

Trips For Kids



TRIPS FOR KIDS MARIN is a San Francisco Bay Area non-profit that provides mountain bike outings and environmental education for kids that would not otherwise be

exposed to these types of activities. Our goal is to combine lessons in personal responsibility, achievement and environmental awareness through development of practical skills and the simple act of having fun. The Trips for Kids Marin Re-Cyclery program focuses on recycling used bikes and bike parts through its thrift shop and provides skills and job-training programs for youth. These recycled bikes provide safe, environmentally friendly and affordable transportation for both children and adults.

Trips Program

Every weekend of the year our volunteers lead mountain bike trips for groups of up to a dozen youths drawn from more than 15 Bay Area community organizations. Rides take place on the mountain bike trails of Marin County and are designed as lessons in self-exploration and environmental awareness. Ride participants learn biking skills, safety and trail etiquette. We stress the importance of one's own actions both on and off the trail. These rides can be challenging, and it's not unusual to see kids learning teamwork by helping each other up a steep hill or over rough terrain. Through these accomplishments they gain greater self-esteem and a larger sense of themselves as members of a community and the environment.



"Nothing can stop you if you have a goal. If you want to get to the top, you'll get there."

—Juan, Age 17

In fact, environmental education is one of our central themes. We expose these young people to environmental issues and illustrate that life in non-urban and urban settings is connected. Each lesson they learn on these rides applies to their everyday lives.

Re-Cyclery



"At first I just wanted a bike, but now I know almost everything about fixing and riding them, too."

—Edgar, Age 11

Re-Cyclery

Re-Cyclery is a bike thrift store designed to recycle used bikes and teach bike mechanics skills and healthy work habits to low-income, at-risk youth. Its curriculum emphasizes the importance of reusing and recycling materials, conserving natural resources and reducing waste.

Earn-A-Bike & Job Training Program

Re-Cyclery's workshops offer kids in Marin a friendly and safe place to go after school and on the weekend. Participants earn shop credits by completing lessons in basic bike mechanics, bike safety and environmental education. These credits are used to earn bicycles and bike equipment. Older youth can advance to a job at Re-Cyclery Thrift Shop. Our permanent locations are supplemented by a mobile program, which brings Re-Cyclery's workshop and biking trips to youth in outlying neighborhoods. Kids can also join our multi-racial BMX team, get help with homework and participate in computer, art, and gardening programs.

Re-Cyclery Thrift Shop

The best cycling bargains in the Bay Area are at Re-Cyclery Thrift Shop, which raises most of the funding for Trips for Kids. Re-Cyclery features all types of new and used bikes for kids and adults, bike equipment and cycling clothes (some coming directly from bicycle manufacturers). By shopping at Re-Cyclery, or donating your used, unwanted bicycles or bicycle related items, you help the kids, the community and the environment!

"I owe my life to Trips For Kids."

—Former Gang Member



Trips For Kids Goes National

TRIPS FOR KIDS is expanding to help start independent Trips for Kids rides programs across the country. The goal of this expansion is to take this unique outdoor experience - and its life-enhancing lessons - to as many kids as possible.

The problems of inner-city children are not limited to the San Francisco Bay Area. Neither are the joys of mountain biking limited to Marin County. Trips for Kids plans to take its benefits to a national level, so that more kids can learn the lesson that one boy expressed after a Trips for Kids ride: "I learned that if I can stick with it, I can make it to the top."

How You Can Help

TRIPS FOR KIDS MARIN conducts mountain bike rides in Marin County every Saturday and Sunday and some weekdays from 9 am-4 pm. To join, all you need is enthusiasm, good will and the ability to ride.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with rides, teach bicycle mechanics, help in the office, or help out in the bike thrift shop. We also need assistance with our bike art projects, computer education and after-school tutoring programs.



**To Volunteer Call
(415) 458-2986**



"This is my chance to give back to my community, work with some really nice people and just be out on the mountain."

-Rico, Volunteer

Donations

NEW AND USED BIKES, parts, accessories (and, of course, financial contributions) are always needed. You can bring bikes and equipment directly to any location during business hours. For questions about our program or to make a contribution, please contact:

Trips For Kids (mailing address)

138 Sunnyside, Mill Valley, CA 94941

Annual Swap

THE JUNE TRIPS FOR KIDS Annual Bike Swap, our primary fundraiser, is considered one of the premier bike buying, selling and trading events in Northern California. Each year there are thousands of new and used items for sale from individuals and leading Bay Area bike shops. Proceeds benefit Trips for Kids.

Locations

Re-Cyclery Thrift Shop

610 4th Street, San Rafael, California
Tues - Fri 2 - 6; Sat & Sun 10 - 4
(415) 458-2986

Re-Cyclery Workshop

135 Alto Street, San Rafael, California

After School Program

Tues - Fri 2 - 5; Sat 12 - 4

Retail Hours

Tues - Fri 5 - 6; Sat 12 - 4
(415) 455-8876

Marin City Workshop

Marin City Recreation Center
630 Drake Avenue
Marin City, California
Tues - Thurs 2:00 - 6:00

<http://www.tripsforkids.org>



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Biking Program & Training Center

For Inner-City Youth

