

# WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



*Friday, October 9, 2015*

## PREPARE FOR YOUR AUTUMN BICYCLE RIDES BY GETTING THE APPROPRIATE SAFETY GEAR AND REGISTERING YOUR BIKE

According to the National Safe Kids Campaign, motor vehicle collisions account for nearly 90 percent of all bicycle-related deaths. A collision with a motor vehicle increases the risk of death, severity of injury, and probability of head injury. Help protect your child against such accidents by making sure that he/she wears a helmet at all times while cycling. The District of Columbia has bicycle helmet laws to protect cyclists under the age of 16, who enjoy the many streets and trails in and around the Nation's Capital. Helmet laws are enforced for minors and encouraged for all adult cyclists, so please make sure you and your child wear a helmet at all times when riding a bike. In addition to mandating that riders under age 16 wear a helmet while riding a bicycle, the law also requires that children under the age of 16 wear a helmet when riding a scooter, skateboard, sled, coaster, toy vehicle, or any similar device.



Bicycle registration is no longer required in the District of Columbia. However, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the Metropolitan Police Department (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 6 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 it takes.

## USE THE HSEMA MOBILE APP FOR INFORMATION IN AN EMERGENCY OR DISASTER

No one is ever ready for an emergency but you can be prepared. When you know where to get information, have the right supplies, and have a plan for you, your loved ones, and your pets, you can protect yourself and your family before a crisis and for at least 72 hours afterwards.

The Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA) mobile application contains important information you can use before, during and after an emergency or disaster such as:

- Emergency evacuation routes that lead you out of the District
- Alert DC emergency text alerts
- Current weather outlooks from the National Weather Service
- Disaster safety tips
- Help lines that provide telephone numbers to essential emergency resources and information

- » Remember to bike responsibly and pay attention to drivers and pedestrians who also may be out on the road or crossing the street. Check out the MPD's "Share the Road" safety tips for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians at:  
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/sharetheroad>
- » Read the MPD's frequently asked questions on registering your bike in the District of Columbia at:  
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/bikereg>
- » Get details on the bike helmet law in DC at:  
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/bikesafety>

- » Learn more about the safety, information and mapping data that's available on DC HSEMA's Mobile Application at:  
<http://hsema.dc.gov/page/homeland-security-and-emergency-management-agency-mobile-app>
- » The app is free to download through the GooglePlay Store and the Apple App Store.

- A calendars informing the public about emergency preparedness training, HSEMA Community Outreach events as well as special events such as marathons and street festivals
- A direct link to the local transit authority's (METRO) main website and twitter page
- List of shelters that are opened after a disaster occurs
- A direct link to FEMA's website,
- Maps of where District Police and Fire stations are located
- Regional preparedness links
- Steps to take to make a family emergency plan, a go kit, and much more!



The tools in this app help ensure that no matter where you are or what you are doing you'll be prepared.

## STREET CLOSURES PLANNED FOR ARMY 10-MILER ON SUNDAY

The Metropolitan Police Department would like to advise the public and members of the media of the following street closures in connection with the Army Ten-Miler scheduled for Sunday, October 11, 2015. For more information: <https://www.armytenmiler.com/>

The proceeding streets will be intermittently closed along the race route beginning approximately at 6 am and should reopen by 12 pm.

- Rock Creek Parkway between Virginia Ave NW and Independence Ave SW
- Virginia Avenue NW between Rock Creek Parkway and Constitution Ave NW
- Constitution Avenue NW between 23rd Street NW and 15th Street NW
- Independence Avenue SW between 23rd Street NW and 7th Street SW
- 14th Street Bridge HOV Lanes between Arlington Virginia and Independence Ave SW
- 7th Street SW between Independence Ave SW and C Street SW
- 9th Street SW between Independence Ave SW and C Street SW

All street closures and listed times are subject to change based upon prevailing or unexpected conditions. Motorists could encounter possible delays if operating in the vicinity of this event and may wish to consider alternative routes. The Metropolitan Police Department and the D.C. Department of Transportation also wishes to remind motorists in the vicinity of this event to proceed with caution as increased pedestrian traffic can be anticipated.

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

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