Bicycle Safety Tips

In Illinois, bicycles on the street are subject to the same traffic rules as motor vehicles. Cyclists are expected to obey traffic signs, signals and right of ways just like those driving a car.

Oak Park also has several Local Ordinances pertaining to cyclists. The following list are a few of the most important to consider.

- Bicycles may not be ridden on the sidewalk by anyone over 15 years old.
- Bicycles are prohibited on sidewalks in business districts by riders of any age.
- Cyclists on roadways should ride as close to the right-hand side of the street as possible.
- Groups of cyclists on the road should ride in a single file.
- Bicycles cannot be used to carry more than the number of people for which the bike is designed or equipped.

The Oak Park Police would also like to help cyclists protect their bikes from theft. Here are a few simple precautions to take to help ensure your bike stays with you for a long time.

- Remember to secure your bike when it is not in use.
- Don’t leave your bike in unsecured yards, parks or anywhere else it could be easily stolen.
- Advise children to not let anyone borrow or try their bike that they do not know and to avoid persons or groups who might try to bully their bikes away from them.

- Register your family’s bicycles with the Village of Oak Park. Registered bikes have a much better chance of being returned should they get stolen. There is no charge for registering bicycles.
- Finally, always wear a helmet when riding your bike.

For more information on bicycle riding, safety tips and ordinances in Oak Park, visit www.oak-park.us/police, call 708.386.3800 or e-mail police@oak-park.us.