of our awareness campaign.

Have you tested your safe driving? Nice! We will communicate simulator results soon. Couldn't participate? Don't worry, there will be more actions to follow.



On foot, by (e-)scooter/bike, motorbike and car: safely on the road together

- › Prepare your route and opt for well-lit and spacious roads.
- › Roadworks test your adaptability. Regularly look for an alternative route
- › Check the parts of your means of transport monthly and have an expert perform maintenance annually. It is recommended to carry essential spare parts such as extra batteries for your bike lights.
- › Adjust your speed and watch out for lane signalling, distracted drivers or materials lying around.
- › Be extra alert at turns, intersections or a blind spot situation.



Brush up on your knowledge of traffic rules or increase your courtesy through tips during a training course from work.

Report dangerous situations via the reporting point (Meldpunt Wegen) or the emergency number 101.



In 2023, we had an unfortunate 45,243 road casualties, 501 people died within 30 days of the accident (*Statbel, 2024*).

Roadworks, poor infrastructure, weather conditions or the driving behaviour of another road user are beyond our control. If we all respect the traffic rules and some safety tips we will be safe on the road together. Be predictable on the road by clearly communicating your intentions and keep it courteous.

Vulnerable road user? Make sure you are seen

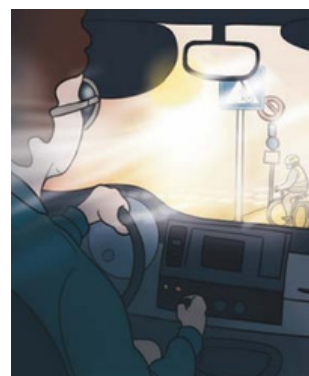
During the day or at dusk, wear light-coloured clothing and a yellow/orange fluorescent jacket. The bright colours reflect the sun's UV light. Unlike during the day, when travelling at night, it is better to wear reflective stripes just below the knees or at the ankles.



In fact, a fluorescent jacket at night makes bike lights less noticeable. If you wear a black jacket with reflective stripes at night, these reflect the car's lights, allowing car drivers to judge the distance more correctly. So show yourself, especially as a vulnerable road user. Avoid 'blind spots' and seek eye contact with other road users.

Beware of low sun

Misjudging the speed of fellow road users also occurs. Due to the bright backlight, you may experience a blinding effect on traffic signs, road lines or low obstacles. Does the low sun shine in your rearview mirror? Then (lorry) car drivers, (moped) cyclists (...) are looking against the sun, and you can help the other person by driving defensively. Lastly, wear your sunglasses in the car and use the sun visor on your front or side window.



In fast-changing traffic situations, low sun, as well as heavy rain or dense fog, can be downright dangerous. So be mindful of this limited visibility because it occurs both in the morning and in the evening during all seasons.

Prepared in the car

Weather conditions are out of your control, but a clear view is not. Top up your windscreen washer fluid on time and replace wipers regularly. Streaks from wear and dirty windows increase the blinding effect.

Check out the planned works through the Flemish agency 'Agentschap Wegen en Verkeer'. You'll often spend the same amount of time on the road if you take a slight diversion, but without the frustrations.



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