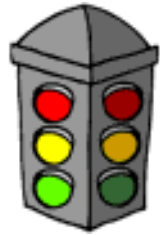




HEADLIGHT ON TRAFFIC



Fall 2009

With thousands of new students on the University of Florida campus this fall, there is bound to be some confusion as students get used to building names, bus routes, and long lines at the bookstores. **Headlight on Traffic** is published by the University of Florida Police Department to help decrease this confusion. Inside are tips which will help keep you safe on the streets and sidewalks of the University of Florida campus and the larger Gainesville community.



The University of Florida has installed crosswalks in heavily traveled campus locations for your convenience and safety. Signs at campus crosswalks inform drivers that they must yield right of way to bicyclists or pedestrians in the crosswalks.

Please do not let these instructions to vehicle drivers give you a false sense of security. Despite the signs, pedestrians must use common sense.

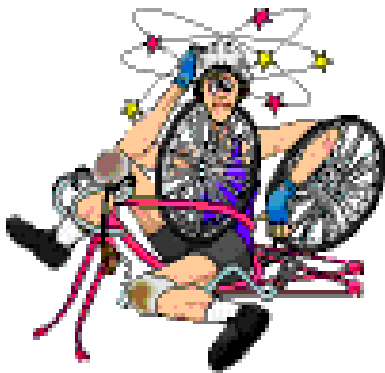
Before entering a crosswalk, stop at the curb, look both ways, and establish eye contact with any drivers, ensuring that they see you and yield. Also remember that when using crosswalks at intersections, you must obey the electronic "Walk/Don't Walk" indicators. Drivers may not see you due to congested traffic, darkness, or sun glare.

Remember: better safe than sorry! A driver may get a ticket if he or she hits you, but that will be small comfort if you are injured.

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Tips to Remember When Riding Your Bike

- ✓ **Wear a bike helmet at all times. The most serious bike injuries are to the head.**
- ✓ **Keep both hands on the handle bars except when performing turn signals.**
- ✓ **Slow down and check traffic at all corners.**
- ✓ **Try to keep your bike in good shape.**
- ✓ **Always let cars and people go first.**
- ✓ **Avoid busy streets if possible.**
- ✓ **Walk across busy streets.**



- ✗ **Don't stunt!**
- ✗ **Don't hitch rides!**
- ✗ **Don't ride double!**
- ✗ **Never ride between two cars**
- ✗ **Never weave in and out of traffic!**

Bicycle Hand Signal Refresher



Right turn



Slow down or stop



Left turn



Wear a Helmet!

Even if you're just going around the corner, make sure to wear your helmet.

Make sure your bike helmet fits properly. It shouldn't be too big or too small. Ask a bike store employee for assistance in fitting your helmet.

Wear your helmet level and cover your forehead. Always fasten straps and adjust them so that the helmet won't move.



Correct



Incorrect

Parking Dos and Don'ts



Do lock the frame and front wheel to the rack.

Don't lock just the frame. Thieves can steal the front wheel.



Do use a secure lock, such as a U-lock.

Don't lock your front wheel to a bike rack. Thieves can remove the wheel and steal the frame.



Don't block building entrances.

Don't block entrance ramps.



Maintaining Your Bicycle

Inspect your bicycle on a regular basis to keep it in good working order.

- Tighten nuts, bolts, and fasteners regularly.
- Brake pads should just clear the rim.
- Keep brake controls lightly oiled.
- Replace worn tires.
- Maintain tires at correct air pressure.
- Keep the chain clean and lightly lubricated.
- Replace cracked reflectors, old batteries, and lamp bulbs.

Register Your Bike!

Whether your bike is old or new, registering it with UFPD is a good move. When you register your bicycle, the information is entered into a database, allowing the UFPD to easily access it should your bike be stolen. Ask a police officer, visit our website at www.police.ufl.edu, or stop by the Community Services Division at the police department to register your bike. The service is free and takes just a few minutes.



Did You Know You Can Get a DUI on Your Bike?

According to Florida State Statute 316.2065, bicycles are vehicles. Cyclists share the roads with motor vehicles and have the same rights as car drivers. This means that cyclists also have to follow all the same rules and assume all the same responsibilities as car drivers.

Obeying the laws that apply to bicycles is one way to be as safe as possible, and it can help you avoid a costly ticket. The six most common mistakes campus cyclists make, followed by the ticket cost, are as follows:

1. Riding against traffic (including in a bike lane) or riding the wrong way on a one-way street. **\$154.00**
2. Failure to obey traffic signs, such as stop signs or yield signs. **\$154.00**

3. Failure to obey traffic signals, such as red lights. **\$219.00**
4. Wearing headphones while cycling (on the road or on the sidewalk). **\$104.00**
5. Riding at night without a white light on the front of the bike and a red light in the back (either on the road or on the sidewalk). **\$52.50**
6. Failure to have at least one hand on the handlebars at all times. **\$52.50**



Don't Walk Alone at Night!
Use **SNAP**

Student Nighttime Auxiliary Patrol

During the Fall & Spring terms, SNAP operates 7 nights a week from 6:30 p.m. until 3:00 a.m. Call (352) 392-SNAP (392-7627). For more information visit our website at www.police.ufl.edu.

Emergency Blue Light Phones

Emergency Blue Light Telephones provide a direct link to the University of Florida Police Department. They are located throughout campus for use in case of emergency.



If you have any questions, or would like more information or safety tips, contact **University of Florida Police Department Community Services Division** (352) 392-1409

