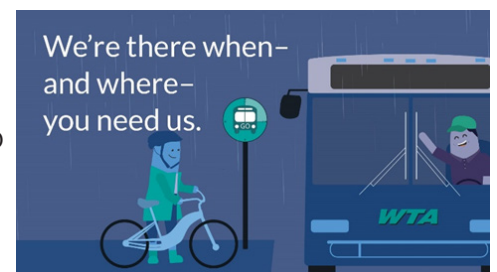


Commuting in Inclement Weather – Cycling Tips

The season has changed which means inclement weather is here for a while. Fortunately, riding a bicycle can still be fun no matter the weather. Here are some useful hacks to keep the joy in the ride.

- **Fenders are your friend!** Fenders keep the rain off your outfit and on the ground where it belongs.
- **Rain gear that's easy to get on and off.** I have fancy rain pants for biking, but I prefer the cheap ones I bought for hiking that have a full side zip. They are so easy to get on and off whatever I'm wearing. It really isn't that often that I have to get fully outfitted in my rain gear, but it's nice to have it with me just in case. [Here's a video with more suggestions!](#)
- **LIGHTS & Reflectivity!!** In the rain and cold drivers often have limited visibility so use lights and reflectivity to make yourself more visible. The higher on your body the lighting is the more visible to motorists (think on your helmet) and having lighting or reflectivity on a moving part of your bike or body (think pedals or wheels or your legs) really catches the eye. It's a good idea to wear reflective clothing. Some of us have dark rain gear so think about adding a reflective vest to the mix. And I'm a huge fan of adding cheap reflective tape or stickers to your bike, helmet, panniers, you name it.
- **Keep those hands warm!** Having cold hands really ruins a ride for me. Gloves work to a certain temperature and then they just aren't enough. I'm a fan of Bar Mitts that fit over your handlebars and really block the wind. I often combine my gloves and bar mitts for toasty hands at my destination.
- **A warm hat.** One that fits under your helmet and covers your ears is a cold weather must. I like a ski mask too to keep my cheeks cozy when the temperature really drops.
- **Keep a change of clothes and shoes at the office.** If you are riding to work having a change of shoes and socks or even a whole extra outfit at the office is a great security blanket. Nobody wants to have wet feet all day long.
- **Ride WTA!** Don't forget if weather really gets bad while you are at the office, putting your bike on the bus to get home warm and dry is worth considering. Remember if you are over 18 years old the bus will cost you \$1 (or \$2 if you have to transfer). Keeping a dollar or two in your wallet is a good plan.



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