



Jackson County Department of Public Health

Anna Lippard
Deputy Health Director
828-587-8225

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Bicycle Fleet for Jackson County Public Schools Grades 3-5

We are pleased to announce the Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department (JCPRD) has partnered with the Great Smokies Health Foundation (GSHF), Jackson County Public Schools (JCPS), Safe Routes to School (SRTS) and Motion Makers Bike shop to have a youth bicycle fleet to provide students in Jackson County Public Schools grades 3rd-5th a comprehensive bicycle educational program. An educational component will be provided through the Let's Go NC! bicycle curriculum followed by hands on practical skills on our new bicycles. "We are very grateful to Great Smokies Health Foundation for funding the grant to purchase the bicycles and to support local Business-Motion Makers bike shop." Safe Routes to school has played a key role in making this program happen. This will really help the community and the county with programming. We will be able to have more bikes available for the lender program at the Bike Rodeo and running bike clinics at the Jackson County Greenway" said Trevor Brown. Jackie Moore said "I am so excited for the new bicycles combined with a sound educational program that will allow students to have the hands on knowledge and application skills to allow students to become safe riders. This allows all Jackson County schools to have access to bicycles and training like the other surrounding Counties currently have." Megan Brown lead PE teacher at Cullowhee Valley school stated that this would be a complete game changer for PE teachers to increase activities, especially on bicycles, for our Jackson County youth.

PE teachers would be provided a calendar where they can select dates they will schedule the bicycle for their school. Jackson County Parks and Recreation will assist in getting the bicycles to schools.

In the spring JCPRD will use the bikes for the annual bike rodeo to provide loaner bikes for youth wanting to participate in bike skills who may not have a bicycle. In the summer months' bicycles would be used to continue to promote safe riding at the Cullowhee and Cashiers campus summer programs as well as the other summer programs around the county.

Having bicycle programs in our schools and community allows students to participate in an activity they may not have experienced before. This program can help motivate our students to beat the odds and start being physically fit at a young age.



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The proposed number of individuals served would include approximately 800 students 3rd-5th grades in Jackson County Public Schools.

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