



COPS NEWS

Community Oriented Police Service

QUARTERLY

Spring 2012

What's New

RadKIDS program teaches practical safety skills

The Gwinnett County Police Department Crime Prevention Unit will begin teaching the radKIDS program in May. This program is a 10-hour safety education program for children in Pre-K to 6th grade. The course is a hands-on program for children and adults to learn about home, school, and vehicle safety. It also addresses bullying, realistic defense against abduction, good-bad-uncomfortable touch, and more. It is our resolve to give children the tools they need to resist aggression defensively.

Crime Free Multi-Housing helps deter crime in communities

The Crime Free Multi-Housing program is now being implemented. The nationwide program is already in progress in 25 apartment communities in Duluth, and Crime Prevention Officers will soon begin training apartment community managers. Apartment communities will also be encouraged to make security upgrades to the apartment homes. The program has shown a decrease in crimes by 70 percent in other states.



COPS Communities

COPS communities: Don't forget your requirements!

Thank you to all of our COPS communities for your commitment to the program and to your neighbors. Please be reminded that you do have requirements that you must meet in order to continue the COPS Program's success in your community.

Please be sure to hold a yearly meeting with your Crime Prevention Officer. This meeting should be scheduled after confirming when your Crime Prevention Officer is available to attend. You are also required to have a safety social within your community, which can be a picnic, block party, or whatever creative event you and your neighbors plan. Don't forget to invite your Crime Prevention Officer; they would love to attend. Finally, liaisons or a designee are required to attend the Public Safety Fall Festival in October. We look forward to seeing you all very soon.



Safety Tips

Be aware of fishy guests

A very wise man once said that fish and visitors stink after three days. Well that's true of unwanted guests as soon as you see them coming. Recently, there were two separate occasions of unsolicited visitors to Gwinnett County homes. In one of the cases, the homeowner was lured to her backyard to discuss a fence that was being installed. The suspect spoke on a walkie-talkie, then left. The homeowner later discovered that there was jewelry missing from her home. Here are some tips on how to handle unwanted solicitors:

1. If you don't know the person, don't open the door. Tell them from the closed door that you are not interested and ask them to leave. If they refuse to leave, call the police
2. Don't ignore the knock at the door; they may be checking to see if you are home before trying to break in
3. Don't leave your garage door open unless you are working outside in the garage or front yard; an open door is an invitation for someone to enter your personal space and a garage door is a door into your home
4. If you didn't call them to come to your house and don't know why they are there, be suspicious. Again, tell them to leave without opening the door
5. Take note of what the person is wearing and what they are driving. This could be very important if they are committing crimes in your area
6. Call the Police Department to report any suspicious activity. You are the eyes and ears in your neighborhood

Be protective of your home and your personal property. Criminals will take advantage of you if you allow them the opportunity to do so.

Did You Know?

We get questions on a routine basis about solicitors and canvassers, so here's the rule for solicitors and canvassers in neighborhoods.

There are several rules that restrict soliciting. Some exempt groups are people under the age of 15 for a bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization, religious groups, and campaign workers. Also, soliciting is allowed on Monday through Saturday from 9:00am to 7:00pm. There can be no more than two solicitors at a house and they have to have their permit prominently displayed. If the groups are nonprofit organizations, they shall have their tax exempt status available to show upon request.

Programs

Get your car seat checked!

Did you know that four out of every five car seats are improperly installed? Also, a properly installed car seat can reduce fatal injuries for infants by 71 percent and 54 percent for toddlers. For the safety of your child, let us help you with your car seat.

Child car seat checks are conducted by members of the Gwinnett County Police Department for free. You can schedule a car seat check by calling any Crime Prevention Officer or by sending an e-mail to pdcarseatchecks@gwinnettcountry.com.

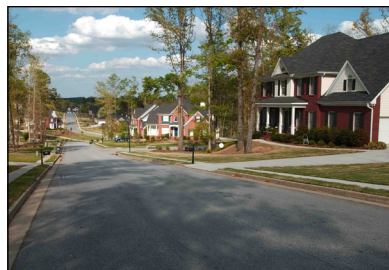


Be on the Lookout...

The Gwinnett County Police Department will hold the first **Crime Free Multi-Housing training on May 9 from 8:00am to 5:00pm**. The goal of the Crime Free Multi-Housing program is to enhance the quality of life for residents living in apartment communities. Twenty-five apartment communities will be involved in the initial launch of the program. These communities are in the Sweetwater Road and Satellite Boulevard corridors. The program has shown reduction of crimes in communities of up to 70 percent. For information, contact Officer Humberto Garcia at 770.513.5116.

New COPS Communities

We would like to welcome the newest COPS Communities – Timberloch in Snellville and Bentwood at Sugarloaf in Duluth. Congratulations to these two great communities who are working towards a safer place to live and play.



County closings for spring

All offices, with the exception of those operations required for the comfort and safety of the citizens of Gwinnett County, will be closed on the following dates:

Memorial Day • May 28
Independence Day • July 4

Calendar of Events

See these and other safety classes at www.gwinnettpolice.com or call 770.513.5119.

Bike Safety Drop-In

May 12 • 8:30am – 2:30pm
Sports Authority – Buford
1705 Mall of Georgia Boulevard

Car Seat Checks

May 14 • 9:30am – 12:30pm
Hebron Baptist Church
202 Hebron Church Road, Dacula

1st Responders Night with the Georgia Force

June 2 • 5:30pm – 7:30pm
Gwinnett Arena
6400 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth

Officer of the Month

January 2012

Ofc. R. Bazan

February 2012

Sgt. J.C. Price, Sgt. B.S. Finnegan,
Cpl. E.C. Charron, Cpl. T.R. Tobler,
Ofc. T.L. Pickens, Ofc. W.A. Bohn,
Ofc. Q.M. Brown, Ofc. X.M. Mathis,
Ofc. A.M. Purvis, Ofc. J.M. Young

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Officer Aaron Brinkman, South Precinct Crime Prevention Officer: aaron.brinkman@gwinnettcountry.com • 678.442.5032

Officer Aaren Dieffenbacher, North Precinct Crime Prevention Officer: aaren.dieffenbacher@gwinnettcountry.com • 678.442.5005

Officer Walt Pollock, East Precinct Crime Prevention Officer: walter.pollock@gwinnettcountry.com • 678.442.5656

Officer Brandon Morris, Central Precinct Crime Prevention Officer: brandon.morris@gwinnettcountry.com • 678.442.6504

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