

Don't Let Rainy Weather Stop Your Commute!

Commuting in the rain can be enjoyable if you are prepared. Staying dry and being visible are your primary concerns. Check the weather the night before and make sure you have everything you need - rain coat, bike light, etc. - for a successful commute. If the weather looks too challenging, you can always find another way to get to work!

Be visible!



Wear bright clothing and light colored jackets with reflector tabs, to make you more visible to motorists. Always walk on the sidewalk and cross on crosswalks. Visibility and predictability are your first lines of defence when the weather is less than perfect.

Dress to stay dry!



Rain coats, shoe covers, gloves, rain pants, and lights are all essential for staying safe and dry. Keep your work shoes in your bag and use hiking boots or tennis shoes for your commute. Be careful, though, as the extra rain gear can make you sweat - necessitating a change once at work.

Light it up!



It is essential to have bicycle lights when riding in the rain. Flashing lights cut through the rain and make you more visible to motorists - greatly improving safety. New battery powered LED lights are bright, efficient and long lasting, making them your best option.

Use a waterproof bag!



Everyone has a bag that they take to work every day. Choosing a water-resistant or proof bag can help protect your computer, documents or clothing in case of a sudden storm. Look for quality bags that are both good for multi-modal commuting and are office appropriate.

Bring a change of cloths!



You never quite know what conditions you will encounter - rain, puddles, mud - and you might even break a sweat under your rain gear. It is good to be prepared by having spare clothing stashed in an unused desk drawer at the office to change into when you get there!

Keep a towel at the office!



A towel is one of the most important things a multi-modal commuter can keep in the office. Hot or cold, sunny or rainy, a towel is good for freshening up and drying off once you've hopped on SEPTA or arrived at the office. Keep one in your office desk so you are always prepared.

Wear yellow glasses!



Wearing glasses keeps the sun out of your eyes on a bright day, but they can also keep the rain out of them on a wet one. Rain can obscure your vision when cycling quickly, blinding you at the worst possible moment. Wear yellow or clear UV coated lenses to protect your eyes while maintaining your visibility in the rain.

Add fenders to your bike!



Adding fenders is a good way to keep rain and muck from splashing up onto you or your clothing. After-market fenders are easy to install and fit on most road, hybrid and mountain bikes. Talk to the staff at your local bike shop to find out about your best options and to find out what styles will fit on your bike.