

**IT'S A WONDERFUL RIDE:
HOLIDAY LIGHTS BICYCLE TOUR
Sunday, December 13
Lucky's Market, 111 S. Providence, 5:30 p.m.***



We're looking forward to having you join us for a festive bicycle tour throughout downtown Columbia, surrounding college campuses, and the Old Southwest neighborhoods. Hot beverages and treats will be available (thank you Lucky's Market!) before and immediately after the ride. Plan to arrive between 5:00 and 5:20 p.m., to complete and sign a ride waiver. Judging for the best-dressed rider and bicycle contest will also occur between 5 – 5:20 p.m.

Plan to ride at a slow-pace on city streets for approximately 6 – 7 miles. **All streets will remain open to traffic.** Cyclists should plan to ride for approximately 1 ½ hours allowing plenty of time for photos at the more festive locations.

**GET YOUR HOLIDAY GEAR AND GO ALL OUT!
We've got prizes for best dressed riders and bicycles!**

- Best costume – Adult and Child Categories
- Best bicycle and/or trailer – Adult and Child Categories

*Arrive between 5 p.m. and 5: 20 p.m. if you plan to enter the best-dressed rider and bicycle contests. Awards for best-costume and bike/trailer decorations will occur at 5: 25 p.m.

Rules and Regulations:

- Wear a helmet. Not only is this for your safety, you'll be serving as a good role model for all the kids (by law, kids 15 and under are required to wear helmets within the city limits of Columbia).
- By law, your bike must be equipped with a front white headlight and red rear reflector (we recommend a red blinky light) from "one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise." All pre-registered riders will receive a red taillight.
- Make sure your bike is in good working condition, either by checking it yourself using the [ABC Quick Check](#) found at www.bikeleague.org. Decorations should not impair your sightline or the working mechanics of your bicycle.
- All participants must follow traffic laws at all times. This includes riding with traffic, stopping at all stop signs, signaling intent and riding in a safe predictable manner.
- We want everyone to have a great time AND be safe! Be sure to review the League of American Bicyclists [ride safe tips](#) found at www.bikeleague.org before the event.

Q AND A

I don't ride fast – is this for me?

This is definitely a ride, not a race. The average speed is less than 8 mph and the route will be approximately 6 – 7 miles long. A ride route map will be emailed to preregistered participants on Thursday and available at the start of the ride. The route will include City streets in the District and near Columbia College and MU. We will also be riding in the Old Southwest neighborhood utilizing bike lanes on Stewart and W. Blvd. The route will include a couple of minor hills. Feel free to return on your own if you start out and realize that you can't make the entire route. As a group, we will follow all traffic laws – including stopping at stop signs, riding with traffic and riding in a safe, predictable manner. Ride leaders will provide sweep to assist with any issues that may occur.

Is there a minimum age for the ride?

It depends on your child's abilities on a bike. If your child has never ridden on the street, or hasn't ever ridden five or more miles (on multi-use trails, for example), this is not the time to try it for the first time. If your child doesn't have good bike control skills, then he or she should be in a trailer or on a tag-a-long/trail-a-bike. Kids who have trouble controlling their bikes (i.e. swerving unexpectedly) can cause harm to themselves or others. Our route will include a couple of short hills on city streets – **streets will not be closed to traffic.**

We can't stress enough that your child needs to be able to pay attention to people around them, and your instructions. Go out on the trails this weekend, and make sure they follow safe, predictable cycling techniques when as you provide instructions.

Will the ride occur rain or shine?

Any weather related updates will be posted on our Facebook Event Page. Preregistered participants will receive an email with updated information (register online at gocolumbiamo.com or call 874-7460 or 874-7700). Weather related information will also be posted on the Columbia Parks and Recreation Hotline at (573) 874-7663 ext 4. Unfortunately, we do not have a rain date planned.