

WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



Friday, April 18, 2014

STREET SMART CAMPAIGN RUNS THROUGH MAY 11

In 2013, there were 66 pedestrian and 7 bicyclist fatalities, accounting for 27 percent of the 269 traffic fatalities in the Washington region. From April 14 through May 11, 2014, police in the District of Columbia, northern Virginia, and Maryland will be cracking down on drivers, pedestrians and bicyclists, issuing warnings and citations to those who violate the traffic safety laws that keep people walking and biking safe—fines range from \$40 to \$500.

Street Smart is an annual public education, awareness and behavioral change campaign in the Washington, DC, suburban Maryland and northern Virginia area. The Street Smart program emphasizes education of motorists and pedestrians through mass media. It is meant to complement, not replace, the efforts of state and local governments and agencies to build safer streets and sidewalks, enforce laws, and train better drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians.

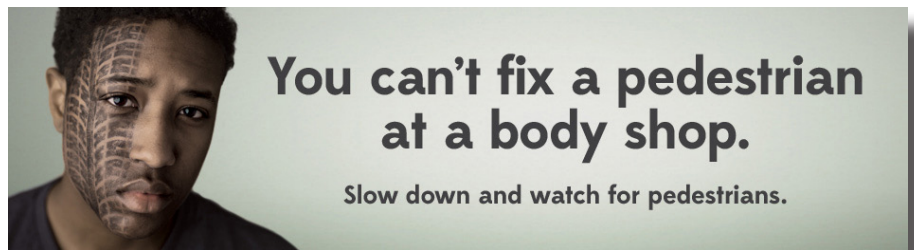
The program is coordinated by the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), and is supported by federal funds made available through state governments, and funding from some TPB member jurisdictions.

» The MPD has a variety of traffic safety materials. Get more information for drivers, bicyclist and pedestrians at:

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

» Learn more about the Street Smart Campaign and watch the related PSAs at:

<http://beststreetsmart.net/>



MPD TO PARTICIPATE IN PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK INITIATIVE



On Saturday, April 26, 2014, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will coordinate and facilitate a National Prescription Drug Take Back Initiative to remove potentially dangerous controlled substances, as well as other unused, unwanted, and unneeded pharmaceuticals from circulation. The purpose of

» Learn More about the Prescription Drug Take Back, and find a location where you can bring your drugs at:

http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/

this initiative is to provide a unified opportunity for the public to surrender dispensed pharmaceuticals and medications to law enforcement officers for destruction.

Collection sites in the District of Columbia for the National Prescription Drug Take Back Initiative are at all seven police district stations, the two district substations, and the Wisconsin Baptist Church in Northwest. The event will be staffed by members of the Narcotics and Special Investigations Division. Drugs may be dropped off at any location between 10 am and 2 pm on Saturday, April 26, 2014.

Drop Off Location	Address
First District	101 M St., SW
1D Substation	500 E St., SE
Second District	3320 Idaho Ave., NW
Third District	1620 V St., NW
Fourth District	6001 Georgia Ave., NW
4D Substation	750 Park Rd., NW
Fifth District	1805 Bladensburg Rd., NE
Sixth District	100 42nd St., NE
Seventh District	2455 Alabama Ave., SE
Wisconsin Baptist Church	3920 Alton Place, NW

APRIL IS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

Sexual assault is any type of sexual activity that you do not agree to, including inappropriate touching, vaginal, anal, or oral penetration, sexual intercourse that you say no to, rape, attempted rape, and child molestation. Sexual assault can be verbal, visual, or anything that forces a person to join in unwanted sexual contact or attention. It is a reality for everyone. Anyone can be a victim regardless of gender, race, socio-economic status, or religion. Sexual assault victims include infants, elders, deaf and hearing impaired individuals, and members of the LGBT community, minorities, women, men, and disabled persons. No one is exempt. Above all, sexual assault is a crime! In light of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, the following tips are just a few risk reducers to being sexually assaulted:

- **Listen to your instincts.** Normal premonition and “gut” feelings are natural indicators that something may be wrong. If you do not feel comfortable with a situation, leave.
- **Be independent.** Most sexual assaults occur between acquaintances or people you already know. You don’t want to be dependent on someone for transportation to and from social outings and if dating someone you don’t need to feel as though you “owe” something because of things done for you during the courtship.
- **Avoid mixing alcohol and drugs with decisions about having sex.** It is difficult to make important choices about sex if you are under the influence.
- **Be aware of date rape drugs.** These drugs are often impossible to smell, taste, or detect in beverages. If you leave your drink alone with someone, do not drink it after you return. You can choose to have a trusted friend watch your drink as well.
- **Consider going with a group** of people if you are meeting someone new.
- **Communicate.** It is important to clearly talk about what each person in a relationship wants to do sexually. However, understand that NO means NO. Communication can be verbal as well as physical.
- **Avoid dating people who...** don’t listen to you, don’t respect your personal space, make you feel guilty, or call you names (i.e., prude or uptight).
- **Be assertive.** Make it clear that you are not going to do anything you don’t want to do and know that your date should stop once you have said or indicated NO.

A victim is never responsible for being sexually assaulted. You are not at fault, the perpetrator is. The aforementioned are risk reducers but know that making a poor choice or failing to use the risk reducers does NOT make it acceptable for anyone to sexual assault you.

- » If you have been a victim of a sexual assault, the MPD’s Victim Specialist Unit can provide you some much needed support. Get more information on this unit at: <http://mpdc.dc.gov/vsu>
- » Get more information about Sexual Assault Awareness Month at the National Sexual Violence Resource Center at: <http://www.nsvrc.org/saam>
- » Some helpful links to local resources include:
 - o RAINN: <http://www.rainn.org>
 - o DC Rape Crisis Center: <http://www.dcrcc.org>
 - o National Center for Victims of Crime: <http://www.ncvc.org>
 - o La Clinica Del Pueblo: <http://www.lcdp.org>



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>.

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>.

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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