

More Resources on School Safety

- » **National School Safety Center** — Established by a presidential directive in 1984, the Center provides consulting, education, and resources on ways to protect America's educational institutions and their students. Also sponsors "America's Safe Schools Week" each October. For more information, visit www.schoolsafety.us.
- » **National Crime Prevention Council** — A national advocacy and educational organization devoted to making America's communities safer. Offers many publications and resources, as well as McGruff® the Crime Dog. For school safety tips, see www.ncpc.org/be-safe-and-sound-campaign. To arrange a training, see www.ncpc.org/training-topics/school-safety-and-needs-assessment.
- » **Family Education Network** — A foundation dedicated to providing online resources to help parents, teachers and students of all ages take control of their learning and make it a part of their daily lives. For tips on school safety, see school.familyeducation.com/school/safety/34566.html.
- » **National School Safety Center** — A national advocate for safe, secure, and peaceful schools worldwide, the NSSC provides school communities and their safety partners with information, resources, consultation and training services to help stem school crime and violence. For school safety tips, see www.schoolsafety.us.
- » **eHow Back to School Tips** — a series of articles on the Web-based eHow network containing back-to-school tips on safety, your child's first day, nutrition tips, and more. To learn more, see www.ehow.com/back-to-school-tips.



Get More Safety Tips

For tips on other ways to stay safe from crime in your daily life, see the other brochures in this series, available from our Website at www.mpdc.dc.gov/safety. Or visit your local police district. To find the one nearest you, visit www.mpdc.dc.gov/districts.

Get Involved!

No one individual or agency working alone can prevent crime. It takes police and citizens working in partnership. The District of Columbia's community policing strategy provides many ways for police and communities to work together to prevent crime and build safer neighborhoods. These include regular Police Service Area meetings in your community, citizen patrols and more. To learn more about community policing activities in your neighborhood, call your local police district:

1st District	Main:.....(202) 698-0555.....	TTY: 727-8506
	Substation:.....(202) 698-0068.....	TTY: 543-2352
2nd District	Main:.....(202) 715-7300.....	TTY: 364-3961
3rd District	Main:.....(202) 673-6815.....	TTY: 518-0008
	Substation:.....(202) 576-8222.....	TTY: 576-9640
4th District	Main:.....(202) 715-7400.....	TTY: 722-1791
5th District	Main:.....(202) 698-0150.....	TTY: 727-5437
6th District	Main:.....(202) 698-0880.....	TTY: 398-5397
	Substation:.....(202) 698-2088.....	TTY: 281-3945
7th District	Main:.....(202) 698-1500.....	TTY: 889-3574

Know Something About a Crime? Don't Keep It a Secret

If you have important information to share with the police, the Anonymous Crime Tip Line and Text Tip Line enables you to give MPD vital information anonymously. Just dial (888) 919-2746 (CRIME) or text to 50411 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Your name will not be used, only the information you provide. Your information could lead to a cash reward. For more details, see www.mpdc.dc.gov/tipline.



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Metropolitan Police Department
300 Indiana Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001

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FOR YOUR SAFETY



Going Back to School Safely

*Tips for keeping your children safe
during the school year*



Get a smart start. Make school the rule.

Children of all ages can use a guiding hand when it comes to getting to and from school safely. Taking the time to educate your children on how to protect themselves from strangers and to walk or ride public transportation to school will give you peace of mind.

Each fall, the Metropolitan Police Department looks forward to a safe school year. Our goal is to help parents ensure their children are well-educated on how to get to and from their school safely.

Walking Safely

- » Never run into the street; when you come to the curb, STOP; then look both ways. Never run between cars into the street.
- » Be sure to cross the street at a marked cross walk or where the crossing guard is. Only walk when the signal flashes the walk sign or when a crossing guard says it's okay.
- » Walk on the sidewalk, not in the street.
- » Wear clothing that allows drivers and people to see you. That means no dark clothes after dark or early in the morning. If you have to be out in the dark, be sure to put reflective tape on your coat.
- » Don't talk to strangers, take anything from them, or go anywhere with them.
- » If a stranger approaches you, RUN! Scream! Tell an adult.
- » Never take a short cut through the woods or alleys.
- » Walk to school with a partner.
- » If you see a gun or drugs, stop. Don't touch it. Tell an adult!

Bike Safety

Teach your kids to:

- » Always wear a bike helmet.
- » Learn and use the rules of the road — stay on the right side of the road and don't swerve in and out of the lane.
- » Avoid riding your bike when it is dark or almost dark outside. If you do, be sure to have lights and reflectors on your bike.

Bus Safety

Teach your children to:

- » Wait for the bus in a safe place, away from traffic and the street.
- » Stay away from the bus until it comes to a complete stop and the driver opens the door.
- » Do not run into the street in front of or behind the bus.

Car Safety

Make sure that your kids:

- » Always wear a seat belt.
- » Don't walk between parked cars.
- » Look both ways when crossing an alley — some drivers don't pay attention when exiting an alley.

Playground Safety

Instruct your children:

- » Not to throw sand, wood chips, rocks, or other things that can hurt someone or get in their eyes.
- » Not to bring glass containers into the playground.



Home Alone and After-School Safety

- » Teach your children not to let anyone know they are home alone. They should **never** answer the door for strangers.
- » Be sure your kids know how to dial 9-1-1 and report a problem. Know their name, address, and phone number.
- » Make sure your kids have a list of mom and dad's work and cell phone numbers and at least one other adult they can call in case of an emergency.
- » Explain how to lock and unlock all the doors and windows so that no one can get in and so they can leave if necessary.
- » Teach your kids to pay attention to the way things look. If something doesn't look right (such as a broken front door), tell them not to go inside, but to go to a safe place and ask for help.

What You Can Do About Bullying in School

- » Listen to your children. Encourage them to talk about school, social events, other kids in class, and the walk or ride to and from school so you can identify any problems they may be having.
- » Children are often afraid or ashamed to tell anyone that they have been bullied, so listen to their complaints.
- » Watch for symptoms that children may be bullying victims, such as withdrawal, a drop in grades, torn clothes, or needing extra money or supplies.
- » Tell the school or organization immediately if you think that your child is being bullied. Alerted caregivers can carefully monitor your child's actions and take steps to ensure his/her safety.
- » Work with other parents to ensure that the children in your neighborhood are supervised closely on their way to and from school.

