



Bicycle Security Information

- Register your bicycle with the University of Florida Police Department. In the event that your bicycle is lost or stolen you will have a better chance of it being returned to you when recovered. This is a free service and any UFPD officer can assist you.
- Park and lock your bicycle in well-lighted areas.
- Secure your bicycle to a bicycle rack with a quality, hardened steel "U" type lock. Always lock your bicycle by putting the U-lock through the bike's frame, a wheel, and the rack. This is especially important if your bicycle has quick-release wheels.
- If you have quick-release wheels, remove the front wheel and place it next to the rear wheel. Then put the U-lock through both wheels, the frame, and the bicycle rack.
- Avoid putting a U-lock through only one wheel. The wheel can be removed and the frame and remaining wheel can easily be stolen.
- Place the lock on your bicycle with the key mechanism facing the ground. This will make it harder for a thief to tamper with and less likely that the mechanism will fail as a result of exposure to the weather.
- Avoid using cable locks, locking your bicycle to itself, or leaving it parked in the same place for a long period of time.
- Avoid blocking building entrances, ramps, or handicap areas with your bicycle.

Preventing Auto, Motorcycle, and Scooter Theft

Don't make your car an easy target for a thief. On average it takes less than 30 seconds to steal a car. Give a thief an inch and s/he will take your car for miles. Here are some tips to make it harder for the thieves:

- Always lock your car, close the windows, and take the keys. A recent Gallup poll found that thirty-one percent of us don't always lock our car doors. Twelve percent leave a window cracked open, usually for ventilation, and fourteen percent of us don't always remove our keys.
- Never leave valuables in sight. Thieves are attracted not only by your car, but also its contents.
- If at all possible, invest in an alarm system or theft deterrent device.
- Use a high visibility theft deterrent such as a steering wheel lock or security alarm.
- Never leave your car running and unoccupied, even for just a minute.
- Have your vehicle identification number etched on the car windows. Drop a business card into your door panels. This may make your car more easily identifiable to law enforcement in the event that it is stolen and subsequently recovered.
- Secure motorcycles and scooters properly. See the UFPD website at www.police.ufl.edu for more information.

Safety Tips for Vehicle Operators

- Always yield to pedestrians.
- Watch your "blind spot" for other traffic, such as bicycles and pedestrians, overtaking you when making right turns.
- Always stop for pedestrians in crosswalks.
- Always behave in a predictable manner and use turn signals. Other traffic may not always see you or recognize your intentions.
- Oversized vehicles must watch for bicycles, pedestrians, and other traffic when turning.

Bikes on Campus

In Florida, a bicycle is considered a vehicle when operated on the roadway. As a result, bicycles are subject to the same responsibilities and regulations as motorists. The same fines apply to motorists and bicyclists for traffic violations such as failing to yield to a pedestrian, running a stop sign or red light, going the wrong way on a one way street, or riding on the wrong side of the road. Additionally, bicycles have special requirements such as a mandatory white head light and red tail light if the bicycle is being ridden at night; one person per permanently affixed seat; a requirement to keep at least one hand on the handle bars at all times; as well as other requirements. Fines for moving violations can be found online at the Alachua County Clerk of the Court website at <http://www.alachuacounty.us/government/clerk/fines>.

Bike Helmets

Florida law requires all people 16 years of age or younger to wear a helmet when riding a bicycle. All cyclists are encouraged to wear a bike helmet for their safety. Serious head injuries can be avoided when bicyclists wear this important piece of safety gear.

Bicycle Safety Education Program

The University of Florida Police Department's Bicycle Safety Education Program is designed to promote a greater awareness of the duties and responsibilities associated with the operation of bicycles in the greater campus traffic mix. The goal of the program is to provide members of the university community with a desirable combination of education, encouragement, enforcement, and facilities necessary to gain voluntary acceptance of and compliance with bicycle safety standards and the law. For more information about bicycle safety and bicycle laws, please come to the University of Florida Police Department's Community Services Division, or call (352) 392-1409.

Mopeds and Motor Scooters on Campus

Mopeds are considered motor vehicles unless they are being operated solely by human power. When they are under engine power, they cannot be ridden on



sidewalks. Motor scooters are also considered motor vehicles and cannot be driven on sidewalks or in bike lanes. Both mopeds and motor scooters are subject to the same laws as all other motor vehicles including running stop signs, failing to yield to pedestrians, and speeding. For more information, call the Community Services Division at (352) 392-1409.

Motorcycles on Campus

Any person operating a motorcycle on campus is subject to the same laws and responsibilities as the driver of any other vehicle. Motorcycle operators are required to have proper driver's license endorsements and any rider choosing not to wear a helmet must be over 21 years of age, carry \$10,000 or more of personal injury protection insurance, and wear proper eye protection as provided by Florida State Statute 316.211.

Pedestrian Right of Way

Walking is a primary mode of transportation around the University of Florida, and vehicles must yield to pedestrians in a clearly marked crosswalk. Even though vehicles are required to yield, always remember to make eye contact with the driver before proceeding into the path of an oncoming vehicle. Pedestrians must yield to vehicles when crossing anywhere other than a marked crosswalk or intersection.

Traffic Safety Week

Each fall and spring semester, the University of Florida Police Department's Community Services Division presents Traffic Safety Week to promote traffic and pedestrian safety. Police officers and members of the community work together at crosswalks and intersections to emphasize the importance of traffic safety by distributing the "The Headlight on Traffic" brochure featuring the "Street Safe Gator" logo to all interested persons. The brochure is filled with helpful information and tips for traffic and pedestrian safety.

