



## Department of Public Safety

*Providing responsive, collaborative, and professional policing  
that results in a safe environment for all members of OHSU's community*

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# Bicycle Safety

With each passing year, more people are riding bicycles to and through OHSU. Some are employees or students coming to campus, some are community members just passing through, and others include our own Public Safety officers on patrol. In any case, it is a good time to increase awareness about bike safety:

- **Be Predictable** – Ride so drivers can see you and predict your movements
- **Obey All Regulatory Signs and Traffic Lights** – Bicycles must be driven like other motor vehicles if they are to be taken seriously by motorists
- **Go Slow on Sidewalks** – Pedestrians have the right of way on walkways. By law, you must give them an audible warning when you pass
- **Never Ride Against Traffic** – Motorists are not looking for bikes riding on the wrong side of the road. Ride with traffic to avoid potential accidents
- **Watch for Cars Pulling Out** – Make eye contact with drivers. Assume they do not see you until you are sure they do
- **Use Hand Signals** – Hand signals tell motorists what you intend to do. For turn signals, point in the direction of your turn
- **Avoid Road Hazards** – Watch out for sewer grates, slippery manhole covers, oily/wet pavement, gravel, and ice. Cross railroad tracks at right angles.
- **Ride a Well-Equipped Bike** – Prioritize maintenance needs. Always use a strong headlight and tail light at night and when visibility is poor
- **Dress Appropriately** – Wear a hard-shell helmet whenever you ride. Wear light-colored clothes at night. Bright clothes and reflective materials aid visibility
- **Do Not Pass on the Right** – Motorists do not expect a bicyclist to pass on the right, and they may not see you. Pass on the left side of vehicles.
- **Lock Your Bike** – Buy the best locking system you can afford: none is as expensive as a new bike. A U-shaped high security lock is best. There are many bike storage racks, including secure and sheltered racks, for your use at OHSU.
- **Use OHSU Bike Valet** – Go By Bike is an OHSU partner that offers fast, free and secure bike valet service to the public at the Portland Aerial Tram's Waterfront terminal. Contact OHSU Parking office for more information.

The OHSU Parking Office (503 494-8283) offers free tools and supplies, includes a basic repair kit, tubes and patches, and air pumps. They also now have a Bike Commuter Incentive Program that rewards riders with an incentive for riding their bike to work. For details see: <http://www.ohsu.edu/bike>