



Conducting Bicycle and Pedestrian Counts:



Volunteer Training

MnDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Counting Initiative





Recommended Annual Dates

- September 15, 16, 17, 2014 (Tu, Wed, Th)
 - Peak hour: 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 or 7:00 p.m.
 - 12-hour day: 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- September 19 (Sat)
 - Peak hours: 10:00 a.m. – noon or 2:00 p.m.
 - 12 hour day: 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- Rain dates: Sept. 22, 23, 24, 26





How to Use MnDOT Counting Form

- Complete all of the fields on both sides of this form.
- Count all bicyclists and pedestrians crossing your screen line under the appropriate categories. ***Make only one tally mark for each person.***
- Count for two hours in 15 minute increments.
- Count bicyclists who ride on the sidewalk.
- Count the number of people on the bicycle (i.e., bicyclists), not the number of bicycles.
- Pedestrians include all people not on bicycles. Record pedestrians in wheelchairs, on skates, on scooters, etc. in “Pedestrians Assisted” columns.
- Do your best when traffic volumes are high or people talk to you; it is easy to lost count. Do your best, but note if you lose track.
- If traffic volumes are high count bicycle and pedestrian totals and disregard other attributes.



Screenline Counts

Location 21:
Central Avenue NE north of Lowry Ave



Counter location

Screen line

Screenline counts:

Imaginary line perpendicular to street

Count all persons on bike or feet who cross screenline within street right-of-way

Count both directions

Use consistent location for observation





How to Use MnDOT Counting Form

MNDOT STANDARD MANUAL SCREENLINE COUNT FORM DRAFT July 23, 2012

Time		Bicyclists				Pedestrians											
		Male		Female		Unassisted				Assisted (skaters, wheelchairs, etc.)							
		Adult	Child	Adult	Child	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Adult	Child	Adult	Child		
Hour	Minutes																
	:00-15																
	:15-30																
	:30-45																
	:45-00																
Hour 1 Subtotal																	
	:00-15																
	:15-30																
	:30-45																
	:45-00																
Hour 2 Subtotal																	
Hour 1 + Hour 2																	
Total																	
Two Hour Total - All Attributes																	





Conducting the count

MNDOT STANDARD MANUAL SCREENLINE COUNT FORM DRAFT July 23, 2012

Time		Bicyclists				Pedestrians							
		Male		Female		Unassisted				Assisted (skaters, wheelchairs, etc.)			
Hour	Minutes	Adult	Child	Adult	Child	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
	:00-15												
	:15-30												
	:30-45												
	:45-00												
Hour 1 Subtotal													
	:00-15												
	:15-30												
	:30-45												
	:45-00												
Hour 2 Subtotal													
Hour 1 + Hour 2 Total													
Two Hour Total - All Attributes													

Two-hour counts
(4:00 -6:00 pm)

Start on time (arrive early!)

Include name, date & Location with ID

See instructions on form

*Make a note of any unusual thing that impacted the count at the bottom of the sheet or in space on back.





Recording Bikes and Peds

Every person (bicyclist or pedestrian) is always counted.

Time		Bicyclists				Pedestrians							
						Unassisted				Assisted (skaters, wheelchairs, etc.)			
		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
Hour	Minutes	Adult	Child	Adult	Child	Adult	Child	Adult	Child	Adult	Child	Adult	Child
	:00-:15												
	:15-:30												

Other attributes also may be tallied, including gender, direction of travel, or use of helmet, depending on purpose.



Defining bikes and walkers



Bicycles – all pedal powered vehicles: tandems, recumbents, 3 wheelers, tag-alongs, trailers



Walkers – people on foot or assisted: joggers, skaters, segways, wheel chairs, strollers, crutches, scooters, children being carried, person walking a bicycle





Example of Count Tallies



What to Take on Day of Count

- Instructions
- Location maps
- Count forms
- Clipboards
- Pens, pencils, and spares
- Watch, phone, or timepiece
- Public information sheet
- Safety vest (may be available from MnDOT)
- Optional: hat, sunscreen, jacket, folding chair ...





How to Interact with Public

- Counter must
 - Maintain focus on counting
 - Explain politely what he or she is doing and reasons for count
 - Note if count interrupted
 - Provide person interrupting with print information about count (see example)





Public Information Sheet for Counters

Bicyclist and Pedestrian Counting Program

We are participating in a project to study bicyclist and pedestrian traffic volumes for our community. For more information, you may contact [INSERT CONTACT NAME, NUMBER AND EMAIL]. I will be happy to answer your questions if possible, but I must keep focused on counting to ensure our counts are as accurate as possible. Thank you for your interest in our program.





Work Zone Safety Considerations

- Your counting locations represents a “transportation work zone”
- Safety is your primary concern; do not take risks
- Wear safety vest or high visibility colors
- Do not interfere with traffic flow
- Contact count manager if questions arise





After your shift

Return count form and other materials to:

(FILL IN YOUR INFORMATION HERE)





Thank You

Your contact info here

