



2025 Annual Report

Paving the way through safety education

In 2025, Bike Walk Golden Isles entered our third year of dedicated community education and advocacy in the Golden Isles. BWGI rolled out new programs, workshops and classes, cultivating strategic partnerships with our local, regional and state-level partners. Through 32 Bike/Ped safety education programs, BWGI reached 2,182 people, *plus hundreds more* at local events we attended in the three counties we serve: McIntosh, Glynn and Camden.

Throughout the year, we connected communities through programs and events designed to encourage the safe utilization of our paths, roadways and trails. We created a monthly “Walk With A...” local expert, creating opportunities for residents and tourists to engage our community leaders while learning how to identify accessible infrastructure for biking, walking and rolling.



A young rider shows off her skills at the St. Marys Public Library Bike Rodeo

Through targeted classroom education and hands-on workshops, we equipped thousands of residents and visitors with essential safety knowledge and gear. We led bike rodeos for children and youth in Camden County, community bike rides, educated law enforcement officers on Georgia bike law, fitted and distributed bicycle helmets, and performed bike checks at local events. In addition to helmet distributions, BWGI also distributed bike lights and body-worn lights, reflective arm or leg bands, and thousands of pieces of educational materials, primarily our Glynn County Bike and Walk Map.



GOHS Dir. Allen Poole presents the Safety Champions Award to BWGI

In recognition of our concerted efforts to reduce active transportation injuries and fatalities through safety education and advocacy, BWGI was presented with the *Highway Safety Champions Award* from the Georgia Governor’s Office of Highway Safety (GOHS) at the annual GOHS conference in August. In October, we were again awarded a generous grant by GOHS, marking our fourth consecutive year as recipient. BWGI first received funding from GOHS in October 2022.

Advocating for improved bike/ped facilities



In the Golden Isles, only a few miles of the East Coast Greenway offer protection for cyclists and pedestrians like seen here near the Sydney Lanier Bridge

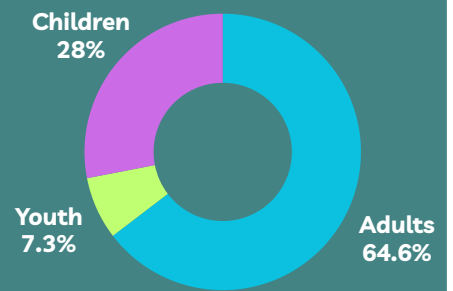
GOHS recognizes that vulnerable road users, a category that includes pedestrians and bicyclists, are over-represented in crashes resulting in serious injury and death. The probability of **fatality from a motor vehicle crash** for Camden, Glynn, and McIntosh is **one in 163**. For a bicyclist or pedestrian involved in a crash with a motor vehicle, **the chance of fatality is one in 10**.

There is much work to be done to make our community safer for all road and path users. From 2020-2024, bicyclist and pedestrian-related crashes only accounted for **1.73% of all total crashes in Camden, Glynn and McIntosh**, yet the **fatality rate** for crashes involving **bicyclists and pedestrians was 10.42%**, compared to 9.37% for Georgia overall.

(Source: GDOT- Crash Data Dashboard)

By the numbers

BWGI reached 2,182 people through 32 BWGI programs, plus hundreds more at local events



112 bike helmets professionally fitted and distributed



112 white front and red rear bike lights



289 pedestrian clip-on lights



8,336 public information and education items distributed, primarily BWGI’s Glynn County Bike and Walk Map 2025



These stark disparities reveal a critical reality: vulnerable road users face disproportionate risk in our community. This fuels our commitment to comprehensive bicycle and pedestrian safety education, infrastructure advocacy, and ongoing collaboration with law enforcement and local officials. Through our safety classes, key community partnerships, and sustained effort, BWGI remains dedicated to closing this gap and ensuring that every person—whether walking, biking, running or rolling—can navigate safely through the Golden Isles and beyond.

Who We Are

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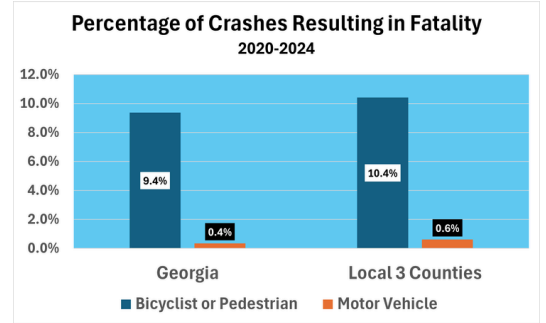
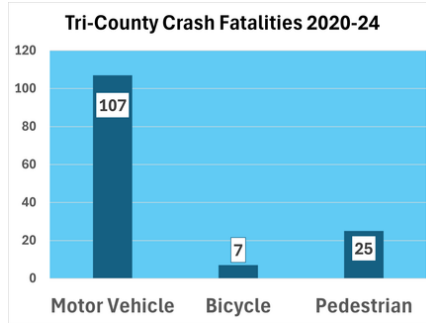
Rita Spalding

Shannon Wisness



Scan the code above to visit
[BikeWalkGoldenIsles.org](https://www.bikewalkgoldenisles.org)

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Part of BWGI's mission is to add to and improve existing Bike/Pedestrian facilities in the Golden Isles. The BWGI board and staff work regularly with Glynn County and City of Brunswick elected officials and staff, the Georgia Department of Transportation, and other agencies to encourage such activities.

In July of 2024, BWGI presented to the Glynn County Commission and have continued to advocate for the adoption of rules regarding the use of e-bikes and other motorized vehicles, speed limits, and "Rules of the Path" for those using the multi-use paths designated on SSI. In September of 2025, the Glynn County Commission formally approved laws to govern such use, with much of the adopted language coming from our recommendations. BWGI is continuing to work with Glynn County officials to develop signage explaining these rules to the public.

Likewise, BWGI has worked with the City of Brunswick as the City also attempts to develop its own rules for use of e-bikes and electric play vehicles, such as skateboards and scooters, within the City limit.

Other key projects that we advocated for during 2025 included:

- A countywide Trails Master Plan for Glynn County to guide future development and improvements of bike/ped facilities. Glynn County has received a grant to help pay for this master plan which should be completed in late 2026 or early 2027.
- The continued development of the City of Brunswick's new bike and pedestrian path along Martin Luther King Boulevard. This support included joining in the effort with Keep Golden Isles Beautiful and the City of Brunswick to submit a grant to provide bike/ped amenities along the trail. BWGI continues to advocate for the expansion of this trail beyond the Brunswick city limits to aid in expanding the East Coast Greenway Trail.

Moving our mission forward

As we reflect on our accomplishments, BWGI recognizes that there is still much work to be done. People who walk and bike are significantly over-represented in fatal crashes and accidents in the three counties and throughout Georgia. Your support is a critical component of our success as we continue our advocacy and education efforts. We invite you to consider joining BWGI as a member or making a tax-deductible donation through our website.

BWGI is making a difference in bicyclist and pedestrian safety and accessibility in our area, yet we realize that as our group grows in size and scope, we will also grow in influence. We need additional volunteers and funding for our work outside the scope of the GOHS grant. Are you willing to volunteer at an event, serve on a board or committee, or work on a volunteer government board? If your current schedule will not allow for in-person assistance, please consider making a financial contribution to BWGI to aid in our mission of creating safer opportunities for all who bike, walk, run and roll in the Golden Isles.



BWGI staff, volunteers, and partners at the Pedal Golden Isles fundraiser ride

Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to Bike Walk Golden Isles and join us as a member. Together, we can make a difference for all who bike, walk, run and roll in the Golden Isles.



SAVE THE DATE: Our third annual fundraiser, the Pedal Golden Isles ride, returns Saturday, October 17, 2026!