



BIKE FLEET

Children between the ages of 10 and 14 have the highest rate of bicycle crashes for all age groups - but the majority of crashes could be avoided through better education of the rules for the road. In 2015, Wright County's Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP) partnered with Monticello Community Education to create the Wright County Bicycle Education Fleet, which is now housed and managed by Wright County Parks Department.

The Bike Fleet is a 20-ft trailer that holds 36 kid and adult-size bikes. It also includes helmets and all of the equipment and supplies necessary to use and maintain the fleet. It is being used to teach bike safety education to students at Wright County schools for the very first time.

To utilize the bike fleet, physical education teachers at area schools must attend an all-day training on Minnesota's Walk! Bike! Fun! Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety Curriculum. Each school then has access to the fleet for 2-4 weeks at a time during the Spring or Fall to teach the Walk!Bike!Fun! curriculum to their students. Community groups are able to rent the fleet during the summer.

Reports from users indicate the bike fleet is an effective and popular teaching tool. One Annandale Middle School 7th grader was so inspired by the bike unit that he led his family on a 15-mile ride the following weekend. A few students are learning to ride a bike for the first time; others are finding new-found freedom as they learn to ride safely.

If you are interested in being trained in the Walk!Bike!Fun! curriculum, please refer to bikemn.org/education/walk-bike-fun.

To rent the bike fleet, please contact Wright County Parks Department at 763-682-7693.