

NORTH CAROLINA BICYCLE HELMET LAW

- Every child 15 yrs or under on a bicycle and on a public roadway/right of way must wear an approved helmet (ANSI, SNELL, etc.)
- Every child under 40 lbs or under 40 inches must be in a seat designed for a child and for a bicycle, and securely attached to the bicycle (and wearing a helmet of course)
- No child who cannot sit upright and hold themselves upright while riding as a passenger on bike is allowed on a bike
- No riding on anything other than a saddle, gone are the days of riding on the handlebars, etc. (I don't know how the beach communities will ever end handlebar riding?)
- The parents/guardians of the child are responsible as well as the child
- There can be no liability assigned to a violator (ex: if a child is injured in a crash involving a car; the car driver and their insurance company can't say they won't pay due to the child's and child's parent's negligence in violating the law by not wearing a helmet)
- Maximum fine is \$10, can be waived by court if proof of attaining required equipment (helmet or seat) is shown and uses, and intends to use in future
- You can obtain a copy of the new Bike Helmet Law (House Bill 63) at the following web site: www.ncga.state.nc.us/html2001/bills/AllVersions/House/H63vc.html

-Effective October 1, 2001