

The Black Lake Bicycle Loop winds through the open, gently rolling land of St. Lawrence County. This is an easy loop ride; you'll find few elevation changes along the wooded creeks and marshes.

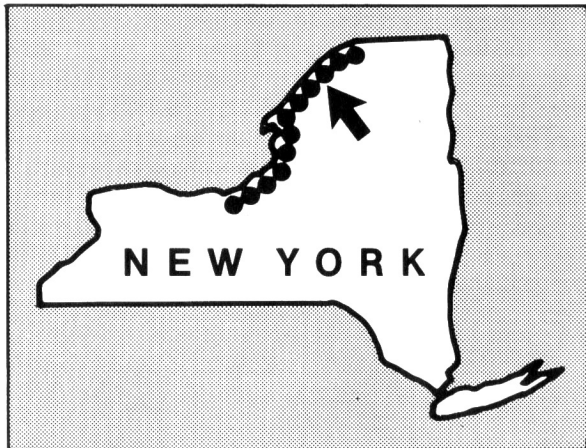
Black Lake, situated at the southern edge of the loop, is well-known for its sports fishery. Fortunately, the north end of the lake has escaped development because of its high, steep banks and a marshy shoreline. On Lost Village Road, there are many unspoiled views over the lake from between rows of huge cottonwood and maple trees. Eel Weir State Park provides access to the Oswegatchie River and picnic sites.

Ogdensburg is the oldest settled town in St. Lawrence County, and is the site of the Frederick Remington Art Museum, which houses many of this well-known artist's works.

On this loop you'll pass Amish farms, and you may see a horse-drawn buggy moving at cyclist's pace. A house and surrounding wall of split limestone sits at the junction of Stone Church and Haggert Roads. Just south of this corner is an apple orchard, fruit stand, and a small store for lunch supplies.

Both County Road 3 and State Route 37 have paved shoulders and moderate traffic levels. Other loop roads are more lightly traveled. All of the roads within the Black Lake Loop and as far south as Chippewa Bay are good prospects for riding, with the exception of the roads fronting Black Lake.

A guidebook and map of The Seaway Trail Bicycle Route—Eastern Segment, contains additional information about points of interest along the Black Lake Bicycle Loop. The map, guidebook, and five other loop brochures are all available through the same sources that distribute this brochure.



**LOCATION OF THIS LOOP ON THE SEAWAY TRAIL BICYCLE ROUTE**

## ABOUT THIS LOOP

The Seaway Trail Bicycle Route—Eastern Segment loop brochures are developed by the St. Lawrence-Eastern Ontario Commission as an aid to bicyclists. Those involved with the development and publication of these brochures in no way warrant the safety of the roads recommended to bicyclists for shared bicycle/motor vehicle use. The roads are suggested only as routes which are suitable for bicycling based on available data and prior evaluation by experienced bicyclists.

The routes shown on these brochures follow designated state, county, and local roads, and are used by drivers of automobiles, trucks, buses, motorcycles and farm machinery as well as bicycles. These roads have no special provisions for bicyclists, though most of the state highways do have paved shoulders suitable for bicycle riding.

Bicyclists using these brochures and related materials assume the responsibilities and risks for their own safety when cycling on these loop routes or other roads.

These recommended loops are designed for the average adult bicyclist, defined as being 16 years or older, having a drivers license, or having received drivers training and having several years of bicycling experience.

## BICYCLES ARE VEHICLES

The New York State code mandates that "Every person riding a bicycle upon a roadway shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle..."

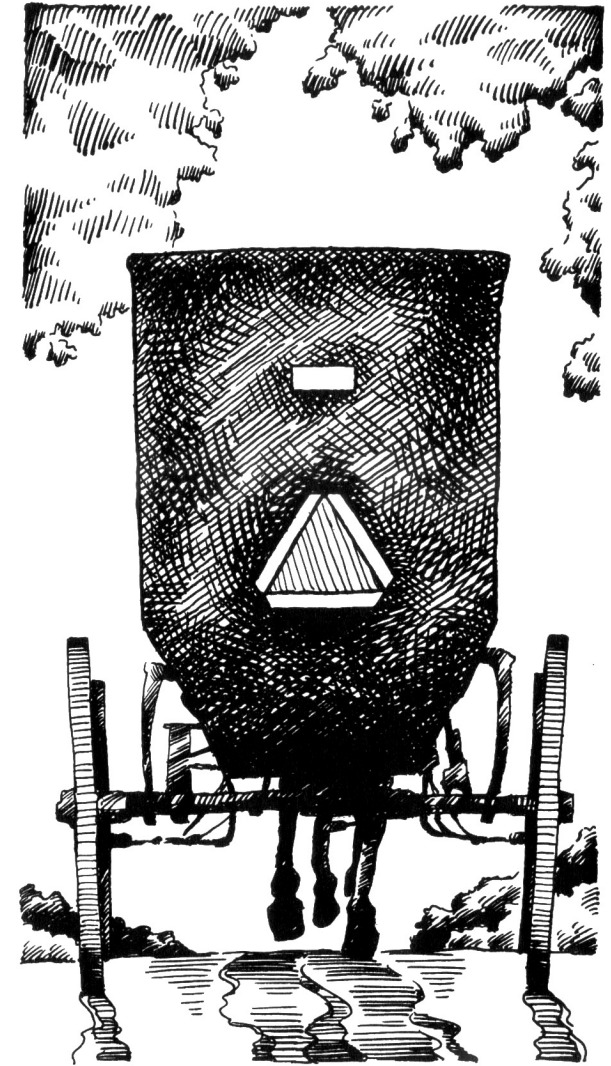
The code requires bicycles to be ridden near the right-hand curb or roadway edge, or on a usable right-hand shoulder, to prevent "undue interference" with traffic flow, except when turning left or when conditions make this position unsafe. This means that bicycles on a roadway must ride single file when being overtaken by another vehicle.

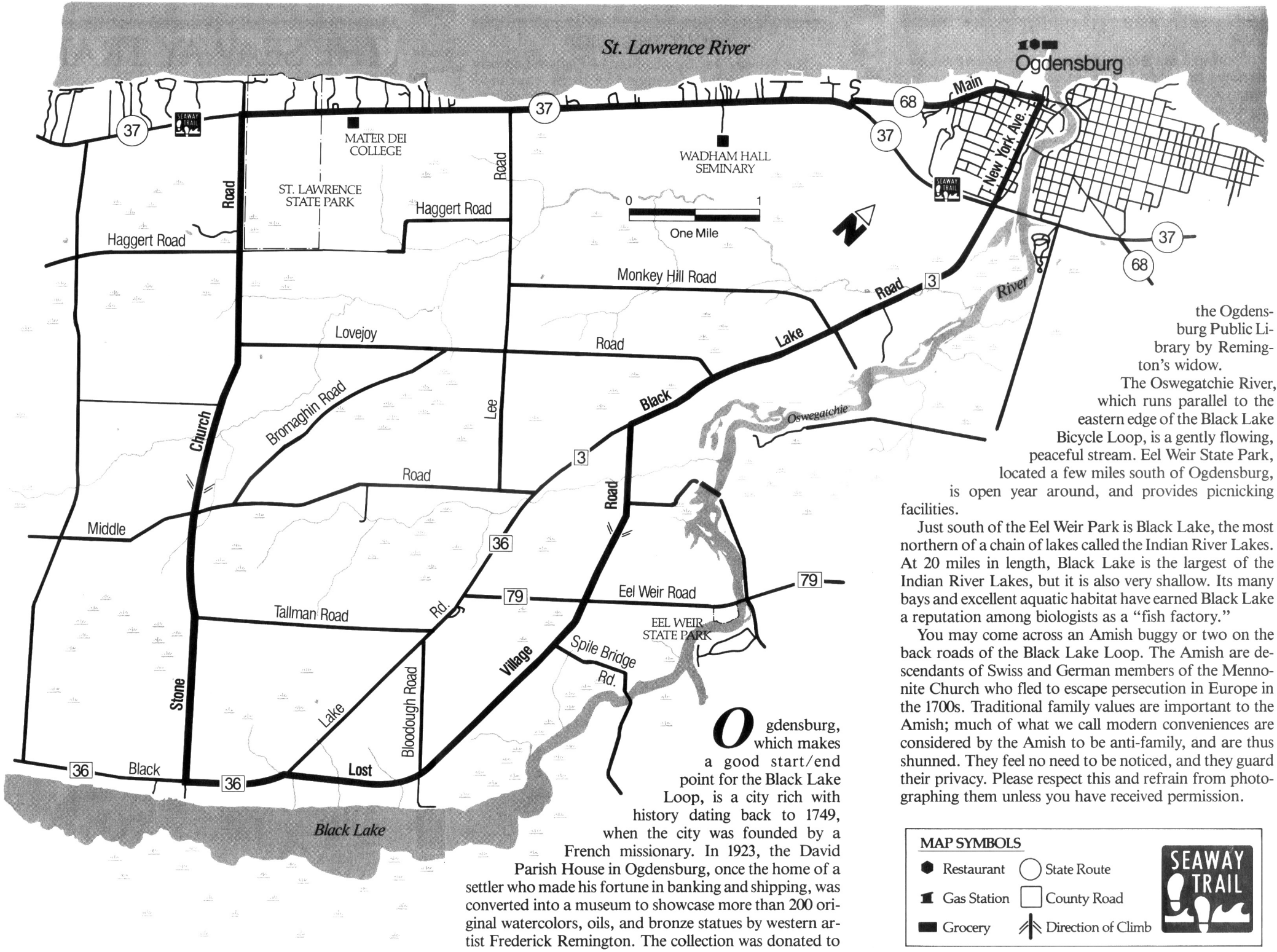
These definitions and laws are of great benefit to you as a bicyclist, giving you the rights, responsibilities, and a legally-defined status in the motor vehicle/bicycle traffic mix.



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# THE SEAWAY TRAIL BLACK LAKE BICYCLE LOOP





Ogdensburg, which makes a good start/end point for the Black Lake Loop, is a city rich with history dating back to 1749, when the city was founded by a French missionary. In 1923, the David Parish House in Ogdensburg, once the home of a settler who made his fortune in banking and shipping, was converted into a museum to showcase more than 200 original watercolors, oils, and bronze statues by western artist Frederick Remington. The collection was donated to

the Ogdensburg Public Library by Remington's widow. The Oswegatchie River, which runs parallel to the eastern edge of the Black Lake Bicycle Loop, is a gently flowing, peaceful stream. Eel Weir State Park, located a few miles south of Ogdensburg, is open year around, and provides picnicking facilities.

Just south of the Eel Weir Park is Black Lake, the most northern of a chain of lakes called the Indian River Lakes. At 20 miles in length, Black Lake is the largest of the Indian River Lakes, but it is also very shallow. Its many bays and excellent aquatic habitat have earned Black Lake a reputation among biologists as a "fish factory."

You may come across an Amish buggy or two on the back roads of the Black Lake Loop. The Amish are descendants of Swiss and German members of the Mennonite Church who fled to escape persecution in Europe in the 1700s. Traditional family values are important to the Amish; much of what we call modern conveniences are considered by the Amish to be anti-family, and are thus shunned. They feel no need to be noticed, and they guard their privacy. Please respect this and refrain from photographing them unless you have received permission.

**MAP SYMBOLS**

Restaurant	State Route
Gas Station	County Road
Grocery	Direction of Climb

