Bicycling at Pitt

When it comes to finding efficient transportation on an urban campus, it’s hard to beat the bicycle for convenience, economy, and fitness. Whether you’re getting to a class at the far end of campus or exploring Schenley Park on a fall afternoon, chances are two wheels are all you need. The Parking Services Office maintains bicycle facilities on the University of Pittsburgh campus. The following tips will help keep both you and your bike secure, and make your bicycling experience at Pitt as safe and pleasant as possible.

**BICYCLE REGISTRATION**

From the original purchase to routine maintenance, your bicycle represents a significant investment.

Think about it: You pay for a lock. You look for the best possible parking spot. That’s why it makes sense to take one extra step and register your bicycle. It’s convenient and will help protect your bike from theft. If your bike is stolen, registration will greatly enhance your chances of recovering your bike.

You can register your online bike at www.pts.pitt.edu/commuting/bicycling or fill out the attached registration form, tear it off, and drop it in campus mail. You don’t need a stamp and the address is already on the form. You may also want to use the National Bike Registry at www.nationalbikeregistry.com.

**Bicycle Lockers**

If you’re looking for a secure, weatherproof place to park your bike, consider renting one of our bicycle lockers. Located near the William Pitt Union and Wesley W. Frasier Hall, the locker totally encloses the bicycle, protecting it from rain and snow. You also can store your helmet, riding shoes, and other accessories. Lockers cost $40 per term, plus a $10 refundable deposit.

**Questions?**

Check our Web site at www.pts.pitt.edu/commuting.

**PITP BICYCLE PARKING REGULATIONS**

By parking your bike at Pitt, you agree to abide by these parking regulations, which help keep the campus safe and bicycle-friendly for everyone:

- **Bicycle parking regulations are in effect at all times, including evenings, weekends, holidays, vacations, and breaks between terms.**
- **A bicycle rack is the safest place for you to park your bike on campus. For your convenience, these racks are available at nearly every University building.** (See the back of this brochure for locations.) In consideration of fellow cyclists, please use only one space.
- **For the security of your property and out of courtesy to others, please do not park or store bicycles in residence halls or against plants, trees, parking meters, pipes, trash cans, or railings.**
- **When you park your bike, please make sure it is clear of any access ramps or building entrances.**
- **If the University must move your bicycle, staff will remove locks and impound the bike at the owner/operator/permit holder’s expense.**
- **Any bicycle that remains unclaimed for 90 days including those locked to racks, will be considered abandoned by its owner and will be disposed of via the Pitt Police property disposal process.**

**SAFE CYCLING**

Your safety is our top priority. By following these tips, you can help make sure you enjoy a worry-free bicycling experience:

- **Protect yourself! Wear a bicycle helmet.**
- **As a cyclist, you have the same rights as the driver of a car. Follow motor vehicle regulations on the road, using particular caution at intersections.**
- **Don’t double up! Take a passenger only if your bicycle is meant to.**
- **A front headlight and rear reflector are required if riding between sunset and sunrise. A rear blinky increases visibility.**
- **Always yield to pedestrians.**
- **Stay to the right unless turning left.**
- **Use hand signals when turning, stopping, and changing lanes.**
- **Pennsylvania law requires: No riding on sidewalks in business districts (i.e., Oakland).**
- **No riding in dedicated bus lanes.**
- **A front headlight and rear reflector are required if riding between sunset and sunrise. A rear blinky increases visibility.**
- **Always yield to pedestrians.**
- **Stop at red lights and stop signs.**
- **Ride with the flow of traffic.**

Complete biking laws are at www.dot.state.pa.us/bike/web/bikelaws.htm

**BIKING TIPS**

- **Protect your property. Lock at least one wheel and the frame at an approved bicycle rack using a sturdy, good-quality U-lock.**
- **An automobile insurance policy won’t cover you when you are cycling, but a homeowner’s or apartment renter’s policy might.**
- **Check your policy and consider adding coverage if you don’t already have any.**
- **Stay alert—Don’t use a cell phone or earphones while riding.**
- **Ride with balanced loads (use a pannier, a bag that fits over the bicycle tire, or a trunk bag).**
- **Watch out for pedestrians and announce yourself with an audible signal when overtaking them.**
- **Wear reflective clothing after dark.**
- **When in a line of traffic, keep an indentify card in your seat post or handlebars. Your registration sticker may also aid in the recovery of your bicycle.**
- **Be aware of the “Door Zone,” three to four feet next to parked cars.**

**GET OUT AND RIDE!**

Riding a bicycle is an ideal way to explore Pittsburgh. Even if you’re a lifelong resident, you’ll see the city through new eyes from the seat of a bike. Cycle your way over to Heinz Field to catch a Pitt game, journey down to the South Side, or follow the path of one of the famed three rivers. The map to the left outlines some of the city’s more popular biking trails.

Taking a Port Authority bus? You are good to go on Port Authority’s bike-friendly vehicles. As part of Port Authority’s Rack ‘n Roll Program, you can take your bike aboard the light rail transit system (the T) or the Monongahela Incline. Also, Port Authority bus routes have bike racks available, providing access to the University of Pittsburgh and many parks and trails in Allegheny County. To learn more about how you can Rack ‘n Roll, call 412-442-2000 or log on to www.portauthority.org.

Check out other resources for cyclists at these Web sites:

- Panther Cycling Club: www.pittcycling.com
- Bike Pittsburgh: www.bike-pgh.org
- City of Pittsburgh: www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/op/html/bicycling_plan.html
- Port Authority: www.portauthority.org

The city has installed sharrows (shared lane markings) on Liberty Avenue in Bloomfield, Penn Avenue in the Strip District, and Forbes Avenue near Carnegie Mellon University, making your commute more enjoyable in...