

# WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



*Friday, October 5, 2012*

## OCTOBER IS CRIME PREVENTION MONTH

In 1984, the National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) designated October as Crime Prevention Month. This month-long commemoration reflects the adage that prevention pays off. The Metropolitan Police Department and the NCPC strongly believe that community involvement in crime prevention can and has played a vital role in helping many communities stay safe.

There are a variety of actions you can take every day to ensure the safety of yourself and the ones you love. It's important to take precautions wherever you are—on the street, in an office building or shopping mall, driving, waiting for a bus or subway. Remember to stay alert and tuned in to your surroundings. When you are out and about, send the message that you're calm, confident, and know where you're going. If something or someone makes you uneasy, trust your instincts—avoid the person or leave.

During Crime Prevention Month, everyone is encouraged to visit the MPD's website and learn more about personal safety measures that can be taken to help reduce the risk of becoming a victim of crime. The MPD offers an extensive selection of safety brochures covering topics like identity theft, domestic violence, burglary, robbery and assault, and theft from auto, to name a few.

» The MPD offers a wide selection of crime prevention and safety materials online at:  
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/safety>

» Learn more about the National Crime Prevention Council by visiting the website at:  
<http://www.ncpc.org/>



## TELL US HOW WE'RE DOING: MPD SEEKS FEEDBACK THROUGH GRADE.DC.GOV

We're excited that MPD is now a 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 District's [grade.dc.gov](http://grade.dc.gov) website. If you have an experience you'd like us to know about, we encourage you to tell us so we can acknowledge the good work of one of our members or address issues that may need our attention.

### Give Us Your Thoughts

- You can grade our service in several ways:
- Tweet your feedback to [@dcpolicedept](https://twitter.com/dcpolicedept)
- Leave a comment on Facebook at DCPolice
- Text your comments to [\(202\) 499-4581](tel:2024994581)
- Share your comments on your district community email discussion group
- Visit [grade.dc.gov](http://grade.dc.gov) and fill out the survey for MPD

By contributing your feedback, you will be helping to improve the District's services to our residents and visitors. A total of 10 agencies are currently participating in the program, with more planned in the near future. Your input helps form the basis of the agency's "grade," which visitors to [grade.dc.gov](http://grade.dc.gov) will be able to review on a monthly basis.

Thanks for your help in making DC Government the best it can be!

» Learn more about Grade DC and submit your comments about the Metropolitan Police Department at:  
<http://grade.dc.gov>

» Interested in participating in one of the MPD's community email list groups? Get more information at:  
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/emailgroups>



## PROTECT YOUR IDENTITY: SHRED YOUR PERSONAL DOCUMENTS AT FORT TOTTEN THIS SATURDAY

As our lives become more integrated with technology, keeping our private information confidential becomes more and more difficult. Your personal information is often requested, partially-completed credit card applications may be mailed to your residence often, and electronic transactions have become commonplace. Although all of this has the potential to simplify daily activities, it also makes it easy for someone to take advantage of the situation and steal your identity.



There are several measures you can take to reduce the risk of becoming a victim of identity theft, including changing your passwords regularly, using secure web sites, and disposing of your personal paper documents properly.

The Department of Public Works holds monthly Household Hazardous Waste/E-Cycling/Personal Document Shredding, and the next drop-off will be on Saturday, October 6, between 8 am and 3 pm at the Ft. Totten Transfer Station. In addition to permitting district residents may bring toxic items, such as pesticides, batteries and cleaning fluids to Ft. Totten, personal document shredding also is available and residents may bring up to five boxes of materials to be shredded. No business or commercial material will be accepted.

To accommodate residents whose religious beliefs prohibit them from using the Saturday drop-off, DPW will accept household hazardous waste and e-cyclables only on the Thursday before the first Saturday of the month. While DPW normally offers personal document shredding on the first Saturday, items for shredding cannot be accepted on Thursdays because these documents cannot be protected until the shredding contractor arrives the first Saturday.

» For a list of all household hazardous waste and e-cyclables accepted by DPW, please click on the HHW link at:  
<http://www.dpw.dc.gov>

» For more information on ways to protect your identity, and how to report identify theft to the police, go to:  
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/safety>

### » **Directions to Ft. Totten**

Travel east on Irving Street, NW, turn left on Michigan Avenue, turn left on John F. McCormack Road, NE and continue to the end of the street.

### 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](mailto:kaylin.castelli@dc.gov)

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