

Dear Cathy,

My third grader son wants a bicycle and I think it's important for him to have one, but my wife is worried about where we would store it. Do you have any solutions?
Indulgent Dad

Dear Dad,

You probably have a washer/dryer in your unit and therefore have no reason to visit the laundry room near you. All laundry rooms have racks for storing bikes! No need to park it in the condo. Some advice: the bike needs to be registered with Parkfairfax. The form for doing so appeared in last month's issue of the *Forum*; take the completed form and a check for five dollars to the office (a current decal must be purchased each year and displayed on the bike by June 1). And please safeguard your property: buy a very sturdy bike lock and be sure to secure both wheels to the rack (unfortunately bikes have been stolen out of these storage spaces). The City of Alexandria police also have a registration program for bicycles, but if you purchase a high-end product (read: very expensive), you might want to consider finding a way to store it in your condo in any case!

Hope this helps,
Cathy