CAMPUS BIKING ETIQUETTE

As an on-campus cyclist, you are responsible for maintaining a safe and enjoyable environment for fellow users, including pedestrians.

REMEMBER: PEDESTRIANS ALWAYS HAVE THE RIGHT-OF-WAY.

Be seen! Increase your visibility with the use of front lights, rear lights and reflectors and brightly-colored or reflective clothing.

1. Approach intersections along the Forsyth bike path slowly and with caution.
2. Maintain a safe distance and don't make any noise when used.
3. Speed limits should be observed.
4. Respect the rights of pedestrians, especially when crossing streets.
5. Always yield to pedestrians on the Forest Park Pkwy overpass.
6. Do not use your cell phone or wear headphones while riding.
7. Always make eye contact with pedestrians when nearing them.
8. Avoid fast speeds when cycling on campus and always slow down and yield when nearing pedestrians.
9. Be aware of people standing or bending over in your path.
10. Observe the speed limit and yield to pedestrians in pedestrian zones.
11. Be patient and courteous to other riders.
12. Keep a safe distance from other cyclists and cars.
13. Be alert to your surroundings and be prepared to react to any potential hazards.
14. Wear a helmet and proper safety gear.
15. Be respectful of the environment and others on campus.

BE SEEN:

When parking your bike, make sure it is visible. If your bike is secured properly: the locking arm should be a slight bend in your knee when the pedal reaches its lowest point.

When locking your bike...

1. Lease your bike against the rack to allow for two points of connection. Lock the frame and the front wheel to the rack.
2. Remove the quick release front wheel lock and lock it with the frame and rear wheel.

REGISTRATION

BIKE REGISTRATION: We strongly encourage that you register your bike with the Washington University Police Department (WUPD). Filling out this form online is quick and easy. By registering your bike, you increase the likelihood of recovery in the event of theft, and helps the administration understand demand for bicycle parking.

PURCHASING A U-LOCK: WUPD also offers high-quality Kryptonite U-bolt bike locks for purchase by members of the Washington University community for a discounted price of $20.

PARKING YOUR BIKE

Bicycles can only be parked at bike racks on campus. They cannot be locked to undesignated objects such as trees, benches and railings and will be removed from those areas, especially if the bike impedes access to a building. On-campus bike racks near academic buildings are intended for use only by daily commuters and should not be used for long-term storage. Covered bike parking is located near residential housing areas for long-term storage. Bikes cannot be stored on any bike rack over summer break, unless the rack has been designated for bike storage.

WHEN LOCKING YOUR BIKE...

1. Lift your bike to place it in the wheel well nearest to the bus. Wheel placement will be clearly marked on the exterior of the bus. All sizes of single-rider bikes will fit.
2. Your bike is secured properly if the locking arm is at the 10 o’clock or 2 o’clock position on the front tire, depending on which way the bicycle is facing.
3. Before exiting at your stop, let the bus operator know you will be unfurling your bike. If no bikes are in a row, return it to its upright position.

MULTIMODAL TRAVEL

Combining your bike ride with public transportation can make your commute easier and faster. The Washington University U-Pass program provides free Metro passes to full-time students and benefits-eligible faculty and staff. On MetroLink, bikes are allowed at the rear of the first train car and at the front and rear of the second car. Do not use second-hand or found helmets. Consider using the gear illustrated below to make your ride safer and more comfortable.

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BICYCLE REGISTRATION:

Washington University in St. Louis
Sustainability

Registration

Purchasing a U-Lock

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Car-Free Month

Every April and October.

Join us for free bike tune-ups, safety and repair workshops, off-campus rides, bike blender smoothies and more! Bikes are accepted as part of the bi-annual Car-Free Month! Faculty, staff, and students at all WUSTL campuses are invited to form teams and by car-free commuting in the four-week long Car-Free Challenge with prizes for the winners. For registration information, visit tinyurl.com/carfreechallenge.

Like us on Facebook to stay up to date on upcoming events! Facebook.com/WUSTLsustain

How to use the Metro Bus Bike Racks:

1. Approach intersections along the Forsyth bike path slowly and with caution.
2. Lift your bike to place it in the wheel well nearest to the bus. Wheel placement will be clearly marked on the exterior of the bus. All sizes of single-rider bikes will fit.
3. With the bike sitting in the rack, raise the locking arm and pull it up over the front tire of the bike. Make sure your bike is secured properly. The locking arm should be at the 10 o’clock or 2 o’clock position on the front tire, depending on which way the bicycle is facing.
4. Before exiting at your stop, let the bus operator know you will be unfurling your bike. If no bikes are in a row, return it to its upright position.

Get Involved

Be a part of the growing bicycle culture at Washington University.

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Routine Maintenance

Frequent bicycle maintenance keeps your bike in shape and can prevent crashes.

Frame:

Clean your bike often with a damp rag to get dirt and salt off of moving parts and cables. If your bike gets wet, wipe it off with a dry rag to prevent rust.

Wheels:

Check your tires for proper inflation. If you have a gauge, fill your tires to the suggested air pressure printed on the tire sidewall. Otherwise, use your fingers to check that your tires are firm. If your wheels are wobbling or hitting your bike, take your bike to a mechanic to get it realigned or "trued.

Braakes:

Working brakes stop your bike in a reasonable distance and don’t make any noise when used. If this is not the case, bring your bike to a mechanic for a quick and easy repair.

Seat:

Check that your seat height is properly adjusted. There should be a slight bend in your knee when the pedal reaches its lowest point.

Chain:

 Lubricate your chain and other moving parts at least once a month.

Key Gear:

Proper gear for your bike is essential to keep you and others safe. Make sure your ride is as comfortable and prevent crashes.

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USING THE METRO BUS BIKE RACKS:

When you arrive at your destination, you will need to unlock your bike from the rack to remove it. The key to unlock the rack is located on the interior of the bus. Insert the key into the lock and turn it to the right to unlock the rack. Once the rack is unlocked, you can remove your bike from the rack by following these steps:

1. Approach the rear of the bus, which can be identified by the words “rear” or “bike” on the side of the bus.
2. Use the key to unlock the rack from the rear of the bus.
3. Remove your bike from the rack by lifting it off the front wheel and pulling it out of the bike rack.
4. Lock the rack by pushing it firmly into the bike rack until it clicks into place.

Once your bike is secured to the rack, you can proceed to your final destination. When you are ready to leave the bus, simply repeat the process in reverse to remove your bike from the rack and continue your journey.
CYCLING TIPS FOR A SAFE COMMUTE

Obey All Traffic Regulations: Cyclists are intended users of the road and have the same rights, rules and responsibilities as drivers of other vehicles. When approaching a stop sign or red light, come to a complete stop and proceed only when safe to do so.

Use Hand Signals: Use hand signals to communicate any turns to motorists and other cyclists. Signal as a matter of law, courtesy and self-protection.

Travel in a Straight Line: Instead of weaving, travel in a straight, predictable line except to pass other vehicles or to avoid road surface hazards. Ride to the right of faster traffic 4ft from parked cars to avoid opening doors.

Follow Lane Markings: Don’t turn left from the right lane. Instead, enter into the appropriate lane in the direction you are going when lane markings change. Don’t go straight in a lane marked “right turn only.”

Choose the best way to turn left: There are two ways to make a left turn. (1) Like a motorist: Signal, and proceed only when safe to make a left turn. (2) Go straight to the corner at the intersection. Don’t turn left from the right lane.

Watch for turning traffic: Cars turning right or turning left from the opposite left-turning lane at intersections may not notice cyclists. Watch for any indications that a motorist may turn into your path. Ride defensively, be ready to brake if a motorist enters your path.

Communicate with motorists: Make eye contact with motorists and communicate what you intend to do with hand signals and body language.

Keep your bike in check: Perform routine maintenance regularly. When bike commuting, carry tools for simple repairs, including a pump, Allen wrench set, tire levers, patch kit, spare tube and a crescent wrench if necessary.

Be cautious on shared paths: Always yield to pedestrians, especially in high-density areas such as campus. When passing pedestrians, use a bell, horn or your voice to make them aware ahead of time and then pass on their left. Law states that cyclists are not allowed on sidewalks in business districts, like the Delmar Loop.

Ride with the flow of traffic: Riding against automobile traffic is dangerous and illegal. Motorists and pedestrians aren’t looking for cyclists riding in the opposite direction, which reduces their reaction time and increases the chances of an accident.

Use the Entire Lane When Necessary: State law allows cyclists to use as much of the lane as they need to ride safely. Move toward the center when the lane is too narrow for motorists to pass safely or when you are moving at the same speed as traffic. Bicyclists may ride side-by-side if not impeding faster traffic. Ride single file when cars are trying to pass.

Be prepared: Always wear a helmet. Be sure to have a front-facing white light and rear-facing red light. Carry a lock to secure your bike after parking.

Avoid road hazards: Watch out for potholes, sewer grates and manhole covers, oily or slick pavement and other hazards. Cross railroad tracks carefully at right angles. For better control, stand up on your pedals. The majority of bicycle accidents are caused by road hazards.

Be Aware of Surroundings: Always scan intersections, driveways and crosswalks when passing. Learn to look back when changing lanes without losing your balance or swerving left.

Modal Information Map of St. Louis

INFORMATION ON BIKING IN ST. LOUIS
OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY: sustain.wustl.edu
GREAT RIVERS GREENWAY: grgstl.org
TRAILNET: trailnet.org
PARKING & TRANSPORTATION: parking.wustl.edu
BIKE REPAIR/RENTAL
BEARS’ BIKES: bearbikes.com
BIG SHARK BICYCLES: bigshark.com
BIKE WORKS: bwworks.com
MESA CYCLES: mesacycles.com

Sustainability
Washington University in St. Louis

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IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS
To report emergencies, accidents and theft, call WUPD, 314-935-5555
To report road hazards or campus infrastructure problems, call WUSTL, Facilities, 314-935-5544

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