

OPRA Foundation Bike Safety Day Final Report

July 6th, 2023

▪ Summary of project objectives and participating agency

Various community and government organizations have been involved in the planning including the Ottawa County Sheriff's Office, Ottawa County Health Department, Friends of Ottawa County Parks, Park District of Ottawa County, and Hopfinger Zimmerman Memorial Park. The Bike Safety Day program has several key objectives. The objectives are stated below:

- Participants will demonstrate proper helmet usage and fit. Each participant will utilize a properly fitted bike helmet throughout the program.
- Participants will be able to name parts of a bike and demonstrate basic bike repair including fixing a flat tire and replacing a chain.
- Participants will learn and demonstrate principles of bike maintenance.
- Participants will exhibit cycling maneuverability and signaling through use of a skills course.
- Participants will be able to demonstrate bike safety components including how to use a bell, road riding safety, and how to prepare for a bike ride.
- Participants will be able to reiterate basic nutrition facts and showcase the importance of keeping the body fueled for physical activity.
- Participants will interact with community agencies.
- Participants will receive a bike and helmet to take home in order to continue safe cycling skills.

▪ Description of project activities and final timeline

In 2023 we planned to offer three Bike Safety Day events but due to volunteers, staff and site location limitations we were restricted to offering two events. In order to meet the need for safety and fulfill a third event, we will be running a Bike Safety Clinic at the Oak Harbor Apple Festival on October 14th, 2023. At the Clinic we will have bike tools, tire pumps, and distribute free bike helmets. We will also have a bike helmet decorating area. We will provide bike safety information including rules of the road and signaling.

We did complete two Bike Safety Day events on June 13th and 14th, 2023 at Hopfinger Zimmerman Memorial Park. We had a total of 33 participants registered and 28 attended.

▪ Evaluation of outcomes and impact

Our team had hoped to have 30 participants registered for each day of Bike Safety Day, but experienced difficulties with registration due to the time of the year when the program was promoted and schedules. Overall we were pleased with the increase in attendance from the previous year and will continue to grow the program to reach the 30 participants per day goal.

Due to the increases in costs for bikes, the program was also modified in order to specifically provide bikes to children who did not already own a bike. With this modification we were able to streamline the expense for the bikes and use funds to purchase equipment that will be needed for each year of the program.

With the collaborative efforts between several agencies the outcomes of the program have been significant. With each component students gained hands-on learning experiences. At the bike maintenance station each student learned repair skills while practicing on own bike and installing own bike bell (bike bells were provided for each student). At the nutrition station students engaged by trying out fruits and vegetables from a rainbow wheel. At the safety station students learned hand signals through games, securely fitted helmets, and learned through visual displays. The maneuverability station provided students with an opportunity to practice skills with the Sheriff Deputies. A course was

set up and the officers engaged with the students in order to create a fun experience. This year the Sheriff’s Office also added in an ID station so each child could take home a photo ID.

As a way to engage families and younger children, free lunches were provided to all after the program each day. Bassett’s Market provided 40 boxed lunches per day. All lunches were distributed and families stayed to enjoy a wonderful afternoon at the park.

By providing this program in a hands-on format with multiple community partners the program was very impactful. Students learned by having fun and trying new things. The students were evaluated at the end of each program to determine what was learned through the program. Student responses reflected an increase in knowledge and awareness of bike safety. Many caregivers also provided positive feedback. Students who received bikes provided several comments regarding the need for a bike and how great it will be to own a new bike. The attached article provides many quotes from students.

▪ Description of subsequent plans

The Park District intends to continue offering Bike Safety Day with our partnering agencies again in 2024. The tools and tire pumps purchased will be utilized for many future bike themed programs and events. The Park District will also continue to distribute helmets at other public events, including the Oak Harbor Apple Festival.

▪ Summary of expenses incurred

Item	Cost	Vendor
72 Bike helmets	\$ -	received through AAP Bike Helmet Grant
13 Bikes	\$ 1,950.00	Bikes Direct
Bike Safety Day Flyers	\$ 148.00	Priesman Printing
Helmet stickers	11.09	Amazon
Bike bells	\$ 152.83	Amazon
Tools	\$ 41.98	Amazon
Snacks	\$ 48.91	Walmart
Water	\$ -	Donated - Bassetts Market
Registration materials	\$ 13.98	Amazon
Instructor materials	\$ 11.99	Amazon
Signage	\$ 60.00	Priesman Printing
Tire pumps	\$ 55.97	Amazon and Bassetts Market
Valve adapters	\$ 16.47	Amazon
Lunches (40 per day)	\$ -	Donated - Bassetts Market
Cleaning Supplies	\$ 9.60	Walmart
	\$ 2,520.82	

▪ Copies of any promotional/marketing materials utilized

Attached:

Bike Safety Day flyer

News Herald article - <https://www.thenews-messenger.com/story/news/local/2023/06/19/meet-your-neighbor-event-teaches-kids-all-about-bike-safety/70324780007/>









**PARK DISTRICT OF OTTAWA COUNTY
HOPFINGER ZIMMERMAN MEMORIAL PARK
OTTAWA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
OTTAWA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BASSETT'S MARKET
FRIENDS OF OTTAWA COUNTY PARKS**

BIKE SAFETY DAY

Students will learn about bike repair, safety, nutrition, and bike maneuverability. All equipment provided! A free picnic lunch will be available after event for all students and families in attendance.

FREE

Contact the Park District at (419) 707-4051 for call-in registration from April 3rd-7th, 9am-3pm. Online registration will run April 10th-17th.

Open to Ottawa County students ages 7-12

**JUNE 13TH, 9AM-NOON OR
JUNE 14TH, 9AM-NOON
AT HOPFINGER ZIMMERMAN MEMORIAL PARK**

Find more information at www.ottawacountyparksoh.org or
www.facebook.com/parkdistrictofottawacounty

ONLINE REGISTRATION LINK WILL GO LIVE ON FACEBOOK

APRIL 10TH