



Ramsey County Sheriff's Office

Jack Serier, Sheriff

Neighborhood Watch

Public Safety Services Division – Crime Prevention Unit

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www.RamseyCountySheriff.us

Neighbors and Deputies working together for safer communities

Block Captain News – May 2017

Next Meeting Tuesday, May 2 – 6:30 pm

Ramsey County Public Works Building - Marsden Room
1425 Paul Kirkwold Drive, Arden Hills MN 55112
Near intersection of Highway 96 and Hamline

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Personal Safety to be discussed at May meeting

Safety and security education is the subject matter focus of Block Captain meetings in 2017. The May meeting topic will be Personal Safety. The February topic was Home Security and Safety, and the November meeting will explore internet and cyber safety.

Awareness is a key component of all crime prevention tips and programs. A frequent question asked of deputies is, "How can I improve my safety?" The answer is often dependent upon the many circumstances involved. Sergeant Tim Schwab will be exploring the issue of how to improve a person's safety at home, work, and out in the community at large. How to be aware of potential problems and how to develop safety habits and strategies will also be discussed.

The May 2 Block Captain meeting will be held in the Marsden Room at the Ramsey County Public Works Building, 1425 Paul Kirkwold Drive, Arden Hills. Start time is 6:30 pm.

Pedestrian Safety Is Everyone's Responsibility

Failure to yield the right-of-way and driver inattention/distraction are the main contributing factors in pedestrian crashes.

Ramsey County Sheriff Deputies are joining forces with area police departments to enforce crosswalk laws and raise awareness for the safety of pedestrians. The city of Saint Paul has seen an unacceptable increase in pedestrian/vehicle collisions this year, the problem is also seen in our suburban communities. Work is underway in many ways to address safety on our streets for all.

Watching out for bicyclists, pedestrians, and vehicles when we are out and about in our neighborhoods and city streets throughout the year is always the right thing to do. Enjoy the weather and stay safe.



May is National Bike Month

Bicycles are becoming more and more popular and will be featured frequently during National Bike Month. With more bicycles sharing the road it is important to remember bicyclists and motorists are equally responsible for bicycle safety. The number one factor contributing to bicycle-vehicle collisions is failure to yield the right-of-way — by bicyclists and drivers alike.

About one-half of all bicycle-vehicle collisions are due to a variety of bicyclist behaviors, such as disregarding a traffic sign or signal. The other half are caused by vehicle driver behaviors, such as inattention and distraction.

The best bicycle safety building block is to wear a helmet – a properly fitted helmet!



MINNESOTA

SAFE

ROUTES

TO SCHOOL

May 10 is Minnesota Bike to School Day

Pay particular attention on this Wednesday to kids on bikes – particularly if your drive route takes you anywhere near a school or a bike route.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation Safe Routes to School program works year round to promote walking and biking to schools. More information at: mnsaferoutetoschool.org

Learn Bicycling Rules of the Road and Safety Tips

The Sheriff's Office will be conducting a **Bike Rodeo on Thursday, June 15, 2017**, at Island Lake County Park, 3611 North Victoria Street, Shoreview. The event will run from 8:00 am to 11:00 am, and is open to all Ramsey County residents.

This Bike Rodeo will have four components, including equipment check, safety instruction, rules of the road, and an obstacle skills course. It will take about 45-60 minutes to complete all the training, and sessions will start on the hour.

Bike rodeos are geared toward children, however adult riders are welcome to participate in the training too. Advance registration is appreciated, and can be done online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Bikerodeo2017>, or by calling 651-266-7332.



Bike Rodeo Thursday June 15, 2017

– a fun way to learn about bicycle safety!



8 am — 11am

Island Lake Park

3611 North Victoria, Shoreview

Bring your bike and helmet. Sessions will start on the hour, and take 45-60 minutes to complete.

Each session includes:

Equipment Check Safety Instruction
Rules of the Road Skills Course

Open to all Ramsey County residents.

Bike rodeos are geared toward children, however adult riders are welcome to participate in the training too.

Advance registration is appreciated.

www.surveymonkey.com/r/Bikerodeo2017

Or www.RamseyCountySheriff.us



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Seat Belt Enforcement: extra patrol efforts scheduled for May 22 – June 4

One fact remains true in the world of traffic safety - seat belts save lives. The Click-It or Ticket Seat Belt Mobilization effort will be operational from May 22 through June 4, 2017, with at least fifty percent of the enforcement hours targeted in the window between 4 pm and 1 am.

The Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) is the state's cornerstone traffic safety program, employing an interdisciplinary approach to reducing traffic crashes, injuries, and deaths on Minnesota roads. The Sheriff's Office, as a partner in the Ramsey County Traffic Safety Initiative (RCTSI), works with TZD on enforcement and education of traffic laws toward the goal of zero deaths on Minnesota roads.

Throughout the year, all nine police agencies in the county work together to address traffic safety behaviors such as Impaired Driving, Seat Belts, Child Safety Restraints, Speeding, and Distracted Driving.

Take the three seconds to fasten your belt – you win by avoiding a costly ticket and could save your life.



Hot Dog with a Deputy 2017

Hot Dog with a Deputy returns this summer to connect the community and the Sheriff's Office. On Tuesday evenings, beginning in June, bring the family out to the park for free hot dogs, equipment demonstrations, and conversation with deputies. We hope to see you!



"Hot Dog with a Deputy"

– a summer initiative to build connections with the communities we serve



Join us for hot dogs, chips, bottled water and frozen fun pops, served **FREE** of charge:

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at Bobby Theisen Park in Shoreview

Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at Polar Lakes Park in White Bear Township

Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at Berwood Park in Vadnais Heights

Tuesday, June 27, 2017 at Pioneer Park in Little Canada

Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at Tony Schmidt Park in Arden Hills

Wednesday, July 12, 2017 at Commons Pavilion in Shoreview

Tuesday, July 18, 2017 at West Rec Center in North Oaks

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Public Safety Services Division

Telephone scams hit Ramsey County again

Two active scams appear to be targeting elderly persons in Ramsey County.

The "Jury Duty Scam" has the thief calling people and telling them that they didn't appear for their jury duty and are at risk of a misdemeanor crime and penalty. The scammer then tells them they can stay out of jail by purchasing gift cards and calling the scammer back with the code numbers.

The "Grandchild in Jail Scam" has the thief calling people, pretending to be a grandchild who is in trouble and needs money to get out of jail. Again the bail or fine can be paid with a gift card.

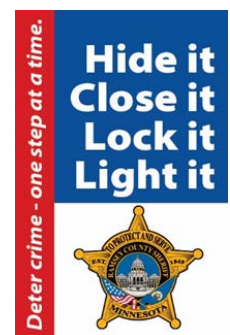
Please don't fall victim to telephone scams. They are easy to spot if you know about them. If anyone calls you and requests gift cards for any law enforcement related reason - it is a scam. If you are contacted, hang up, write down the information of the person contacting you, and call 9-1-1 to report the crime.

Please share this information with your family and neighbors, especially with our senior citizens who appear to be the targets of the phone scammers.

More information about current scams and frauds is available at ftc.gov.

Spring and Summer prime time for garage thefts

The season for crimes of convenience seems to never end. Now is the time to remember to keep garage doors closed when working in the back yard, or when going on that healthy walk or bike around the block.



Mark your calendars for 2017 events:

Tuesday, May 2 – 6:30 pm – Captains Meeting, Marsden Room, 1425 Paul Kirkwold Drive, Arden Hills

Thursday, June 15 – 8:00-11:00 am – Bike Rodeo – Island Lake County Park, Shoreview

Wednesday, July 26 – 6:00 pm – Night to Unite Hosts / Captains Appreciation Dinner

**Shoreview Community Center, Community Room
4580 Victoria Street North**

Tuesday, August 1 – Night to Unite events in neighborhoods throughout the community

Tuesday, November 14 – 6:30 pm – Captains Meeting, 1425 Paul Kirkwold Drive, Arden Hills

Night to Unite 2017:



Mark your calendar for Tuesday, August 1, 2017 for Night to Unite. Seems like the first Tuesday in August is a long way off as the Crime Prevention Unit begins planning for this year. Ideas are welcomed for materials to have for distribution at the neighborhood gatherings. Send us an email to help get the party started! [Register your event online](#).

Thank you for working for safer neighborhoods!



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Remember – when you See Something, Say Something, Call 9-1-1