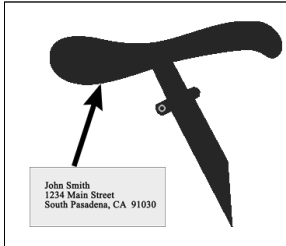


## KEEPING YOUR BICYCLE SAFE

Besides a bicycle license to help recover your bicycle, you can also tape a card with your information under the bicycle seat. Since this area is not readily visible, it is often overlooked as a place to put your identification.



Here are some other helpful tips to keep your bicycle safe:

- Never leave your bicycle unattended AND unlocked!
- Don't leave children bicycles laying on the front lawn. They make a tempting target for a thief.
- Be sure your tires and frame are always locked together.
- Photograph your bicycle and any details of it, including any accessories you have on it.
- Record the serial number, color, make and model of your bicycle.
- When using a cable style lock, remember to use a good quality padlock as the padlock is the only secure item holding the cable together.
- Consider using more than one lock to secure your bicycle. A combination of a "U" type and a strong cable lock will help make your bicycle more secure.
- Park and lock your bicycle in well-lighted places.

## FOLLOW US ON THE WEB

### Connect **South Pasadena**

Sign-up to get notifications from the city during an emergency  
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South Pasadena Police Department  
1422 Mission Street  
South Pasadena, CA 91030  
626-403-7270

**EMERGENCY**  
**9-1-1**

## Preventing **BICYCLE THEFT**



**What you need to know  
to keep your bicycle safe!**



This brochure is published by the  
South Pasadena Police Department  
Crime Prevention Unit

Joe Ortiz  
Chief of Police

## **BICYCLE THEFT**

In the past few years, bicycle theft has increased at an alarming rate in the San Gabriel Valley.

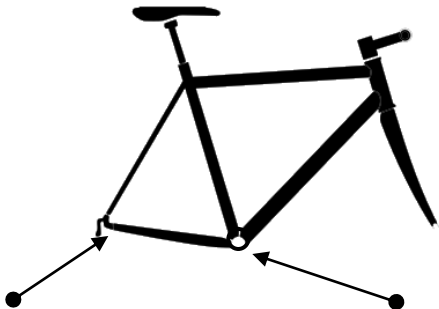
Many of the bicycles were left unlocked and on front porches, or on the lawn making the theft easy. Other bicycles were locked with simple cable locks that were easily cut.



Bicycles don't have license plates to track registered owners when they are stolen. Instead, they have serial numbers which can be entered into a nationwide stolen property system. This is the only way you would be able to positively identify your bicycle.

Sadly, many bicycle owners don't record their serial numbers making recovery difficult. Unfortunately, serial numbers are not always stamped at the same place on all bicycles.

The common areas where you may find a serial number is on the bicycle frame located at areas below:



If you are unsure where to locate the serial number on your bicycle, contact the store where you bought the bicycle.

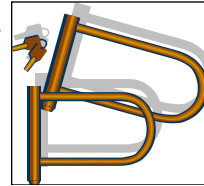
Keep your receipts as they not only show the cost of your bicycle, but they may also show the serial number, make and model.

## **BICYCLE LOCKS**

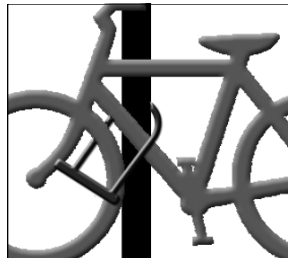
The first step in bicycle prevention is to lock your bicycle! It only takes seconds for a thief to ride off with an unlocked bicycle.

Be sure to purchase a good quality lock. Cheap locks provide a false sense of security and can be easily cut.

"U" type locks made of good quality material offer the best protection as they are difficult to cut.



Should you use a cable style lock, be sure you wrap it tightly around the bicycle and immovable object. This makes it difficult for a bolt-cutter to cut the lock.



Lock your bicycle to a fixed or immovable object, and always lock the tire and frame together to the object.

If you leave your bicycle in the garage, be sure to keep it locked up as well. Many bicycles have been stolen from detached garages.

## **BICYCLE LICENSE**

Residents of South Pasadena can get a **FREE** bicycle license at the police department. In fact, most cities have a bicycle license program.

A bicycle license through the city is different than a license plate to a vehicle in that the license information is stored locally and not in a nationwide database.

The purpose of a bicycle license is to register your bicycle with the police department. Important information about you and your bicycle is kept on file should your bicycle be lost or stolen. Should your bicycle be located the owner's information can be easily traced through the license.



Remember to notify the police department if there is any transfer of ownership on the bicycle. You must complete an updated form with

the new owner's information. The new owner will also have to complete a new application with the police department so the current owner's information is always up-to-date.