

# Driving may seem easy — but where to park the car?

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Of the Emerald

In Italy, all roads lead to Rome — in Eugene, they lead to the University.

Relatively uncongested streets make driving to school deceptively easy. Once here, however, all those nasty things said about cars begin to ring true.

Anyone who has attempted to navigate 13th Avenue by car during the hourly, 10-minute-long class-change melee can attest to this. Drivers have been known to fall asleep waiting for the end of the steady stream of students pouring off campus to the bookstore and Old Taylors for blue-books or beer.

Parking on or near campus is another major headache, unless you happen to be a member of the pre-dawn set. All the good spots invariably are taken before the sun rises — only the two-hour zones located at the outermost tips of campus are left.

Parking permits, sold by the University for designated areas around campus, can be purchased on a yearly, monthly or per-term basis. For students, the cost of a school year permit is \$18. Faculty and staff permits are \$36.

The rates for summer session are \$6 for students, \$12 for faculty.

Carpools also are provided for if the members purchase a carpool permit. The permits, which are transferable to any car in the pool, go for \$18 per school year.

Carpools are defined by the University as "groups of three or more persons who ride to the campus area together, two of whom are associated with the University in some manner (employee, student, etc.)."

The permits can be obtained after submitting an application to the Campus Security office. For

an additional fee, carpools can reserve a space.

University-issued permits allow parking in the areas located at Agate Street and 13th Avenue, Kincaid Street and 14th Avenue and Kincaid and 11th Avenue.

A small metered lot south of the EMU is set aside for visitor parking. Free visitor parking permits are available at a booth located in the Agate Street and 13th Avenue lot.

The following is a list of maximum fines published by the University Parking Program.

- Failure to obtain or display a parking permit, \$5.
- Speeding on University property, \$10.
- Careless driving on University property, \$10.
- Parking by a fire hydrant or blocking a fire lane, \$10.
- Blocking driveways, entrances or alleys; overtime parking in a limited loading zone; parking in service drives or restricted areas; improper parking or parking in yellow zones, \$5.
- Counterfeiting, altering, defacing or transferring a parking permit to another vehicle for which the parking permit was not issued, or for giving false information in an application or hearing, or for misuses of any permit, \$10.
- Parking in a posted or reserved space, \$10.
- Parking on lawns, sidewalks, campus landscaped areas or any area outside clearly delineated parking spaces where such parking causes actual or potential damage to natural or landscaped features, \$10.
- Overtime parking at meters or failure to place the permit properly in accordance with regulations, \$4.
- Faculty, staff and students parking two cars on campus simultaneously, one at the reduced second automobile rate, \$5.
- Parking illegally at a hooded meter, \$5.

## Bicycle parking's very simple

Parking a bicycle always is easier than parking a car — they fit almost anywhere.

Finding your bike where you left it, however, is not such a sure thing.

Ruling out practical jokers, a missing bike means one of two things — it has either been stolen or impounded by campus security for a violation of University bicycle parking policy.

Pray it is the latter.

Despite efforts by campus security to prevent them, bicycle thefts continue to be the worst crime at the University. Hundreds of bikes disappear every year, and few show up again.

Currently, the University requires that each bike be registered with campus security, who also will engrave the driver's license number of the owner on the bicycle. Campus security officers say this policy is one of the best protections against theft.

The best protection, of course, is a properly used lock

and chain.

Security officers insist cyclists use campus bicycle racks. Bicycles parked against trees, handrails, stairways or buildings are subject to a \$2 fine or impounding.

Bicycles blocking ramps, standing on lawns or landscaped areas, or blocking sidewalks also may be impounded.

Although nearly every building on campus has bicycle parking facilities located nearby, covered racks —

naturally a prime concern in this state — are hard to come by. Racks beneath the EMU, outside the post office and outside the science complex provide the only shelter from rain.

If a bicycle is impounded for any reason, campus security charges a \$2 fee upon return.

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