



WASHINGTON  
DC  
CRITICAL  
MASS

### What's going on?

We are Critical Mass, a global movement in which cyclists come together once a month to claim our space in the streets. We are celebrating our solidarity and demonstrating the benefits of the bicycle as a superior form of transportation to cars.

### Why are you in my way?

We're sorry if we contributed to your delay, our purpose is not to annoy motorists. Most of us ride our bikes for transportation every day. Current estimates put the number of bicycle commuters in the DC area at 10,000. Can you imagine if we all drove instead of cycling? Now, imagine if 20,000 or 30,000 people commuted by bicycle instead of by car.

### What makes bicycles better than cars?

Cars contribute to: landfills of junked cars, pollution from oil, wars over control of oil, thousands of deaths yearly from accidents, alienation from less human contact, violence, & noise pollution. Bicycles contribute to: a sense of community, good health, a more reasonable pace of life, and more money in your pocket (no buying gas).

### What are the laws about bicycle traffic?

Believe it or not, bicycles have a full legal right to use the road. As a matter of fact, it is illegal for bicycles to ride on the sidewalk in the central business district in DC!

### How can I support?

Our rides take place on the first Friday of every month. We start at 6:00 PM from Dupont Circle in NW Washington, DC. For more information, please check out web site at <http://cm-dc.mahost.org>

As a driver, please respect cyclists rights to the road and watch out when opening your car doors onto the street.

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## Some facts & thoughts.

did you know that although we are only 5% of the world's population, the us consumes 26% of the world's oil? in the year 2000 we consumed 20 million barrels of oil a day, 53% of which was used for transportation mostly for single occupancy vehicles!

how do you feel about the oil and gas corporations that profit from our dependence on cars? companies like exxon, shell and texaco are hoping to receive \$22 billion in federal subsidies from the us government this year.

what do you think about the fact that the middle east, home of the world's largest oil reserves, is also the top market for us weapons sales?

as we are biding time the bush administration is making moves towards an "inevitable" war in iraq, which will take thousands of innocent lives. how does the promise of violence and war make you feel?

...ABOUT OIL, WAR AND THE POSSIBILITIES FOR PEACE.

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