



Preventing bicycle theft

Each year thousands of bicycles are stolen or recovered in Minneapolis. Only a small percentage of recovered bicycles are returned to their owners due to lack of reporting or proper identification of the bicycle.

Tips to prevent bicycle theft

- Always lock unattended bicycles! Use a lock resistant to cutting, breaking or picking (example: a “U-lock”).
- Make sure both wheels are locked, either by removing one and U-locking it with the other and the frame or by using an auxiliary lock on one. You can also purchase devices that replace the cam and the lever on quick release wheels and seats with a keyed system.
- Lock the bicycle to something stationary, preferably where you and others can see it. Note that it is illegal in Minneapolis to lock bikes in a manner that will impede normal pedestrian or traffic movement. (Minneapolis Ordinance 490.150)
- Properly secure garages or storage units where bicycles are kept. Lock your bike inside the garage by the same techniques as listed above.
- Remove any bicycle components and accessories that are easily taken.
- Be observant. Call 911 if you see suspicious activity.



How to report stolen or lost bicycles

- Call 911 to report a theft in progress, from a dwelling or storage unit, or when evidence is left behind (e.g., fingerprints, tools, video surveillance).
- Call 311 or 612-673-3000 to make a police report if you did not witness the theft in progress or if no evidence was left behind.
- To request a database search of recovered bicycles, contact Property and Evidence at 612-673-2932. They are open Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tips to increase the odds of a stolen bike being returned

- Record the make, model, and especially the serial number on your bicycle. Keep this information in a safe place; it is essential to recovering bicycles. Photographs may also help.

For information on bicycle safety, please visit:

- Share The Road, a combined effort of the Minnesota Dept. of Transportation and the State Bicycle Advisory Committee, at <http://sharetheroadmn.org/index.html>
- MN Dept of Public Safety at <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ots/pedestrians-bicycles/Pages/default.aspx>.

Contact your crime prevention specialist for additional prevention information. Call 311 (or 612-673-3000) or see http://www.minneapolismn.gov/police/crimeprevention/police_outreach_safe-teamstaff-map.pdf to locate your neighborhood crime prevention specialist.

For further crime prevention resources, please visit

<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/police/crimeprevention/index.htm>.



English: Attention. If you want help translating this information, call 612-673-3737

Spanish: Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llame 612-673-2700

Somali: Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac 612-673-3500

Hmong: Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu 612-673-2800

Sign Language: TTY 612-673-2626

If you need this material in an alternative format, please contact the Minneapolis Police Department at 612-673-2912

