



CHARLES COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

WATCH WORKS

SHERIFF TROY BERRY

MAY/JUNE 2016

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

May 8: Mothers Day

May 30: Memorial Day

June 14 Flag Day

June 19th Father's Day.

June 20 Summer
Begins April 30,

Fun Facts:

Birthstone for May:
Emerald

May Flower Lily of the
Valley & Hawthorn

Astrological Signs for
May: Taurus (till 20th)
& Gemini (21st-)

June, named after Juno,
the goddess of marriage,
is the sixth month of the
year, and is one of the four
months with a length of
30 days. This is also the
month with the longest
daylight hours of the year.

June's Birthstones are
the Alexandrite and the
Moonstone, and the Pearl.

June's flowers are the
honeysuckle and the
rose.

Time For Some Yard Work

The days are getting longer. The weather is getting nicer. The earth is ready to renew itself, green grass, leaves and flowers starting to show themselves. Everyone is ready to get outside and start getting their yard and house in shape for the summer. Below are a few safety tips before you get outside.

- Always wear protective clothing when you handle pesticides and fertilizers.
- Before you do any "hands on" weed removal, be sure you know how to identify poison ivy and similar toxic plants.
- When pruning trees, be careful not to let metal ladders or trimmers contact

overhead wires.

- Read the manufacturer's instructions carefully before using new tools.
- Never operate a mower in your bare feet and avoid wearing loose clothing.



- Never start a mower indoors.
- When refueling your mower, make sure the engine is off and cool. Don't spill

gasoline on a hot engine.

- Never leave a mower unattended.
- Inspect the product for damage and don't use it if there are problems or damage.
- Use proper eye protection.
- Unplug all tools when not in use.
- Make sure the tool is in the "off" position before you plug it in.
- Store gasoline powered equipment away from anything that uses a pilot light.
- Always use the right piece of equipment for the job.

National Night Out

National Night Out will be held on August 2nd this year. It is always the first Tuesday of August. Celebrations will be held all over the county, the state, the nation, and overseas. This night is put aside to show that neighborhoods are not going to sit back and let criminals take their

neighborhoods. This is a night to go outside, meet your neighbors and enjoy some time with your police and elected officials. Your local fire department and rescue will be in the neighborhoods to meet you and answer your questions. If you would like to organize a National Night Out celebra-

tion call Connie Gray at 301-932-3080 for more information. We would like to get more Charles County neighborhoods involved. It doesn't have to cost a lot or be a large party. Just gathering your neighbors to meet each other is all it takes.

Senior Safety

When answering the door or the telephone, watch out for con artists.

Don't fall for anything that sounds too good to be true – a free vacation; sweepstakes prizes; cures for cancer and arthritis; a low risk, high-yield investment scheme.

Never give your credit card, phone card, Social Security, or bank account number to anyone over the phone. It's illegal for telemarketers to ask for these

numbers to verify a prize or gift.

Don't let anyone rush you into signing anything, an insurance policy, a sales agreement, a contract. Read it carefully and have someone you trust check it over.

Beware of individuals claiming to represent companies, consumer organizations, or government agencies that offer to recover lost money from fraudulent telemarketers for a fee.

If you're suspicious, check it out with the police, the Better Business Bureau, or your local consumer protection office. You can also call the National Consumers League Fraud Information Center at 800-876-7060.

Report any crime or suspicious activities to law enforcement.

Do not give out personal information over the phone or through the mail unless you have initiated the contact.

Crime Watch Kickoff, A Huge Success

The Crime Watch Kickoff that was held on March 23rd was a huge success. The presentation that Vincent Devivo (Community Outreach Specialist for the United States Attorney's Office) gave was full of great information. We had lots of good feedback after

the meeting and everyone said they learned so much. Mr. Devivo's presentation was on "Innocence Lost, a guide to internet safety". Many did not know that owning an X-box could put children on the internet. Many did not understand that just taking a photo

gives more information than was intended. He also showed how just putting a little information online can give out so much information because of GPS. Thanks to those that attended and if you were not able to make it I'm sorry you missed such a great presentation.

A Word From Your Community Organizer

Hello! It was great seeing a lot of you at the Crime Watch Kickoff. The Citizens Advisory Council Meeting is coming up in May and I hope you will be able to attend that. We had a Sammy Sausage Sale

on April 20th at our District I station in La Plata. We sold Italian Sausage with peppers and onions along with chips and a bottle of water for \$5.00. It's a great lunch and helps raise money for March of

Dimes and Relay for Life. We sold about 100 lunches and after all the bills were paid we made \$210 for each charity. Maybe we can do this again in the fall. See you around, be safe!

Connie

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Don't just throw it out!



your stairs. You may want to dispose of any hazardous materials that are leaking, expired, or look bad. In

Charles County you can dispose of hazardous waste April through December, from 9:00 to 3:00 at the Department of Public Works in La Plata on the first Saturday of the month. If you have any questions go to www.charlescounty.org/recycling or call 301-932-3599.

ITEMS ACCEPTED FREE OF CHARGE INCLUDE;

- * Automotive fluids (transmission fluids, brake fluid, etc.)
- * Cleaning supplies
- * Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFLs)
- * Degreasers
- * Fertilizer
- * Fluorescent tubes
- * Gasoline
- * Herbicides
- * Mercury
- * Oil-based paint (Latex paint is not toxic and once solidified, made into a solid, can be disposed in your household trash.)
- * Pesticides
- * Pool chemicals
- * Rust removers
- * Other poisons that are around your home

- On the front page of this newsletter we have safety information on getting outside and working on your yard. The first think you will do is open your garage or storage shed and look at all the stuff you saved from last year and the year before and so on. You may have household and pool chemicals, paints and poisons stored in these places. Make sure gasoline and cleaning fluids are well-marked and stored in a cool, dry place away from the house and out of reach of children and pets.
- Use only approved containers for gasoline storage
- Never use gasoline to clean skin, clothes, auto parts or floors.
- Clean up work areas. Put dangerous tools, adhesives, matches or other work items away from children's reach.
- Remove all fire hazards, including stacks of rags, newspapers and magazines. Pay special attention to the spaces around your furnace, hot water tank, fireplace, space heaters and dryer, as well as under

ITEMS NOT EXCEPTED:

- * Ammunition
- * Bio/Medical wastes, needles, body fluids)
- * Commercial hazardous waste
- * Prescription and non-prescription drugs (Prescription and non-prescription drugs can be dropped off at the Charles County Sheriff's La Plata and Waldorf Stations, 24 hours a day and at the Charles County Sheriff's Bryans Road Station by appointment for safe disposal. Liquids or syringes will not be accepted). Please keep the materials in their original containers whenever possible and bring them to the collection site in cardboard boxes to ease unloading. Reusable containers will be emptied and returned. Commercially generated hazardous waste is strictly prohibited.
- * Batteries, used motor oil & antifreeze can be disposed of on a regular basis at one of the recycling centers or oil & antifreeze drop off sites.



Latex paint is not toxic and once solidified, made into a solid, can be disposed in your household trash. Newspaper or kitty litter will help solidify.





Charles County Sheriff's Office

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MISSION STATEMENT

THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE CHARLES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ARE DEDICATED TO SERVICE THROUGH SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE. WE BELIEVE MUTUAL RESPECT, TRUST AND PRIDE IN OUR ORGANIZATION, COMBINED WITH TRADITIONAL VALUES AND INNOVATIVE TECHNIQUES, WILL ENSURE THE COMMUNITY'S RIGHT TO A SAFE ENVIRONMENT.

Value Statements

LIFE We believe the protection of life is our highest priority.

RESPECT We believe in individual human dignity and the preservation of human rights under the rule and spirit of law, always treating others as we would like to be treated.

INTEGRITY We believe in maintaining the public trust by holding ourselves accountable to the highest moral and ethical standards.

FAIRNESS We believe in the delivery of service that provides fair and equal treatment to all citizens without regard to age, gender, race, creed, color, religion or national origin.

TRUST We believe in order to provide effective service we must develop and maintain the confidence of the community.

PARTNERSHIPS We believe in working in partnership with the community and each other to identify and resolve

problems and issues which affect the safety of our citizens.

LOYALTY We believe in an allegiance to the community, to the organization and to each other.

PROFESSIONALISM We believe in delivering a level of service which will reflect the pride we have in our community and organization.



Charles County Sheriff's Office
Honor Guard.