

WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

A weekly update for residents, visitors, and workers in the District of Columbia



Friday, November 18, 2011

DRIVERS AND WALKERS SHOULD REMEMBER PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AS DAYLIGHT HOURS GROW SHORTER

As winter approaches and the daylight hours grow shorter, many of us are now commuting home from work in the darkness. The Metropolitan Police Department would like to remind everyone to be aware of their surroundings to ensure the safe travels of other drivers and pedestrians on our city streets. We all need to exercise extra caution and take responsibility for our personal safety and the safety of those around us.

Drivers are reminded to turn on vehicle headlights and be vigilant in watching for pedestrians. As the weather gets colder, watch the road, as wet or icy spots are considerably harder to see in the dark. When walking or exercising in the dusk or dark, keep the following tips in mind:

- Stay on the sidewalk, not in the street; only cross the street in crosswalks with traffic control devices.
- Look both ways before crossing the street
- Never run between cars into the street.
- Wear clothing that allows drivers and people to see you. That means no dark clothes after dark or early in the morning.
- Exercising outdoors at dusk or at night can be dangerous without some type of reflective device on your clothing. Many athletic shoes have reflective qualities built in, but also consider a vest complete with reflective tape.
- Keep alert! Dawn and dusk offer convenient shadows for muggers and other crooks.

Officers will continue to enforce traffic safety laws and assist motorists and pedestrians in need. Your participation in ensuring traffic and public safety is critical, and we greatly appreciate your attention to this important matter.

» The MPD offers safety tips for walkers, runners and bikers online at:

<http://mpdc.dc.gov/sharetheroad>

» For more safety tips for you and your children, call (202) 234-9404 or see the DC action for Children website at:

<http://www.dckids.org>

STREET CLOSURES FOR FANNIE MAE HELP THE HOMELESS WALK

Several streets will be closed on Saturday, November 19, 2011 for the Fannie May Help The Homeless Walk. Walkers will gather south of the National Mall on 7th Street, SW. Street closures will run, from approximately 8:30 am, until approximately 11:00 am. The streets closed for the Fannie Mae Help The Homeless Walk include portions of Independence Avenue, SW, between 7th Street, SW to 15th Street, SW, as well as East Basin Drive, SW and Ohio Drive, SW. The walk will end on the National Mall, around 14th Street, SW.

Due to the extremely heavy pedestrian crowds associated with this event, motorists are encouraged to exercise extreme caution when traveling in these areas. In addition, those wishing to attend these events are encouraged to use public transportation.

» Get complete details on the streets closed for the Help the Homeless Walk in the "Advisory" section of MPD's Newsroom:

<http://mpdc.dc.gov>

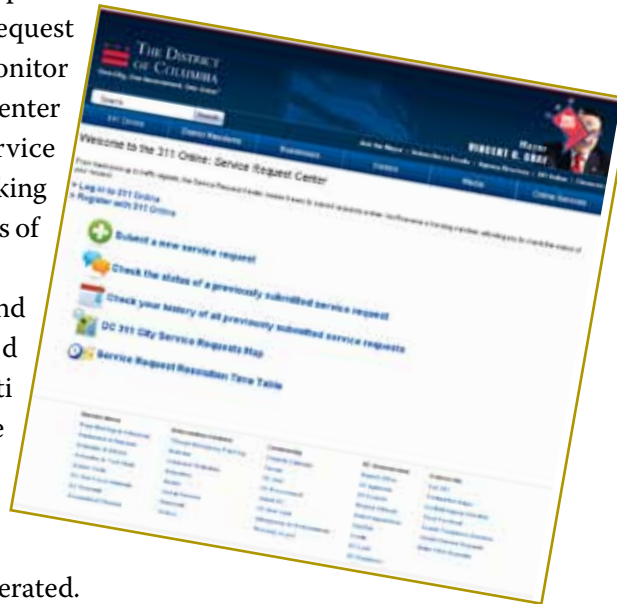
ONLINE SERVICE REQUEST CENTER MAKES REQUESTING CITY SERVICES A SIMPLE CLICK AWAY

From trash pick-up to traffic signals, the DC Government's Service Request Center makes it easy to submit requests online. In three simple steps, you can request a city service with a simple way to monitor its progress. Just select a service type, enter the service location. Through the Service Request Center, you'll also receive a tracking number, allowing you to check the status of your request.

Public safety and city services go hand in hand. Ensuring that an abandoned auto is quickly towed or having graffiti removed promptly has a doubly-positive effect. It fosters pride in the community, while at the same time, it sends a clear message to potential vandals letting them know their actions will not be tolerated.

Visitors to the Service Request Center can report abandoned vehicles, request alley cleaning or repair, ask for leaf or bulk garbage collection, register for DMV services, request graffiti clean-up or removal, file complaints or commendations of DC Government employee driving, report illegal dumping or posters, report certain parking violations, request the replacement of street signs, get a street light repaired, and so much more. So the next time you see a problem that requires a city service, take action and report it to the Service Request Center.

» Need to request a city service? Call 3-1-1 or visit: <http://311.dc.gov/>



NEWS & NOTES

Also Noteworthy

Join the MPD Reserve Corps. The MPD Reserve Corps, a volunteer policing program is seeking new members. Applications are now being accepted at <http://dcpolice.jobs>.

Report Crimes Against Children through the CyberTipline. The CyberTipline is a Congressionally-mandated means for reporting crimes against children. Report crimes 24-hours a day, 7 days a week by calling 1-800-843-5678 or reporting crimes online at <http://www.cybertipline.com>.

Preventing terrorism is everybody's business. If you SEE something, SAY something. Call the MPD at (202) 727-9099 to report suspicious activity that has already occurred. Call 911 to report in-progress threats or emergencies. Learn how you can help fight terrorism at <http://mpdc.dc.gov/operationTIPP>.

MPD Celebrates 150 Years. The Metropolitan Police Department turned 150 on August 6. Look for a special decal on most marked vehicles to highlight and celebrate this landmark in the agency's history. In addition, many of our uniformed officers have chosen to honor the sesquicentennial by wearing a commemorative badge through September 30, 2011.

In honor of the milestone, additional information about the Department's history is being added to our website, including the biographies of every Chief of Police since 1861, a history of the badge, and more each week. Special banners highlighting the anniversary are also being displayed at MPD Headquarters and other facilities.

To see the special section, visit www.mpdc.dc.gov/150th.



DATA BOX

Homicides	as of 11/18/11
2011: 100	
2010: 121	
% Change: -17.4%	
Closure Rate: 90.0% (90 closures)	
Firearm Recoveries	as of 11/14/11
November: 76	
2011 Total: 1,691	
Traffic Fatalities	as of 11/18/11
2011: 31	
2010: 20	
% Change: 55.0%	

Information, ideas, or comments about this service?

Send an e-mail to **KAYLIN CASTELLI**, Manager of Internet Communications, at kaylin.castelli@dc.gov

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