Bicycles are a popular mode of transportation on campus. With the start of each new academic year there are a number of theft and traffic safety related issues that arise. The following tips are meant to help keep your bicycle from becoming a target for theft and help you operate your bicycle in a safe manner on campus.

CWRU PD recommends that cyclists use some type of bell or noisemaker to warn pedestrians when they are coming up behind them, and cyclists should use extra caution when approaching building entrances. Use your voice when appropriate by saying “On your left” when passing.

CWRU PD suggests all cyclists wear a professionally rated and properly fitted bicycle helmet. Consider new IIHS rating system. Look for Snell or CPSC stickers inside of the helmet.

Be Bright, Have Lights - Bike lights are required by law at night. Red for the back, white for the front; you’re invisible at night without them. Have reflectors on the side and rear of the bicycle. Wear retro-reflective clothing after dark.

Riding Two Abreast - Ohio law allows cyclists to ride side by side, but we suggest that bikes “single up” out of courtesy when the cyclists deem it safe and reasonable to do so if the traffic is backing up.

- To report a bike theft or bike accident on campus call CWRU PD at 216.368.3333
- For additional information on bike registration contact 216.368.6811
- Smart cycling tips are found at bikecleveland.org
- In Ohio, it is the law to provide three feet when passing a cyclists.
BICYCLE THEFT

Bikes are a prime target for thieves. The CWRU Police Department recommends that you

LOCK YOUR BIKE: Always make sure your bike is locked to a bike rack or other secure object. Use a good lock. We recommend a solid case-hardened steel Ulock. Cables and chains are a good secondarily lock. Steel Ulocks are free for undergraduates who register their bikes with the university.

When you lock your bike, secure it through the frame, bike rack and rear wheel. If you have a quick release front wheel, lock that up also.

- If your bike is stolen, report it to CWRU PD immediately, we often recover bikes that are never claimed or reported missing or stolen.
- Leaving bikes parked at racks for extended periods of time is an invitation for theft or vandalism.

BICYCLE REGISTRATION: To register your bike go to case.edu/publicsafety and complete the bike registration form. Then go to CWRU PD HQ at 1689 E. 115th Street, or the Wade or Fribley Commons student services offices to receive your registration sticker. Undergrad students receive a free bike lock.

BICYCLE SAFETY: Every year there are a number of incidents involving collisions and near miss accidents between bicycle riders, motor vehicles and pedestrians as well as other bicyclists. CWRU PD would like to remind members of the campus community of some of the "rules of the road."

- Bicycles operating on a public roadway have to follow the same traffic laws as motor vehicles do as defined in the Ohio Revised Code. Bicyclists can be cited for violating these rules in the same manner motorists are. There are special sections covering the use of hand signals by cyclists to indicate turns and the use of active lights at night.

- Bicycles operating on public sidewalks is prohibited and is unsafe for pedestrians and bicyclists alike.

- CWRU PD has found that in many cases involving bicycle accidents excessive speed is a major factor.

- There are multi-use paths that run through campus. Bicyclists may use paths. Bicyclists are reminded that they must be respectful of the rights of pedestrians using walkways. Pedestrians should attempt to allow for a clear path for cyclists to pass by moving to the right when possible.

BIKE LANE MARKINGS:

- Sharrow: This symbol is a “Sharrow” (a cross between “share” and “arrow”) or “Shared Lane Bicycle Marking”. They are painted on roadways as a reminder to motorists that bikes may be present on the road.

- Conventional Bike Lane: This is a dedicated lane designated as an exclusive space for bicyclists. Cars may not travel or park in the bike lane and cyclists must look back, use care exiting the lane to pass, avoid obstacles or to turn left.