NEWS RELEASE
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Bike Thefts increase 64 percent in first quarter of 2013
Advisory and Crime Prevention Tips

Media Note: Sgt. Lisa Barrong will be available for interviews today before 2:00 p.m.

More people are out cycling, and based upon the current increasing numbers of thefts, EPD would like bicyclists to be aware of tips to protect their property.

There were 848 bicycles reported stolen in 2012 and 846 reported stolen in 2011. That’s about 2.3 bikes reported stolen per day or one bike every 10 hours—and 2013 is shaping up to be far worse. In the first quarter of 2012, there were 106 bikes stolen. In 2013, there were 174 bikes were reported stolen, a jump of 64 percent, compared to reports entered during the first few months of 2012.

TIPS TO KEEP YOUR BIKE FROM BEING STOLEN:

1. Register your bicycle with Eugene Police on line at www.eugenepolice.com. Select “prevention and safety,” then select “bicycle safety/theft prevention.” An online form will lead you through a thorough description of your bike. Within a few days of filling out the form, you will receive a sticker in the mail to adhere to your bike to further establish ownership. Once your bike is registered, if your bike is stolen, when you call us we will already have your bike’s description and the information needed for a detailed report. Your odds of getting your bike back will go up considerably.

2. Lock your bike with a substantial lock – a U-bolt style is best. No lock is foolproof, but a high-end lock is more likely to deter thieves. Bikes have frequently been stolen from inside garages, storage sheds and apartments, so make sure those locations are well secured, as well. Many bike owners invest a lot of money in nice bikes, and then hold back when it comes to the lock. Big mistake!

3. If you are a UO student, register your bike with the UO Police Department, on campus, at 1319 E 15th, tel. (541) 346-2919. One prudent approach to consider: buy a cheap bike and an expensive lock!

For more information, contact Eugene Police Crime Prevention at 541-682-5137.

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