

AUGUST 2018



Raleigh Police Department Community Newsletter

This newsletter is produced by the Public Affairs Unit of the Raleigh Police Department. It provides Raleigh citizens with crime prevention tips, seasonal information, and upcoming RPD community activities.

North Carolina's geographic location along the Atlantic coast makes us susceptible to hurricanes and tropical storms. Hurricane season runs June 1 through November 30, and our state may also experience other forms of severe weather, including thunderstorms, tornadoes and flooding, throughout the year.

This edition of the RPD Community Newsletter features tips to keep you and your loved ones safe when experiencing extreme weather. Please share this information with family, friends, and neighbors.

TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN

Each year, more deaths occur due to flooding than from any other storm related hazard. Many of these deaths are a result of careless or unsuspecting motorists who attempt to drive through flooded roads.



If your vehicle is suddenly caught in rising water, leave it immediately and seek higher ground. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that over half of all flood-related drownings occur when a vehicle is driven into hazardous flood water. The next highest percentage of flood-related deaths is due to walking into or near flood waters. People underestimate the force and power of water.

Avoid already-flooded areas and do not attempt to cross flowing water. Many of the deaths occur in automobiles as they are swept downstream. Of these drownings, many are preventable, but too many people continue to drive around the barriers that warn you the road is flooded. If your vehicle is suddenly caught in rising water, once the vehicle is full, doors will be able to open. Hold your breath and swim to the surface.

Do not walk, swim or drive through flood waters. A mere six inches of fast-moving flood water can knock over an adult. It takes just 12 inches of rushing water to carry away a small car, while two feet of rushing water can carry away most vehicles. It is NEVER safe to drive or walk into flood waters.

Safety Tips for Flooded Streets

- Never drive through floodwaters or on flooded roads.
- If your vehicle stalls, leave it immediately and seek higher ground.
- Water only two feet deep can sweep away automobiles.

Please call 911 if you have experienced a crime or if you want to report any suspicious activity.

TIPS TO WEATHER A STORM

Hundreds of people die or are injured each year due to hurricanes, lightning, flash floods, powerful thunderstorm winds, and winter storms and cold. Severe weather can strike quickly and leave behind a trail of destruction. However, it's possible to stay safe and control damage by following a few simple steps:

BEFORE THE STORM

- Develop a disaster plan for you and your family.
- Monitor official weather forecasts and other important information for your area.
- Keep at least one traditional analog phone in your home that does not require electricity to operate.

DURING THE STORM

- Listen to local authorities on radio and television. Evacuation routes often close as a storm develops so be sure you know where to go if you need to get out of your residence.
- Do not use electrical appliances including your computer unless absolutely necessary.
- If you lose power, turn off major appliances such as the HVAC and water heater to reduce damage.



AFTER THE STORM

- Do not touch fallen or low-hanging wires of any kind under any circumstances. Stay away from puddles with wires in or near them. Do not touch trees or other objects in contact with power lines.
- Call to report hazards such as downed power lines, broken gas or water mains, overturned gas tanks or any other dangerous situation that you may come across.
- Be cautious of door-to-door scams. After a storm, there are people that come around and take advantage of you when you are vulnerable. Take the time to investigate the company and don't give anyone access to your home until you've done your homework.

Join Us for Upcoming Community Safety Meetings!



Learn about:

- Strategies to reduce residential and vehicle break-ins
- Reporting suspicious persons or activities
- Crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED)
- Lock it or Lose it Campaign
- Forming a Neighborhood Watch

When and where:

September 5, 6 p.m.

Marsh Creek Community Center
3050 N. New Hope Road

September 11, 6:30 p.m.

Carolina Pines Community Center
2305 Lake Wheeler Road

September 25, 5:30 p.m.

Lake Lynn Community Center
7921 Ray Road

September 25, 7 p.m.

Halifax Community Center 1023
Halifax Street

September 27, 7 p.m.

Roberts Park Community Center 1300 E.
Martin Street