



435 Ryman,
Missoula, MT 59802

406-552-6352
bweiss@ci.missoula.mt.us

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:

Ben Weiss
Program Manager
Bicycle/Pedestrian Office
552-6352

SUMMER BIKE AUCTION SET FOR AUG. 29

The City of Missoula will hold its end-of-summer bike auction next week, on Wednesday, Aug. 29, at Gardner's Auction Service at 4810 Highway 93 South. A wide selection of about 60 mountain bikes, road bikes, cruisers and children's bikes will go up for sale at about 5 p.m.

"It's back-to-school season, which is a great time to pick up a used bike," said Ben Weiss, Missoula's Bicycle/Pedestrian Program Manager. "Some of these bikes are nearly new and picking up a good used bike is a great way to start riding again."

The bicycles auctioned typically have been lost or stolen and have been recovered by local law enforcement. The City keeps the bicycles for 60 days. After that, any that are not claimed by their owners can be sold at auction.

The bikes will be on display at the auction house from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on the day of the auction. Cash or local checks with identification are accepted for payment.

Once a bike is purchased, the new owner should protect it from theft by registering at the City Finance office, at the University of Montana Office of Campus Security, or at the University Center Box Office. Four-year licenses are required for bikes ridden within the city limits. They cost \$5.00 for children's bikes, \$10.00 for adults, and \$15.00 for the family. Bike owners will need to know the make and model of the bike and should provide the serial number on the license form. Licenses help the City Bicycle/Pedestrian Office return found bikes to their owners. Revenue from license sales also helps support safety and environmental education in Missoula.

For more information about the auction or Missoula's Bicycle/Pedestrian Office, call 552-6352.

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