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## HFD asks community to help make holidays special for local kids with bike donation

HARRISONBURG, Va. – It's time once again to pack Harrisonburg fire stations with more bicycles than fire engines, as the annual Harrisonburg Fire Department Bicycle Donation Drive gets underway.

The event, spearheaded by retired HFD Fire Chief Larry Shifflett, asks community members to donate new children's bicycles that will be given to kids in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County. The bicycles, which are needed by Dec. 11, can be for any age child. Bicycles should be new and unused.

Donations will go a long way toward making the holidays special for local children.



(Above) Donated bicycles from a past HFD collection event.

"Many of us can remember that feeling of getting our first bicycle and the freedom it brought. We want to make sure as many kids as possible in our community get to experience that this year," HFD Fire Chief Matthew Tobia said. "A typical new bike only costs between \$60 and \$80. In the season of giving, this is an amazing way to impact the life of a child and provide them a healthy way to enjoy an outdoor activity."

Bicycles (sizes 16", 20", and 24"; assembled or unassembled) can be brought to any HFD station through Dec. 11. Stations are located at:

- HFD Station 1 80 Maryland Ave.
- HFD Station 2 380 Pleasant Valley Road
- HFD Station 3 299 Lucy Drive
- HFD Station 4 210 E. Rock St.

Find more information about HFD at www.harrisonburgva.gov/hfd.

The **Harrisonburg Fire Department** is an ISO-Class II All-Hazards agency providing essential emergency and non-emergency life safety services to the public who live, work and travel in Harrisonburg. More information about the Fire Department is available on-line at www.harrisonburgva.gov/fire or on Facebook©, Twitter© and Instagram©.

**The City of Harrisonburg** is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 55,700 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is online at <a href="https://www.HarrisonburgVA.gov">www.HarrisonburgVA.gov</a>.

