



CITY OF HARRISONBURG PUBLIC WORKS

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Harrisonburg to participate in Bike, Walk & Roll to School Day on Oct. 8

HARRISONBURG, Va. – Students, families and schools throughout The Friendly City will take part in a celebration event next week that highlights the many benefits of active transportation and the City's efforts to create safer routes for all.

National Walk & Roll to School Day is Wednesday, Oct. 8. Harrisonburg Public Works has put its own spin on the event – calling it Bike, Walk & Roll to School Day – to highlight all the ways students can actively travel to school while promoting healthier lifestyles and safer streets in addition to reducing traffic congestion and emphasizing environmental stewardship.

The event is part of Harrisonburg's ongoing Safe Routes to School Program, which empowers students and families to discover the joy of walking, biking and rolling as a community. Activities will vary by school on the day, but all will emphasize safety, fun and building connections.

Each participating elementary school will share preidentified routes, meeting points and instructions for families. Students can join walking school buses or bike buses, where groups travel together with the support of adult volunteers who lead and supervise along the way. These coordinated routes ensure students can enjoy the day while prioritizing safety. Middle and high school students also are encouraged to walk, bike or roll with friends, though there will not be staff-led routes for those schools.

"Bike, Walk & Roll to School Day is a delightful opportunity for our community – it's not just about the fun of biking or walking; it's an educational experience that fosters lifelong skills in our students," Harrisonburg Public Works Safe Routes



(Above) Students, teachers and community members bike to school on The Friendly City Trail to celebrate Bike and Roll to School Day in 2025. This year's event will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 8. Photo by Bob Adamek.

to School Coordinator Andrea Troyer said. “The excitement we generate on this day underlines the importance of active transportation and sparks a commitment to safety and health in Harrisonburg.”

City staff, including members of the Harrisonburg Police and Fire Departments, will be at multiple events throughout the day supporting everyone along the way to make sure it's a fun and safe trip to school.

Find more information about Bike, Walk & Roll to School Day in Harrisonburg at <https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/bike-walk-roll-to-school>.

The local event, and Harrisonburg’s Safe Routes to School Program, are key parts of the City’s efforts to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety per the 2025-2028 Action Plan. The Action Plan calls for the distinctive, reliable delivery of high-quality City services, with one priority aimed at updating the City’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Learn more at <https://harrisonburgva.gov/city-council-vision>.

Questions and comments about the event may be submitted to Public Works Outreach and Communications Specialist Maya Waid by emailing maya.waid@harrisonburgva.gov or calling 540-434-5928.

*The **City of Harrisonburg** is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 56,879 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is available online at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov.*

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