



Ramsey County Sheriff's Office

Bob Fletcher, Sheriff

Neighborhood Watch

Public Safety Services Division – Crime Prevention Unit

1411 Paul Kirkwold Drive • Arden Hills, Minnesota 55112

Phone: 651-266-7339 • Fax: 651-266-7337

www.RamseyCountySheriff.us

Neighbors and Deputies working together for safer communities

Block Captain News – May 2019

Next Meeting Tuesday, May 7 – 6:30 pm

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

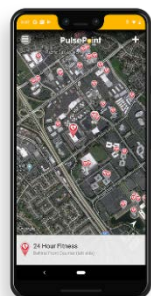
PulsePoint – life saving mobile app

Ramsey County Emergency Communications and the Ramsey County Fire Chiefs Association have adopted PulsePoint - a free mobile app that allows CPR-trained citizens to receive alerts about nearby sudden cardiac arrest victims in public locations, so they may administer aid until emergency responders arrive. About three-in-five U.S. adults say they have CPR training. This technology allows 9-1-1 telecommunicators to activate trained people who may be just moments away and willing to provide aid. Last year there were about 60 calls to 9-1-1 where PulsePoint could have been used to alert nearby CPR-trained citizens that their help was needed.

The PulsePoint app provides three functions:

- Alerts CPR-trained citizens of cardiac events in their vicinity so they may administer aid.
- Helps build a comprehensive Automated External Defibrillator (AED) registry.
- Informs the community of emergency activity in real time. The free app is available for download on the [App Store](#) and [Google Play](#).

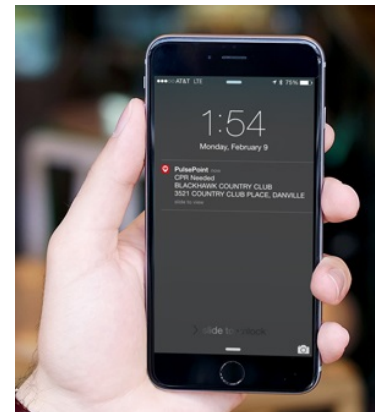
[PulsePoint Respond](#) empowers everyday citizens to provide life-saving assistance to victims of sudden cardiac arrest. Subscribers who have indicated they are trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and willing to assist in case of an emergency can be notified if someone nearby is having a SCA and may require CPR. If the cardiac emergency is in a public place, the location-aware application will alert users in the vicinity of the need for CPR simultaneous with the dispatch of advanced medical care. The application also directs these potential rescuers to the exact location of the closest AED.



The companion app, [PulsePoint AED](#), lets you report and update AED locations so that emergency responders, including nearby citizens, can find an AED close to them when a cardiac emergency occurs. You can help build the community registry by using PulsePoint AED to describe the location of an AED and add a picture. This information is then staged for local authorities to verify. After that, the AED location data can be made available to dispatchers and anyone using the PulsePoint Respond app.

In this issue:

- PulsePoint mobile CPR alert app
- Hands free law changed
- Seatbelt enforcement
- Bike to School
- Hot Dog with a Deputy summer schedule
- Night to Unite 2019
- Summer crime prevention reminders
- 2019 Block Captain meeting schedule



Minnesota's new hands-free law

After August 1, 2019 drivers in Minnesota will be required to stay off their phones or have their phones in hands-free mode while their vehicle is moving.

Currently it is illegal in Minnesota for drivers to send text messages and emails while driving, as well as to access or browse the internet, but phone calls are allowed if the driver isn't distracted.

Under the new law drivers can send/receive calls or messages while driving only if their device is in hands-free or voice-activated mode. The only exception is for emergency calls.

The new law also means activities like manually punching in a phone number or an address into a navigation app are not okay, neither is scrolling through a list of contacts or text messages. Hands-free technology, such as Bluetooth, allows a driver to do these things without actually holding their phone.

After August 1 police can stop anyone they see holding a phone while driving, including while stopped at a traffic light. The penalty for violating the law is a petty misdemeanor, carrying a \$50 fine for the first violation and a \$275 fine for subsequent violations.

More information:

- State statute: <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/169.475>
- News: <https://blogs.mprnews.org/capitol-view/2019/04/hands-free-cell-phone-is-now-law-so-how-does-it-work/>
- Office of Traffic Safety: <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ots/laws/Pages/distracted-driving.aspx>



Seat Belt Enforcement: extra patrol efforts scheduled for May 20 – June 2



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 20 through June 2, 2019, with at least fifty percent of the enforcement hours targeted in the window between 4 pm and 1 am.

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

Walk & Bike to School Day – Wednesday, May 8

Many of our local schools will be participating in Walk & Bike to School Day on Wednesday, May 8. While we must be aware of kids walking and biking every day, please know that on this day there will be many more kids on the streets making a healthy trek to their classrooms.



Bike Rodeo – Thursday, June 13

The Sheriff's Office will be conducting a **Bike Rodeo on Thursday, June 13, 2019**, at Island Lake County Park, 3611 North Victoria Street, Shoreview. The event has three sessions - 9 am, 10 am & 11 am, and is open to all Ramsey County residents.

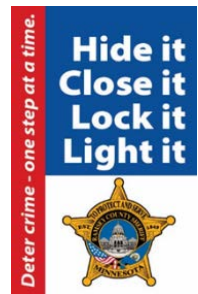
This Bike Rodeo will have four components, including equipment check, safety instruction, rules of the road, and an obstacle skills course. It will take about 45-60 minutes to complete all the training, and sessions will start on the hour.



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/BikeRodeo2019>, or by calling 651-266-7332.

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. At the end of your day a double check that items are secure, doors are closed and locked removes temptation and prevents crime.



Curfew ordinances are the same in all cities county-wide

The curfew ordinance requires juveniles age 15 and younger to be home by 10 pm every night of the week, and those age 16-17 to be home by midnight. Curfew applies to any public space, such as streets, parks, highways, and schools. Curfew also applies to public establishments, such as movie theatres, restaurants, and bowling alleys. Teens accompanied by a parent or guardian may be out after these deadlines (see exceptions below).

The curfew ordinance contains a number of exceptions, including if the juvenile is:

- With a parent, guardian or other responsible adult
- At work or in the process of going to or coming from home or work
- Involved in an emergency
- Going to, attending, or coming home from a supervised school, church, or recreational activity
- In front of his/her own residence

Curfew compliance and enforcement is essential for prevention and intervention. To protect youth from becoming a victim, or in trouble with the law, all public safety agencies enforce the Ramsey County Curfew Ordinance.

Curfew violations are status offenses, not criminal offenses. When police find youth in violation of curfew they are given citations and released to their parents. A parent or guardian signs the citation and the officer leaves a copy with them. In the event a responsible adult is not available, the youth will be placed into a shelter for his/her safety until a parent or guardian becomes available.



Night to Unite 2019! Get your neighborhood event registered online

Night to Unite is a statewide event that builds and fosters community bonds between citizens, businesses, and public safety organizations. This annual celebration occurs on the first Tuesday in August and gathers neighborhoods and public safety personnel together for an evening to promote safe communities.

2019 Night to Unite will take place on Tuesday, August 6, 2019.

Night to Unite has proven to be an effective, inexpensive, and enjoyable opportunity to promote neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships in pursuit of safer communities.

Community benefits often extend beyond this single evening event as neighbors get to know each other and the public safety agencies that serve them.

Register your event online at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NTU2019>

Registration helps the Sheriff's Office and Fire Departments with scheduling visits to your event!

Event planning tools are available on the Ramsey County Sheriff's [website](#). Materials and items for distribution at block parties will be distributed to Event Hosts at the combined Block Captains meeting on Wednesday, July 31. More details and rsvp information will be sent when you register your event.

Hot Dog with a Deputy 2019

Hot Dog with a Deputy returns this summer to build community relations with the citizens we serve. On Tuesday evenings, beginning in June, bring the family out to the park for **free hot dogs, chips, water, freeze pops**, equipment demonstrations, and conversation with deputies. "Hot Dog with a Deputy" will take place from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. on the following nights:

- Tue, 6/4, Island Lake Park, 3691 Victoria St, Shoreview
- Tue, 6/11, Polar Lakes Park, 1280 Hammond Rd, White Bear Township
- Wed, 6/19, Berwood Park, 780 Berwood Ave, Vadnais Heights
- Tue, 6/25, Pioneer Park, 2950 Centerville Rd, Little Canada
- Wed, 7/10, Perry Park, 3700 New Brighton Road, Arden Hills
- to be determined, North Oaks
- Thur, 7/18, Community Park, 2050 Roselawn Ave W, Falcon Heights
- Wed, 7/24, Commons Pavilion, 4580 Victoria St, Shoreview



Staff and equipment at these events could include Patrol Deputies, K-9, SWAT, Water Patrol, Reserve Deputies, Mounted Unit, Mobile Field Force and volunteers.



Neighborhood Watch is simply Neighbors and Deputies working together.

Involved neighbors are more likely to have open communication lines with each other, deputies, and the whole community. Information sharing on crime prevention, crime trends, and law enforcement issues is a key element to the Neighborhood Watch program of the Sheriff's Office.

Neighborhood Watch program [information and forms](#) to help your block organization are available on the county [website](#). **Please complete and return** the [Block Captain registration form](#) to ensure the Sheriff's Office has your most current contact information. THANKS!



Mark your calendars for 2019 events:

Tuesday, May 7 – 6:30 pm – Captains Meeting, 1425 Paul Kirkwold Drive, Arden Hills

Wednesday, July 31 – 6:30 pm – Night to Unite Hosts / Captains Appreciation Dinner

Tuesday, August 6 – Night to Unite events in neighborhoods throughout the community

Tuesday, November 12 – 6:30 pm – Captains Meeting, 1425 Paul Kirkwold Drive, Arden Hills

Thank you for working for safer neighborhoods!



[@RamseyCountySheriff](#)



[@RamseySheriff](#)



[@RamseySheriffMN](#)

Deputy Mike Servatka
Crime Prevention Specialist
651-266-7339

Randy Gustafson
Crime Prevention Coordinator
651-266-7315

email address: CrimePrevention@co.ramsey.mn.us

website: www.RamseyCountySheriff.us

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