

## Spring National Traffic Safety Campaign

6 April (Monday) to 15 April (Wednesday)



**Inquiries:** Citizen Safety & Security Division 📞 054-221-1058

### Key focus areas of the campaign

- ◆ Ensuring the safety of pedestrians, including children, on school routes and local roads
- ◆ Eliminating distracted smartphone use and improving awareness of safe driving practices, such as giving priority to pedestrians
- ◆ Thorough understanding and compliance with traffic rules for bicycles and specified small, motorized bicycles

Spring is a season when many people begin using bicycles due to changes in their daily environment, such as starting school or commuting to work. Bicycles are convenient vehicles that anyone can easily use, but under the Road Traffic Act they are classified as light vehicles. If a bicycle user violates the law and causes a traffic accident, they may be held criminally liable. In addition, if they injure another person or damage property, civil liability for damages will also arise.

While the overall number of traffic accidents has been on a downward trend, the number of accidents involving bicycles has remained almost unchanged, and the proportion of bicycle-related accidents among all traffic accidents has been increasing. Furthermore, in approximately three-quarters of fatal or serious injury accidents involving bicycle riders, traffic rule violations by the bicycle rider have also been confirmed.

To prevent accidents, please observe bicycle traffic rules and practice safe riding, such as coming to a complete stop and carefully checking safety at intersections, and giving priority to pedestrians and riding with sufficient awareness and caution. In addition, please cooperate by wearing a helmet to prepare for unexpected situations.

From 1 April, the Traffic Violation Notification System (blue ticket system) will also apply to bicycles.

For details about the blue ticket system, please check the city website:

- ▶ <https://www.city.shizuoka.lg.jp/s9623/s013050.html>
- ▶ <https://www.pref.shizuoka.jp/police/doga/3ch/2008264.html>



### Translated by:

Social Inclusion Promotion Division

City of Shizuoka

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