

JULY 2019



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.

It's hard to believe that the year is more than halfway over! Traditional schools will be starting in less than a month and many year-round students have already headed back. Keeping children safe is essential, and we hope you take the time to read through this newsletter and put these tips into practice.

This RPD Community Newsletter features tips to keep children safe when they head back to school as well as reminders about keeping your valuables safe in your vehicle. Please share this information with family, friends, and neighbors.

BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY

As summer draws to a close and children start heading back to school, family life can get pretty hectic. It's important to remember – and share with your children – some key tips that will help keep them safe and healthy throughout the school year.

Walking to School

- If you feel your child does not have adequate pedestrian skills to walk to school, either walk with him until you are confident in his ability or make alternate arrangements for getting him to and from school.
- Practice the route with your child to be sure they know it
- Make sure the route your child takes is safe and has a crossing guard at intersections
- Have your child walk to school with a friend or a group of friends and never take shortcuts through a wooded areas
- Make sure your child wear light or brightly colored clothing for drivers to see them

Traveling by School Bus

- Your child should never step off the curb until the bus comes to a complete stop
- Have them always use seat belts if the bus is equipped with them; do not move around in the bus; and sit quietly in their seat.

- When leaving the school bus, have them stay in view of the driver and always cross the street in front of the bus. They should not bend down in front of the bus to tie shoes or pick up objects, as the driver may not see them before starting to move.
- Even though traffic is supposed to stop for a school bus, always check both ways before crossing the street.



General Safety Tips

- Be sure that your child knows his or her home phone number and address, your work number, the number of another trusted adult and how to call 911 for emer-

Tipsters can call Raleigh CrimeStoppers at (919) 834-HELP or visit raleighcrimestoppers.org for text and email reporting options. CrimeStoppers pays cash rewards for anonymous tips that help solve cases.



WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU AT NATIONAL NIGHT OUT!



America's night out against crime is Tuesday, Aug. 6. This annual community-building campaign promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live.

The Raleigh Police Department has supported National Night Out for more than 30 years (click [here](#) to see a video from last year). This year there are more than 50 events happening throughout Raleigh. During that time, neighborhoods have organized activities such as block parties, cookouts, porch sit-ins, and ice cream socials to demonstrate their support of "no tolerance" for crime.

In observance of National Night Out, RPD asks you to leave your porch light on from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. The porch light is a symbol of alertness and awareness; it makes your neighbors and friends feel welcome. Participation is not limited to leaving your porch light only on Aug. 6. RPD also asks that you take time to get to know your neighbors better.

For additional details on National Night Out events across the community:

- Check with your homeowners association or property manager
- Ask your neighborhood leaders
- Contact RPD's community officers
- Look for information on your neighborhood's NextDoor site

REMEMBER THE PHRASE, "LOCK IT OR LOSE IT!"

"Lock It or Lose It" is a national crime prevention program to encourage drivers to take a few simple precautions to make sure valuables are not stolen from their vehicles.

In Raleigh, the goal of the program is to reduce vehicular break-ins by creating awareness of the need to properly secure vehicles so that thieves do not have an opportunity to steal valuables.

Did You Know?

- A thief can steal valuables from your vehicle in less than 30 seconds
- It takes less than 20 seconds for you to remove them
- A vehicle with an unlocked door or an open window is an easy target

What You Can Do

You can protect your valuables (phone, laptop, tablet, wallet, purse, firearms, etc.) from theft by following these simple precautions:

- Always lock your vehicle's doors and remove valuables or at least keep them out of sight

- Never leave your vehicle unattended while it is unlocked
- If you have a garage, use it and lock the door
- Never leave your car keys in plain view or in an easily accessible area
- If you must leave valuable objects or packages in your vehicle, lock them in the trunk
- Never leave your keys in the vehicle
- Park in well lit areas when possible
- Avoid parking near large vehicles and bushes as they provide cover for thieves
- Call 911 if you see somebody looking into windows, pulling door handles or checking for alarms by bumping windows or bumpers

