

Bicycle Registration

During the month of July, 2013, the Department took seven (7) reports of bicycle theft. In each report, the description is minimal and might include a color and brand but no serial number. The Police department accumulates many bicycles as a result of being abandoned. Officers make an attempt to locate owners by reviewing reports of stolen bicycles and comparing descriptions and serial numbers if available. A couple years ago the department recognized the difficulty of matching bikes with owners, and the increasing number of bikes stored at the department, and implemented a bicycle registration program. The response to the program has been minimal and the bikes continue to accumulate.

The program is quite simple in that a peel resistant numbered sticker is placed on the bicycle and the owner's information, bike description and serial number, and sticker number is logged into our files. Having this information available will make the recovery and return of property easier. The department does ask that the owner bring the bike to the police department so the information can be confirmed and the sticker applied.

When the recovered bicycles accumulate and have been held for 60 days or more, the department has the authority to dispose of them. The disposal must be approved through the court system. Disposal may be in the form of donations to non-profit organizations, scrapping, or bulk sale through government auction.

A child is generally quite proud of their bicycle and has a special bond with their bike so the theft or loss of the bike is often a disappointment. Through the department's registration program it is hoped that the recovery and return is more likely accomplished. If further information is needed about this program, please contact Detective Harry Conway at (931) 455-0530, or tpd@tullahomatn.gov .