

SAFE ROUTES to SCHOOLS

Mill Valley School District Commuter Education Promoting Safe Routes and Informed Decisions



Goals

Our Mill Valley Community is committed to providing safe streets and healthy transportation choices for our children and families. Mill Valley School District has a signed policy to implement Safe Routes to Schools (SR2S) programs. Together, we can reduce traffic congestion and foster healthy habits that will cultivate a thriving community.

Studies show that kids who are physical activity do better: link to National Safe Routes to Schools

Report: <http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/sites/default/files/resources/SRTS%20and%20Health%20Final.pdf>

- Students are more attentive in class and do better on test scores.
- Active students positively impact school attendance rates.
- Physically active students have higher self esteem.

Every little bit helps. There are many ways to reduce traffic around our schools. Benefits include:

- Less pollution for those most vulnerable, our children.
- Safer streets for those who walk or bike.
- Less stressful congestion for those who must drive.

Parents - What can you do?

1. Make a plan to travel green with your student at least once per week to form habits early. [Maps for Walking and Biking to School are Here](#)

2. Reduce traffic congestion around school.

Suggested remote drop off locations:

Hauke Park –Please remember to park in the appropriate spaces, and to not stop in the red zone or fire station driveway.

Community Center – Drop-off/pick up is located in the back portion of the lot near the baseball fields. Students will be re-routed to this area after school for pick-up. Please do not stop in the roundabout or in the yellow loading zones during drop-off and pick –up times. Drop-off and pick-up in the roundabout area is prohibited.

Tam High –Parents who drop off and pick-up both high school and middle school students,are strongly encourage to drop-off and pick-up at Tam High, having the middle school students walk to MVMS from the high school.

Alternative Areas – An efficient way to dropping off and picking up students is to utilize safe areas along Camino Alto, then having the students walk to MVMS(i.e. Safeway and Whole Foods parking lots)

MVMS – When dropping-off and picking-up at the middle school, please adhere to all traffic signs. Also, all cars must make the U-turn at the end of Sycamore, and ARE NOT allowed to turn left (or make a U-turn) into the district lot for drop-off and pick-up.

3. Create a carpool. Go to School Pool Marin.

http://www.schoolpoolmarin.org/get_started.html

4. Ride the yellow school bus. <https://transit.mvschools.org/> or Golden Gate Transit 17.

Golden Gate Transit has provided a “user-friendly,” number 17 bus route map for students traveling to school from the Old Mill School and Strawberry Point neighborhoods. The map is complete with times, routes, and locations of where students can catch the bus. Youth passes are available through Karen Manini in the district office.

5. Join school events. I-Walk (October), National Bike to School (May), Walk and Roll Wednesdays and other Safe Routes to Schools contests that can be found on your school website.

6. Volunteer. Volunteering for events is fun and rewarding for both you and your child. You can help form a Walking School Bus by inviting neighbors and friends to meet you for an organized walk to school. You can join our SR2S welcome table to greet students and hand out giveaways; you’ll be very popular with the students!

- Contact your SR2S Team Leader (parent volunteer who leads the Safe Routes to Schools Encouragement Program at your school)
- a. Edna Maguire – (Open Position) contact Laura Kelly: Laura@MarinBike.org
 - b. Old Mill – Garin Bougie: waybigdog@yahoo.com , Kim McFerrin: kimrm@me.com
 - c. Park – (Open Position) contact Laura Kelly: Laura@MarinBike.org
 - d. Strawberry – Clay Kunz: clayton.kunz@gmail.com, Jan Heinemann: jmheinemann@gmail.com,
 - e. Mill Valley Middle School - Debbie Alley: alleydeb@gmail.com
7. Get involved and stay informed
- a. Join Safe Routes to Schools TASK FORCE. The Task Force is where our community comes together to collaborate on changes that make streets safer for students walking and rolling to school. School Administrators, parents, city council, public works, police officers and other public officials convene once every two months to discuss immediate needs and on-going improvements for safer streets. To join, contact Wendi Kallins: WKallins@igc.com
 - b. Attend the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting in Mill Valley. This meeting is held the second Wednesday of each month and open to the public. Bicycle and Pedestrian ideas and issues are vetted with the opportunity for input from the public. <http://www.cityofmillvalley.org/gov/commissions/bicyclecomm/default.htm>

Bike and Pedestrian Safety Classes and Information

For your child: Safe Routes to Schools teaches 2nd grade pedestrian and 4th and 6th grade bike safety during physical education classes. Though Safe Routes to Schools curriculum is very thorough and follows CA state education standards and Department of Motor Vehicle codes, we still encourage parents to bike with their own student to solidify new skills and to determine “readiness” for biking alone. For information on the content of Safe Routes to Schools classes, go to <http://www.saferoutestoschools.org/curriculum.html>

For parents: To brush up on your own skills and rules of the road in preparation of riding and teaching your child, consider attending a Basic-Streets Skills class for adults taught by our Safe Routes to Schools Instructor for Marin County Bicycle Coalition. You will learn proper lane positioning for making turns, how to ride in a group while following the law, and other practical tips to impart with your child. <http://www.marinbike.org/classes/basic-street-skills/>

For both children and parents: Marin County Bicycle Coalition (MCBC) Family Biking class is a free class for parents and their child(ren). The Certified League of American Cycling Instructor provides parents and their child a wealth of knowledge to safely travel on our streets. In this class, parents have an opportunity to see how trained professionals teach bike safety classes to youth. The goal is for parents to learn the language and best practices to reinforce safe biking behavior with their own child. <http://www.marinbike.org/classes/>

Share the Path: For information about how to share our multi-use path, please check out the Share the Path Campaign and information from your Marin County Parks. <http://sharethepathmarin.org>

Street Smarts Marin: A traffic safety program that educates drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists about safety issues in order to encourage positive behavior change.

<http://www.streetsmartsmarin.org/>

FAQ's

How can I get my bike registered in Mill Valley?

Visit the Police Department page on the city of Mill Valley website for more information and the registration form.

http://www.cityofmillvalley.org/police/commservices/bicycle_registration.htm

How do I report a road hazard?

Please go to the city of Mill Valley website

<http://www.cityofmillvalley.org/crm2/request/newrequest.htm> and submit a form that best describes the hazard.

How do I report unsafe drivers?

If you witness something that is not posing an immediate danger to the public, you can submit a Dangerous Driver form to the MVPD.

If you witness a speeding vehicle, dangerous driver, or car parked illegally in Mill Valley, you can report the incident by using this form.

http://www.cityofmillvalley.org/police/reporting/dangerous_driver.htm

The Mill Valley Police Department will send a warning letter to the registered owner of the offending vehicle to advise them of the offense as observed by a member of our community. All reports will remain anonymous.

If there is an **immediate safety danger** (vehicle running through stop signs, racing up the street), call the Police Department at **(415) 389-4100**. Ask for a dispatcher and be ready to provide the incident details so that an officer can be dispatched to the scene.

