

WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



Friday, March 9, 2012

STREET CLOSURES PLANNED FOR DC MARATHON ON 3/17; PREPARE YOUR TRAVEL ROUTES IN ADVANCE

The SunTrust Rock 'n' Roll USA Marathon & CareFirst Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon are set to take place in the District of Columbia on Saturday, March 17, 2012. The course for this 26.2-mile race, which begins at 8 am near RFK Stadium, takes runners through several DC neighborhoods including Capitol Hill, downtown DC, Dupont Circle, Columbia Heights, the Southwest Waterfront, and Anacostia Park. Major streets will be closed at different times during the day to accommodate the runners. Rolling street closures will begin as early as 7:20 am; all streets should re-open by 3 pm.

Residents—and individuals planning to visit the District of Columbia—are encouraged to use public transportation to avoid traffic delays. If you must drive, please take some time to review the course map to ensure your route will be open or to plan an alternative route. Cross-traffic will be metered across the route at the following intersections:

- » 17th & C Streets, NE
- » 15th & North Carolina Ave., NE
- » East Capitol Street, NE at 4th, 6th, 8th, and 10th Streets
- » 8th and H Streets, NE

During the race, there may be periods of time when the runner pack is especially tight and vehicle traffic may not be able to cross the course immediately.

According to their website, the SunTrust Rock 'n' Roll USA Marathon & CareFirst Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon will bring more than 24,000 runners and walkers to the DC area, in addition to tens of thousands of spectators, family and friends. Residents of DC are invited to join the festivities by volunteering at the Health & Fitness Expo at the DC Armory, the start or finish line near RFK Stadium, or by lining the course to cheer runners.

PRACTICE SAFE BIKING, AND SECURE YOUR BICYCLE TO REDUCE THE RISK OF THEFT

Bicycling is a great form of exercise and it helps reduce pollution. It's fun for both adults and children. Whether you use a bicycle to get to and from school, for your daily work commute, or for exercise, it is important to follow the DC Bike Laws. The Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA) and the DC Department of Transportation (DDOT) have worked together to develop a Pocket Guide to DC Bike Laws designed to inform both cyclists and law enforcement officers of the rights and responsibilities of cyclists on DC Streets. This guide includes information on traffic laws, common traffic crashes and enforcement errors, bicycling infractions, safety equipment, what to do in case of a bike crash, bike parking/security, as well as other information. This handy guide is available for download from the DDOT website.

» For information on the DC Rock and Roll Marathon, go to:

<http://runrocknroll.competitor.com/usa>

» View course information, including PDF of the marathon and half marathon routes and a grid listing scheduled street closures, at:

<http://runrocknroll.competitor.com/usa/road-closures>

» Need assistance with alternate directions on the day of the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon, contact the race organizers through the community relations contact form at:

<http://runrocknroll.competitor.com/contact/community-contact>

» Individuals who have issues to be resolved or questions regarding traffic access during the races should call the **Metropolitan Police Department's Command Information Center** on (202) 727-9099.

BICYCLE SAFETY AND THEFT PREVENTION (CONTINUED)

In addition to being safe on the road, it is important that you always secure your bicycle when it's not being used. In an effort to prevent thefts and to aid in the recovery of stolen bicycles, the MPD offers the following simple suggestions.



- » Invest in a quality lock and use it whenever you are not riding the bicycle.
- » Lock your bicycle in an area that is well-lit.
- » If you are not going to use your bicycle for a significant period of time, locate a place (preferably inside) where you can safely secure it.
- » Document the following information about your bicycle: make, size and serial number. Store this information in a safe place. The serial number is found underneath the bicycle between the crank arms and the bottom bracket. Keep all receipts for your bicycle, including the purchase receipt and repair receipts; these will help provide proof of ownership if your bicycle is stolen.
- » Register your bicycle with the National Bike Registry.

While bicycle registration is no longer required in the District of Columbia, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the MPD strongly encourage residents to register their bicycles with the National Bicycle Registry (NBR). NBR is a service that allows you to register your bicycle by serial number in a national database. If your bike is ever stolen, it can be identified and you can prove ownership. Law enforcement anywhere can access this database. NBR also guarantees your registration. If your bike is stolen and not recovered by police within six months, NBR will register your next bike for free and the stolen bike information will remain in the database until the bike is recovered no matter how long that may be.

- » To learn more about the District's Bicycle Program, including secure facilities for bicycles at Union Station, visit:
<http://ddot.dc.gov/DC/DDOT/On+Your+Street/Bicycles+and+Pedestrians/Bicycles/Bicycle+Program>
- » WABA and DDOT have prepared a Pocket Guide to DC's Bike Laws which is available on the DDOT website at:
http://ddot.dc.gov/DC/DDOT/Publication%20Files/On%20Your%20Street/Bicycles%20and%20Pedestrians/Bicycles/Bicycle%20Laws/Pocket_Bike_Law_Guide.pdf
- » WABA has created a simple table that details selected bicycle guidelines for DC, Maryland and Virginia online at:
<http://www.waba.org/resources/laws.php>

NEWS & NOTES

Also Noteworthy

Daylight Saving Time Change this Weekend. Don't forget to set your clocks this weekend. At 2 am on Sunday, we will "spring ahead" by moving our clocks one hour forward for Daylight Saving Time.

Street Closures on 3/11. While St. Patrick's Day is still a week away, the St. Patrick's Day 8K Race and the St. Patrick's Day parade will take place this Sunday, March 11. Streets around the National Mall will be closed for the race between 5 am and 1 pm and Constitution Avenue will be closed for the parade between 9 am and 3 pm. Get

full details online at <http://mpdc.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 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>.

Support the Washington DC Police Foundation. The Washington DC Police Foundation is an 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 at <http://www.dcpolicefoundation.org>.

DATA BOX

Homicides	as of 3/2/12
2012: 13	
2011: 15	
% Change: -13.3%	
Closure Rate: 46.2% (6 closures)	
Firearm Recoveries	as of 2/27/12
February: 123	
2012 Total: 331	
Traffic Fatalities	as of 3/2/12
2012: 3	
2011: 6	
% Change: -50%	

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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