



## Summer 2008 Newsletter

Be Safe. Have Fun. Grow Healthy. Get There.

[www.portlandonline.com/transportation/index.cfm?c=40511](http://www.portlandonline.com/transportation/index.cfm?c=40511)

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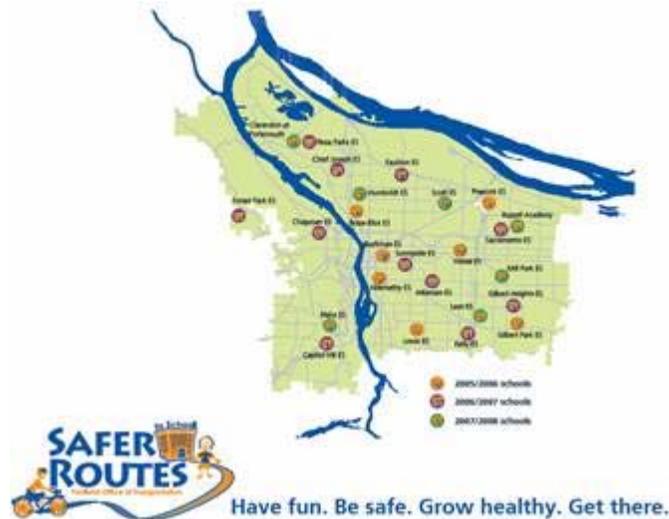
### Did You Know...

1. Portland Office of Transportation Community and Traffic Safety Partnership has a 'Yard Sign Lender Program'. For 1 'I Share the Road' pledge and a \$25 deposit or 6 'I Share the Road' pledges and no \$, community members can get a Steel framed 18" h X 24" w PVC sign that has one of the following messages: "Slow Down! Look for kids"; Stop for Pedestrians; Look for Bikes Pass Safely; or Slow Down! Look for seniors. **To get pledge forms and signs, contact 503.823.SAFE (7233) or TDD 503.823.6868**
2. In Portland, 49% of pedestrian injuries occur in crosswalks. To address this, Portland Police monthly identify an intersection where pedestrians have complained about motorists and establish a 'Crosswalk Enforcement' action. Signs are posted to warn drivers of "crosswalk enforcement ahead" and pedestrian decoys try to cross the street. "If the drivers don't stop, a line of police on motorcycles will pull them over and either issue a warning or a ticket. **To recommend an intersection for 'Crosswalk Enforcement', contact 503.823.SAFE (7233) or TDD 503.823.6868**

### Safer Routes to School (SR2S) Successes and Changes 2008-09

Portland's Safer Routes to School program has some exciting changes for the 2008/09 school year. Our goal is to involve parents, caregivers and students more actively to reduce traffic, increase safety, build strong bodies and clear minds, and provide a cleaner environment. We will continue to offer the 25 schools revised service programming in the 5-E's. The 5-E's include; Education, Encouragement, Engineering, Enforcement, and Evaluation.

Instead of a School Coordinator assigned to each of the 25 SR2S schools will have a school Ambassador, provided by the Bicycle Transportation Alliance. The Ambassador will attend identified school-wide events, provide five or more after-school activities for students and families and provide Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Education in the classroom. Ambassadors will also deliver requested materials to 2nd and 5th grade families via our new SmartTrips individualized marketing and encouragement program.



### Education

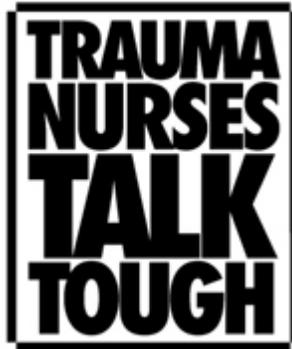
#### Education Program

Provides students and parents the skills and information they need to be safe pedestrians, bicyclists, bus and transit riders, vehicle passengers, and motorists.

- Kindergarten - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade  
Child Passenger Safety
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade  
Pedestrian Safety
- 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Bicycle Safety

Safer Routes to School Education will continue to focus on classroom instruction in Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety. We'll also continue





[BikePortland.org](http://BikePortland.org)



City staff is now working with Portland State University and the Initiative for Bicycle and Pedestrian Innovation Center for Transportation Studies to provide Safer Routes to School program evaluation.

But most importantly, if Safer Routes to School programs are to be successful at your school - in reducing traffic, increasing safety, building strong bodies and clear minds and providing a cleaner environment - it will be because of you!

Please contact me if you want to get involved with Safer Routes to School programs and students at your school.

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## End of Season Thanks

*Students at Parkrose Elementary show their gratitude*

On the final day of the ten-hour Portland Safer Routes to School Bike Safety Education, the whole class goes on a 45-minute ride in the neighborhood. The final ride is an excellent opportunity for the students to combine their in-classroom and on-bike safety training. This ride is a great way to teach the joy of biking to the next generation!

After a 4th grade class at a Parkrose Elementary School received their Bike Safety Education they sent bike safety instructor, Adele Galebach, letters full of gratitude and newly found confidence. Here are the highlights...



- "I'm going to use the signals when I'm on my bike. -Maribel
- "A last thing is thank you for helping us on the left turns." -Morgan
- "I just wanted to thank you one more time because I really had fun." -Shawn
- "Thank you so much Adele I really enjoyed learning how to ride like a professional." -Arelyn
- "You're the best teacher I've ever known." -Lucinda
- "The second thing I also wanted to thank you for is teaching us all about bikes and telling us that we did good." -Maria
- "It's a lot of fun riding around the neighborhood." -Vivian
- "I had fun riding around the neighborhood in the fresh morning air. I really enjoyed riding with you, your friends and your helpers and my big huge class. But most of all, I love riding with you. Thank you for everything!" -Rikka
- "Thanks for showing me the Air Brakes Chain check. Now I know how to make sure my bike is safe to ride." -Duy"
- "I had a stupendous time." -Brittany
- "We want to do it again!" -Tyler





David Douglas School District



## Don't Forget... October 8th

2008 International Walk + Bike to School Day

It is time to gear up and get excited about 2008 International Walk + Bike to School day. Parents and students statewide are encouraged to join millions around the world who are improving their health, their community and having a ton of fun by Walking or Rolling to School on Wednesday, October 8th!

Sign up your school at <http://www.walknbike.org/site/walkbikeday.html>. Registered Walk + Bike to School Day schools will receive a coordinators package with everything needed to throw an exciting and memorable event. Coordinators package includes instructions on how to put on the event as well as cool prizes for participating students. Prizes included in the package are reflective legbands, safety vests, and a custom Walk + Bike helmet by Nutcase with reflective design elements.

Walk + Bike to School Day on October 8th is a great event to get students excited about walking and biking throughout the year.



## Discovering Secret Staircases

One of the great things about walking is that you get to see and notice things that, moving faster, you would miss. Every neighborhood has its hidden secrets to be discovered by those moving at a walker's pace and keeping a watchful eye. As a special treat students at Chapman Elementary explored the secret staircases around their school. Chapman sits against the NW hills where there are several somewhat-hidden staircases that are part of the public right-of-way. Second and third graders found the staircases that connect NW Overton and NW Pettygrove to Cornell on their Spring Pedestrian Safety walkabouts. From the sidewalk on Cornell, they could look out over the Willamette and see several of the bridges third graders had just finished studying. Fourth graders took the Secret Staircases project a step (or actually about 250 steps) further. Chapman fourth graders started out by looking at neighborhood maps and identifying where students live, and what routes they take to school. Then they identified the parts of the public right-of-way not shown on the maps, which were... You guessed it: Staircases! The next week students climbed more than 300 steps on three different staircases. A few students had been on all of the staircases before, but most students discovered something new about their school's neighborhood.



## Challenge Month Roundup

*Walk + Bike to School Challenge Month was a great success*

During the month of May, Walk + Bike to School Challenge provided a first-rate encouragement opportunity for students to connect with their neighborhood, live active lifestyles, reduce pollution and traffic congestion. Walking or biking once during the month of May qualified students for prizes, the more they walk and bike, the more prizes they can win.

Walk + Bike to School Challenge month was open to participation for all schools in Oregon. A total of thirty schools signed up. Portland's Safer Routes to School program schools were certainly up for the challenge. The Safer Routes School's made up thirteen of the thirty (or 43%) of the participating schools. The Portland Safer Routes schools' included Abernethy, Boise Eliot, Buckman, Capital Hill, Chapman, Forest Park, Harvey Scott, Humboldt, Rieke, Lent, Lewis, Rosa Parks, and Russell.

Students had an additional incentive to participate by the use of healthy competition. Through a partnership with Portland State University, our students challenged the university community by comparing their trips to the Bike To PSU Challenge.

Walk + Bike to School Challenge Month logged 12,279 walking and biking trips to school with an average participation rate of 30% for the 30 Challenge schools.



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Portland SR2S is a coalition-led program managed by the City of Portland with services provided by Alta Planning + Design, Bicycle Transportation Alliance, Willamette Pedestrian Coalition, Alliance for Community Traffic Safety in Oregon, the Community Cycling Center, Trauma Nurses Talk Tough, Multnomah County Health Department Healthy Eating Active Living, and Northwest Service Academy/Americorp.