

WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



Friday, July 13, 2012

PROVIDE 911 WITH A SAFETY PROFILE THROUGH SMART911

On Thursday, July 12, 2012, Mayor Vincent C. Gray announced the availability of Smart911, a new initiative by the Office of Unified Communications (OUC) to improve public safety by providing immediate crucial information to emergency responders. Speaking to the media at a press conference

at Children's National Medical Center, Mayor Gray discussed how Smart911 will provide emergency responders with much more complete information about 911 callers so they can respond to the right location, with the right personnel and the right equipment.

"Smart911 will allow our responders to save lives and resolve emergency situations much more effectively," said Mayor Gray. "This is an excellent example of how technology can improve a critical public-safety system for the benefit of all."

Coming on the heels of the introduction of the DC 311 smart-phone app, the availability of Smart911 will add to OUC Director Jennifer Greene's goal of making OUC the nation's most efficient and responsive emergency communications agency. Introduced less than two years ago by Rave Mobile Safety, the trusted software partner for campus and public safety, Smart911 is a public/private partnership enabling the creation of a critical caller database that integrates with the District's 911 system.

"Our goal is to help residents help us provide the best possible service, and I think Smart911 does just that," said Greene. "This is an innovative approach to enhancing public safety. Overall, I think the service will provide users a greater sense of security in knowing our first responders have information that could ultimately save their lives."

With Smart911, residents are able to create a Safety Profile at www.smart911.com that is automatically displayed to 9-1-1 during emergency calls. The profile can include home and work addresses associated with mobile phone numbers, specific medical conditions and disabilities, all family members, vehicle information and even information about pets.

"When people call 911 and can't speak, the only data available to emergency responders is a phone number and a location," said Tom Axbey, President and CEO of Rave Mobile Safety. "Citizens deserve that their emergency communications harness the advances made in consumer technology. By putting more information in the hands of emergency responders, cities like Washington, DC dramatically improve their ability to protect their citizens from tragic outcomes."

Residents are encouraged to create their Safety Profile with Smart911 today to have their information immediately available to 911. Smart911 data is private and secure, is only used for emergency responses, and is only made available to the 911 system in the event of an emergency call.



- » Create your safety profile with Smart911 online at:
<https://www.smart911.com/>
- » Smart911 is supported by the DC Office of Unified Communications (OUC), which oversees the 9-1-1 call center in the District of Columbia. Learn more about OUC at:
<http://ouc.dc.gov/>
- » Need to report a non-emergency issue in your neighborhood? Try the DC311 Smartphone app. Get more information at:
<http://ouc.dc.gov/page/dc-311-smartphone-app>

DC PREPARES FOR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT ON AUGUST 7

On Tuesday, August 7, thousands of DC residents are expected to join with their neighbors, police officers and other community leaders in celebrating National Night Out (NNO). From community cookouts to open houses – block parties, candlelight vigils and athletic events – DC is gearing up for the 29th annual celebration of “America’s Night Out Against Crime.” The citywide kickoff will begin at 5 pm at the Anacostia Public Library in the Seventh Police District. Public safety characters McGruff the Crime Dog® and the National Knight® will be available to meet attendees and have their photos taken. In addition to the numerous activities taking place at the kickoff event, communities across DC – in all seven police districts – have scheduled NNO events during the late afternoon and evening hours.



National Night Out is an annual event, sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, that takes place on the first Tuesday in August. Each year, the Metropolitan Police Department actively participates in National Night Out by rallying community members throughout the District of Columbia to join with neighbors and police officers in their PSAs to be a part of this annual event.

The National Night Out campaign involves citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from 9,500 communities from all 50 states, US territories, Canadian cities and military bases worldwide.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS OFFERS GRAFFITI REMOVAL SERVICES

Graffiti is generally described as a drawing or inscription made on any exterior surface—from street signs to sidewalks—for the purpose of being seen by the public. The inscription can be rudimentary or elaborate, colorful or plain black. Gang members use graffiti to define territory and intimidate rivals.

In an effort to keep the District clean and attractive, the DC Department of Public Works (DPW) deploys graffiti removal crews to clean graffiti from public space and private property, such as sidewalks, bridges and exterior walls. When power washing is impractical, our crews resort to more low-tech methods, such as simply painting over the graffiti. “Tags,” those spray-painted black squiggles sometimes found on traffic signs, fences or metal garage doors, are often removed with chemical-treated cleaning cloths.

Owners of private property may request graffiti removal services from the city. Although the service is free, property owners must read and sign a graffiti removal waiver of liability form. Unfortunately, DPW can’t guarantee that the graffiti will be completely removed by chemical means.

Additionally, since paint colors offered by the city are limited to four or five basic shades, homeowners may want to try painting out graffiti themselves. To request graffiti removal on private property and/or to get a waiver form, contact the Mayor’s Citywide Call Center at 311.

» A complete list of events schedule to take place in the seven police districts soon. For that and other information about National Night Out in DC, go to:
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/NNO>

» Even if you can’t participate in an organized National Night Out event, you can still be involved. Residents are encouraged to turn on their exterior lights on the evening of August 7 — as a show of neighborhood solidarity against crime. Learn more about NNO at:
<http://www.nno.org>

» For more information on graffiti removal by the DPW, including the information you should provide for service and hours of operation, go to:
<http://dpw.dc.gov>

» To request graffiti removal on private property and/or to get a waiver form, contact the Mayor’s Citywide Call Center at 311.

DATA BOX

Homicides as of 7/13/12

2012: 48
2011: 60
% Change: -20%
Closure Rate: 83.3% (40 closures)

Adult Arrests (week end. 7/7/12)

Total Arrests: 803
Weapons: 11
Robbery: 12
Unauthorized Use of Vehicle: 14
Prostitution/Sex Offenses: 8
Narcotics: 134

Juvenile Activity (week end. 7/7/12)

Total Arrests: 47
Weapons: 0
Robbery: 6
Unauthorized Use of Vehicle: 3
Narcotics: 5

Firearm Recoveries as of 7/9/12

July: 42
2012 Total: 996

Traffic Fatalities as of 7/13/12

2012: 9
2011: 22
% Change: -63.6%

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://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>.

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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