

# WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



*Friday, January 25, 2013*

## MOTORISTS REMINDED TO TAKE EXTRA PRECAUTIONS WHEN DRIVING ON SNOWY OR ICY STREETS

The weatherman calls for a chance of snow tonight and the MPD wants you to be prepared. Be it rain or snow, if the temperatures drop below freezing, the streets can quickly get slick, forming a thin sheet of ice on the pavement.

Whenever the weather becomes unpleasant, motorists are advised drive with caution. If it's snowing or icy, stay far back from plows and spreaders so the drivers can see you. Remember that when it rains, sleets or snows, travelling in your vehicle will take longer than usual. Please be patient. Do not race to pass other vehicles, especially working plows or spreaders, as this is dangerous to you, the snow crews, and other motorists. Getting to your final destination safely is the number one priority, so maintain a safe distance between your vehicle and other cars, giving yourself the extra time and space necessary to stop during inclement weather.



In addition, the following tips are offered to commuters and residents:

- Do not drive distracted.
- Listen to media reports for weather updates.
- Remember that driving on ice is significantly different than driving on snow. No cars handle well on ice. Even the tires a four-wheel-drive SUV will skid on ice.
- Drivers should use extreme caution and maintain safe speeds and distances from other vehicles during inclement weather.
- Pay attention to the road conditions, particularly black ice which can be deceptive in its appearance giving the driver a false sense of security on the road.
- Take note of Variable Message Signs placed along local highways and corridors with messages like "Bridge Freezes before Roadway" and/or "Caution — Icy Conditions."
- Black ice is transparent ice located on the roadway making it very difficult to detect and becoming a major hazard to motorists. Warnings like the ones listed above are used to alert motorists where black ice is likely to occur.
- Property owners are asked clear their sidewalks of snow within 24 hours of the end of the storm, and assist their elderly or disabled neighbors with clearing their sidewalks.

Please remain alert and be aware of surrounding conditions including other vehicles and pedestrians.

» For updates before, during and after snowstorms, and for tips to get one's home and family prepared for inclement weather, go to:

<http://snow.dc.gov>

» Want to get emergency alerts and notifications from Alert DC? Sign up at:

<http://alert.dc.gov>

## REGISTER TODAY FOR SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Friday, January 25, is the first day teens ages 14-21 can register for the DC Summer Youth Employment Program for 2013. Set your calendar to assist the teens in your life to register as soon as possible. Thousands of slots will fill up in the next two days, so don't delay. Students must be DC residents to participate.

Jobs include MPD's Jr. Police Academy, as well as positions around the District with various government agencies. The Jr. Police Academy is a six-week summer program for students ages 14 -17 who are curious about the law or interested in law enforcement, politics and the criminal justice system to gain an insider's perspective by learning about the criminal justice system and the internal operations of a police department. The Jr. Police Academy gives students a chance to compare CSI and Law & Order to MPD and the District of Columbia Government.

Students who are accepted into MPD's Jr. Police Academy may earn an hourly wage to participate if they sign up through the DC Department of Employment Services' Youth Employment Program (SYEP), a locally-funded initiative sponsored by the Department of Employment Services (DOES) that provides District youth ages 14 to 21 with enriching and constructive summer work experiences through subsidized placements in the private and government sectors. Through SYEP, DOES strives to provide young people with the opportunity to:

- Earn money and gain meaningful work experience;
- Learn and develop the skills, attitudes, and commitment necessary to succeed in today's world of work;
- Gain exposure to various exciting career industries; and,
- Interact with dynamic working professionals in a positive work environment.
- Though SYEP is a short-term employment and training program, our goal is to introduce our youth to employers who will positively impact their futures.

Employers in the Washington, DC metropolitan area make this annual program possible by volunteering to serve as Host Employers and providing structured job opportunities for youth during the summer.

» For more information on the Jr. Police Academy and to download MPD's Jr. Police Academy application, visit:

<http://www.mpd.dc.gov/JPA>

» Students who would like to be paid to participate in the Jr. Police Academy, must also register through the DC Department of Employment Services' Summer Youth Employment Program. Get more information on SYEP and download an application at:

<http://does.dc.gov/service/summer-youth-employment-program>

### NEWS & NOTES

#### Also Noteworthy

**Tell Us How We're Doing.** MPD is now part of Grade DC. We invite you to share your thoughts on our service — positive or negative — through MPD's email groups, our social media, or by visiting the Grade DC website. Get more information at <http://grade.dc.gov>.

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

**Report Crimes Against Children through the CyberTipline.** The 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>.

**Support the Washington DC Police Foundation.** The Washington DC Police Foundation is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization that brings together the business, civic, and other professional communities to promote public safety by providing financial and in-kind resources to the MPD, expanding public safety awareness, and advancing public safety policy and initiatives. Learn more about the extraordinary support the Washington DC Police Foundation provides to the MPD. Learn more about the Foundation at <http://www.dcpolicefoundation.org>.

#### Information, ideas, or comments about this service?

Send an e-mail to **KAYLIN CASTELLI**, Manager of Internet Communications, at [kaylin.castelli@dc.gov](mailto:kaylin.castelli@dc.gov)

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