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Spend March on a bike

Broward County is celebrating Florida Bicycle Month with rides, rentals and classes.



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Cyclists, including Harley Jacobson of Coral Springs, have plenty of reasons to pedal in March. (Marta Mikulan Martin/Courtesy / March 6, 2014)

By Nick Sortal, SouthFlorida.com
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Bike safety seminars, a BMX stunt show and rentals in county parks highlight this weekend's activities in a month filled with bicycling events.

March is Florida Bicycle Month, and that means bike advocates are out in force.

"The idea is to get people to ride on their bicycle," says Priscila Clawges, a transportation planner for Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization. "There's bike commuting, but there's also cycling for weekend enjoyment or as a family activity. We're advocating to all types of users."

A bicycle safety course will be held 3 p.m. Friday at the Boulevard Gardens Community Center, 313 NW 28th Terrace, in Fort Lauderdale. The city of Sunrise will host a BMX stunt show, helmet fitting and obstacle course 10 a.m. Sunday at the Sunrise Athletic Complex, 11501 NW 44th St.

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And bike rentals will be available all weekend at C.B. Smith Park in Pembroke Pines, T.Y. Park in Hollywood and Quiet Waters Park in Deerfield Beach.

PHOTOS: 2013 Tortuga Festival

Meanwhile, the South Broward Wheelers club will host its monthly Big Event ride 7:30 a.m. Saturday at Markham Park in Sunrise. Newcomers are encouraged. Go to SouthBrowardWheelers.com.

The big event for Bicycle Month will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 29. At Let's Go Biking, guides will take cyclists along a piece of the Broward Greenway, going east from Markham Park along a new paved trail before circling back. Food trucks will greet participants who finish the ride, which will take less than an hour. Others can tackle the trail that heads west from Markham Park and leads cyclists 20 miles north.

Events will also be held this month at the Brian Piccolo Park Velodrome in Cooper City and many municipal parks. Get the full schedule at Broward.org/parks.

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Photos: Academy of Country Music Awards red carpet and show

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