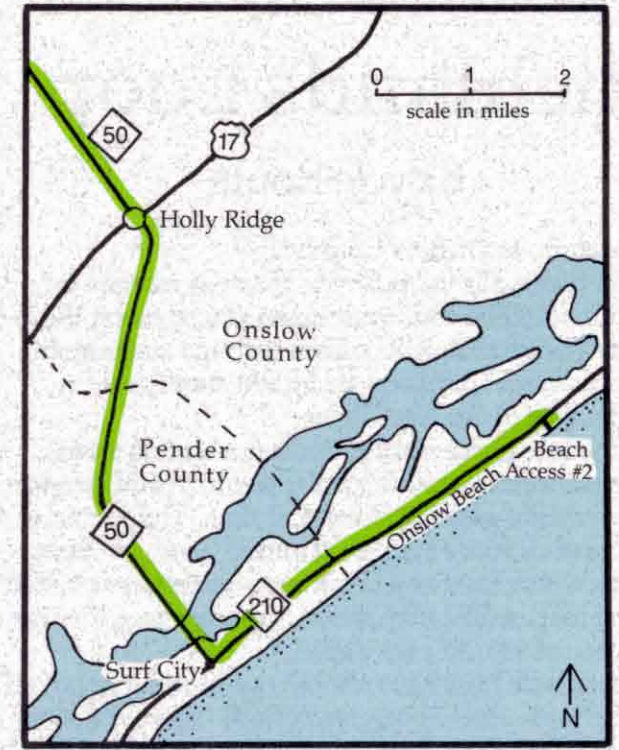


HOLLY RIDGE CONNECTOR



The Holly Ridge Connector

The Holly Ridge Connector route follows NC 50 from Holly Ridge to Onslow Beach. This route is recommended for use during the early spring and fall months only. Motor vehicle traffic to and from the coast is quite heavy during the summer months and the road has no paved shoulders. The 21.7 mile route is sparsely populated and there are few services.

To ride the Holly Ridge Connector, Take NC 1104 from the southernmost portion of the Richlands Loop near Padgett, to NC 50. Follow NC 50 to Holly Ridge, a total distance of 12.7 miles. From Holly Ridge, continue on NC 50 to Surf City, a distance of 4.3 miles. Turn north on NC 210 and continue 4.7 miles to Beach Access #2.

Facilities at the beach access include a year-round shower, rest room facilities, a seasonal concession stand, and a nature trail.

Richlands Loop Bicycle Route

Welcome to Onslow County!

The Richlands Loop Bicycle Route is marked by green and white bike route signs placed along the route. The 50 mile loop passes through rural south-eastern North Carolina (see locator map) and the headwaters of the New River.

The route passes farms, small crossroads towns, and pine forests common to the pocosins and swamps of the coastal plain of North Carolina. The terrain is level and all roads are paved and in good condition. Stores where food and drink are available are marked on the map. As the map shows, there are long stretches between stores, so plan ahead.

Roads with heavy automobile traffic are also marked on the map. These busy roads have "share the road" signs placed along them to alert drivers to bicycle traffic, but bicyclists should use caution when riding these roads.

The best times for enjoying the Richlands Loop Bicycle Route are spring and fall when temperatures are cooler and weather conditions are more moderate. Winter weather tends to be unpredictable and summers in Onslow County can be extremely hot and humid.

A shorter loop of 20 miles is also shown on the map. This route leaves the longer Richlands Loop south of Gregory Crossroads, and rejoins it at Catherine Lake.

So, whether you bicycle the entire Richlands Loop, or join us for a shorter ride, be sure to obey the safety tips and bicycle laws listed on the back of this map, and have a safe and enjoyable trip!

Bicycle Laws and Safety Tips

The bicycle has been legally considered a vehicle in North Carolina since 1937. Thus bicyclists have full rights and responsibilities on the roadway and are subject to the regulations governing the operation of a motor vehicle, where applicable. North Carolina traffic laws require the rider of a bicycle to:

- ride on the right, in the same direction as other moving traffic
- obey all traffic signs and signals, including stop and yield signs and one-way directional signs
- use signals to communicate intended movements
- yield to pedestrians and emergency vehicles
- equip the bicycle with a front lamp visible from 300 feet and a rear reflector or lamp which is visible from a distance of 200 feet at night

To insure a safe trip along the roads of Onslow County, please follow the tips listed below:

- always wear a bicycle helmet
 - use a backpack or bicycle bag to carry goods
 - avoid biking at night
 - when riding with a group, ride single file
 - wear bright clothing to increase visibility
 - be sure your bicycle is the right size for you and keep it in good repair, checking for loose or worn parts regularly
- Remember, the bicyclist always loses in a conflict with a motor vehicle. Ride defensively and in a predictable manner to avoid accidents. Be courteous to other drivers. Keep traffic flowing by helping motorists pass you in a safe manner.

Produced by Margaret Booth Pierce for the North Carolina Department of Transportation Bicycle Program in cooperation with the UNC Institute for Transportation Research and Education. Funding provided by the Federal Highway Administration through the Transportation Improvement Program. 3,000 copies of this brochure printed at a cost of \$.32 each.

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Richlands Loop Bicycle Route



Additional copies of this map and the "Jacksonville City to the Sea" bike map are available from:

Onslow County Parks and Recreation
434 Onslow Pines Road
Jacksonville, NC 28540

Printed June, 1990

All publications are available free of charge

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Please be aware:

Although every effort was made initially to choose routes on less traveled roads, some areas of this map may have experienced significant growing. In these locations some of the selected bicycle routes could have increased traffic volumes. The NC Department of Transportation and the Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation assume no liability for the increase use of any road on this map. We ask you to, as much as you are able, make yourself aware of the roads you intend to travel on, prior to your trip. To do so you may consider contacting the local government, bike shops or clubs in the area, for advise.

A Note of Caution

The highlighted bicycle routes shown on this map follow roads of the North Carolina highway system. These roads do not include any special accommodations for bicycles such as paved shoulders or designated bike lanes. Care has been taken to select more lightly traveled roads. In a few places, however, short sections of busier roads are used to make connections where no other options exist. These areas are marked with "Share the Road" signs, like the one shown here, to alert motorist to the presence of cyclists on the road. The bike routes are not intended for use by children, as their ability to judge traffic conditions and driver actions is not well developed.



Be predictable, be courteous, and obey all traffic laws, while traveling by bicycle.