

## Daytime Bright Bike Lighting

During the pandemic many of us are riding alone, which bring risks of another kind.

Visibility on the road is so very important so automobile drivers are aware of our presence. We wear brightly colored clothing in the hope we will be seen but many times that is not enough to distracted drivers. Worse than that, drivers look for other cars instead of cyclists and pedestrians. They focus on the center of the road where they would expect to see other automobiles.

A brightly flashing red light strobe on the back of your bike will get the attention of a distracted driver. Many times distracted drivers glance up every few seconds from phone calls, texting, navigation, radio, food and drink, or unruly passengers. The occasional look forward is the time we must get their attention and alert them of our presence. Once the driver sees a super bright, flashing red light, they can focus on our presence and can concentrate to avoid us.

Worse than trying to get the attention of a passing motorist, is the motorist crossing lanes to turn left in front of a cyclist. They focus on cars in their rear view mirror and oncoming cars and completely miss the presence of cyclists. This is the time for a bright white strobe light mounted on your handlebars to capture the motorist's attention, and avoid a nasty collision. In addition the bright white strobe works great for cars on our right getting ready to proceed into traffic. We often wave to get their attention, but the bright strobe seems to work better.

I know many of us have older red bike lights that are designed for night time use but the new ones designed specifically for daytime use are so much better. They are expensive but very inexpensive considering the alternative.

Do yourself a favor and buy a set of good quality lights and be seen.

Jim Halay