



CRITTERS ON THE ROAD

Riders reported dogs on this ride and a one person spotted a bull beside the roadway. We have written about dogs but not cows. Here are thoughts about both. We welcome yours as well.

- 1.** Living out in the country, our experience with cows is that they are unpredictable. We usually just go slow and watch them carefully. Most of the time, they are harmless, but if they look aggressive, we retreat. If they are on a highway, we call the sheriff.
- 2.** Dogs are another story. Stopping is usually not a good idea unless they are friendly. I usually gauge my reaction by their behavior: sometimes talking sweetly, sometimes yelling "no" or "go home" to speeding up and outrunning them.

Anticipation is important. Being caught by surprise usually will lead to fear which is as bad as stopping.

Most dogs run to their property line and stop. Some dogs just bark. Squirting water from a water bottle can be a good defense with a highly aggressive dog. That takes some practice however.

In both cases, since you are on a bike, call Kathryn (713) 516-4282 and report it. Note the location. She will report the information to our Police Coordinator and call the local

Thank you for your support

Sybren

713 826-1603

