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TRENDING

Delaware Named Third Most Bike Friendly State in Country

By [Lauren Holloway](#) | May 12, 2015

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May is [National Bike Month](#) and [Delaware](#) has now been named the third best Bike-Friendly state in the country, moving up one spot from 4th place last year.

The [League of American Bicyclists](#) began in 1880. For generations past and to come, the League represents bicyclists in the movement to create safer roads, stronger communities, and a bicycle-friendly America, working to preserve the freedom cycling brings to our members everywhere.

Every year, the League ranks all 50 states on their bikeability based on a multi-faceted Bicycle Friendly State questionnaire that is answered by each state's Bicycle Coordinator. The League looks at five categories: Legislation & Enforcement, Policies & Programs, Infrastructure & Funding, Education & Encouragement, and Evaluation & Planning.

Delaware has made several initiatives to improve their biking accessibility over the years.

[Governor Markell](#) has been dedicated to upgrading the states trails and pathways for walking, biking and hiking. This effort seems to be paying off due to the fact that just seven years ago, at [Delaware's first Bicycle Summit](#), the First State ranked 31st in the nation for bicycle friendly states.

[Bike Delaware](#) is one initiative in place to make sure these upgrades are possible. Bike Delaware is an independent, non-government, member-supported non-profit advocacy organization. This organization's mission is to make bicycling a safe, convenient, and fun transportation option in Delaware by working in partnership with government, business and community groups. Bike Delaware's vision is bikeway networks that everyone can use to get where they want to go on a bike.

In May of 2011, the [Delaware General Assembly](#) unanimously passed "Walkable

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Bikeable Delaware,” which directed the Delaware Department of Transportation to make strategic investments in walking and bicycling. For years to come, millions of dollars were voted on to support this cause.

In January of 2012, Governor Jack Markell proposed over \$13 million to “make Delaware one of the most walkable and bikeable states in America.”

Markell isn’t the only official to help the cause.

Senator Coons and Representative Carney co-sponsored the Bicycle and Pedestrian Road Safety Act in 2014. Bike Delaware has worked to ensure road safety in Delaware and to reduce the number of dead pedestrians in the state.

Bike Delaware continues to work throughout the state to make the First State more bicycle friendly. They hold events throughout the year and invite the public to functions throughout Delaware promoting a walkable and bikeable state.



Key: Percent of total points available attained by state

80-100	60-80	40-60	20-40	0-20
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STATE	Points out of 100		Scoring Criteria						
	2015 Rank	2014 Rank	2015 Points	2014 Points	Legislation & Enforcement	Policies & Programs	Infrastructure & Funding	Education & Encouragement	Evaluation & Planning
Washington	1	1	66.2	66.8					
Minnesota	2	2	62.7	62.0					
Delaware	3	4	54.8	55.7					
Massachusetts	4	10	54.8	53.7					
Utah	5	8	54.3	53.7					
Oregon	6	5	54.2	55.2					
Colorado	7	6	53.9	54.1					
California	8	9	53.1	53.7					
Wisconsin	9	3	52.2	56.9					
Maryland	10	7	49.0	53.8					
New Jersey	11	12	48.6	53.0					
Pennsylvania	12	19	47.9	41.4					
Virginia	13	18	47.2	41.5					
Illinois	14	11	46.0	53.1					
Maine	15	13	45.6	50.6					
Ohio	16	16	45.3	45.1					
Vermont	17	17	43.3	44.7					
Michigan	18	14	42.8	50.1					
Arizona	19	15	42.2	46.7					
Tennessee	20	22	42.0	39.7					
Idaho	21	20	41.7	41.1					
Connecticut	22	21	41.4	40.0					
North Carolina	23	23	39.1	39.5					
Florida	24	28	38.7	35.3					
Georgia	25	26	37.5	38.6					

(Photo: Bikeleague.org)

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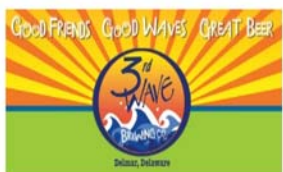
Lauren Holloway

Lauren Holloway is a Multimedia Journalist for WBOC and DelmarvaLife. Lauren is an adventure seeking, sunshine loving, food enthusiast. Outside of work, Lauren loves spending time with friends and family and doing anything outdoors.

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