



## Dear UVM Community,

Burlington is a bike-friendly city. Many people commute by bicycle and many more enjoy the lakefront, the Intervale, and paths around town on two wheels. Unfortunately we have seen a steep increase in bike thefts recently. Please be aware that bicycles are safer when secured by high-security U-locks to deter theft.

Since June 1, police departments in the Greater Burlington Area have received reports of roughly 220 stolen bicycles, worth approximately \$267,000 total.

UVM Police has responded to 17 reports of bicycle larceny since August 1, with 7 bicycle thefts reported on campus in the last 7 days alone. This is a significant increase in bicycle thefts on campus and in the Burlington area.

UVM Police recommends taking these steps to protect yourself from bicycle theft:

- Use a high-security U-lock to secure your bike, and ensure that the lock passes through both the frame and wheel of the bicycle when locking up. Cable locks can be defeated quickly by thieves, while U-locks offer better security. We're working with a local vendor to bring to campus the best theft prevention equipment and bike safety information. Stay tuned to UVM Bored for event details.
- [Register your bike](#) at no charge with [Bike Index](#). It is best to include a recent photo of your bike with your registration.
- Keep a record of your bike's serial number and proof of purchase, which are essential for proving ownership if your bike is lost or stolen.
- Keep a recent picture of your bike on hand, including pictures of any after-market parts. If you change parts, add stickers or decals, or paint your bike, take a fresh photo. This can help police identify your bike if it is lost or stolen.
- Visit [UVM Transportation & Parking Services: Bikes](#) for more helpful information about owning and riding a bike at UVM, and for more information about [Bike Index](#).
- Install the [UVM Livesafe App](#). This app lets you quickly, easily, and (if you choose) anonymously contact UVM Police, request help, and access a number of other safety and security features.

Visit [UVM Police Services' website](#) for more safety and theft prevention information. Theft is never the fault of the victim, but these steps can help to deter thieves or minimize the impact if your bicycle is stolen.

If your bike has been stolen or you have experienced another type of crime, you can make a report to UVM Police at [802-656-3473](tel:802-656-3473), through [this online form](#), or via the [UVM Livesafe App](#). Call 911 for any crime in progress.

Michael Schirling  
Chief Safety and Compliance Officer

