

The problem of bicycle theft is a growing one. In the last 20 years, bicycling has become increasingly popular as a mode of transportation. This can be largely attributed to an increase in ridership due primarily to the public's interests in personal fitness, fun family friendly recreational activities, and the desire to protect our environment.

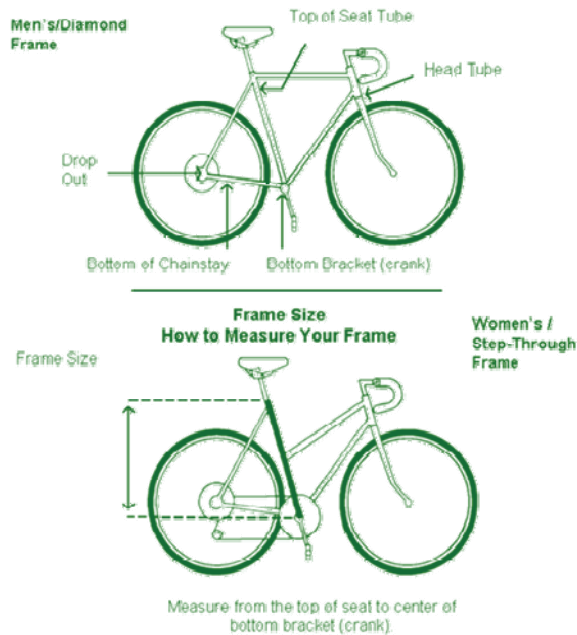
Traditionally, bicycle theft has been viewed by law enforcement as a relatively low priority. However, due to the increases in overall usage, criminal statistics show that nationally, the problem of bicycle theft is on the rise and needs to be addressed.

Florida is no exception. Florida is the 24th most bicycle friendly state. From 2000 to 2012, bicycle commuting in the United States increased 61%. There are 11 million bicycle trips in the U.S. every day. In Florida, 0.6% of people get to work by bicycle (73% are men and 27% are women). Based on a 5 year estimate, from 2010 to 2014 by American Community Survey, 0.8% of workers over the age of 16 use a bicycle to get to work in Hillsborough County.

In correlation, there were 787 bicycle theft cases reported in HCSO's jurisdiction, in 2015.

WHY REGISTER YOUR BIKE?

Should a bicycle be lost or stolen, the best way to help the Sheriff's Office locate, identify, and return a bicycle to its rightful owner is to register it. You can register your bicycle with the Bicycle Registration Program by completing the registration form and submitting it to the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office.



A registration number will be assigned to your bicycle and the information is entered into our records management system. **Simply by registering your bicycle, YOU are helping to deter bicycle theft!**

BICYCLE INFORMATION

MAKE/BRAND: _____

MODEL: _____

TYPE/STYLE: _____

COLORS: _____

SPEED/GEARS: _____

SERIAL #: _____

FRAME SIZE: _____" WHEEL SIZE: _____"

APPROX. VALUE: \$ _____

BICYCLE REGISTRATION NUMBER

REGISTRATION #: _____





TIPS TO PROTECT YOUR BIKE

- Always secure your bicycle with an adequate bike lock or locks, before leaving it unattended.
- Whenever possible, try to park and secure your bicycle in a high traffic, highly visibility area.
- Try not to engage in “flyparking” by securing your bicycle to any item not specifically designed for bicycle parking, such as a tree, signpost, park bench, etc.



- Whenever possible, secure your bicycle to a standard Sheffield or “Π” shaped bike stand designed for bicycle parking.
- Lock your bicycle through the frame and both wheels to a bicycle rack or stand.
- Combined usage of both a cable lock and “U-bolt” shaped lock is recommended as a best practice for securing your bicycle.



IF YOUR BIKE IS STOLEN

According to the national average, only 56% of all bicycle thefts are ever reported to law enforcement. If you don’t report it, law enforcement cannot be aware of the problem.

In the event that your bicycle becomes lost or stolen, immediately report it to the Sheriff’s Office via Non-Emergency Dispatch at (813) 247-8200. In the event of an emergency or a crime-in-progress, please dial 911!



For more information about our Bicycle Registration Program and any other crime prevention programs, please contact the Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office
Community Outreach Division
Post Office Box 3371
Tampa, FL 33601
(813) 247-8115
www.hcso.tampa.fl.us

PROTECT YOUR BIKE!

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY
SHERIFF’S OFFICE**

BICYCLE THEFT PREVENTION & REGISTRATION PROGRAM



CHAD CHRONISTER, SHERIFF

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Non-Emergency	813-247-8200
Information	813-247-8000
Community Outreach	813-247-8115