



CHARLES COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

September
4: Labor Day

September
14,15,16,17:
Charles County Fair

October 9:
Columbus Day

October 16:
National Bosses Day



WATCH WORKS

SHERIFF TROY BERRY

SEPTEMBER 2017

They Will Be Falling

Not just leaves, but those “helicopter” or Whirligigs” that come from maple trees and get stuck in your gutters. As a kid it was such fun watching these fall to the ground. Now it’s not so much fun. Now that it’s my job to help clean these up, let me send out a few safety tips:

- When raking leaves help prevent back injuries by standing upright and pull from your arms and legs. Don’t overfill leaf bags, and when picking them up bend at the knee and use your legs, not your back, for support.
- If you use a leaf blower, shield yourself. Wear appropriate clothing, eye protection, and work boots to prevent injury.
- Don’t allow children to play in leaf piles near the curb. The

piles can obstruct the view of drivers and put your child at risk for getting hit.

Every month should be fire prevention month, but we tend to plug in a lot more devices in the fall and winter.

- Test all smoke alarms. Remember to replace used and expired fire extinguishers.
- Turn your heater on before the temperatures really plummet so you can ensure it works.
- If you have a fireplace, inspect the chimney to confirm it is free of debris, creosote buildup and unobstructed so combustibles can vent.
- Check all outdoor lighting fixtures to make sure they are working properly.
- Clean your gutters

by removing all debris and leaves.

- Before burning leaves, check your city’s regulations, as it may be illegal or there may be a burn ban on.

Now would be a good time to make sure your vehicle is in top shape before the weather gets bad. Check all the lights on your vehicle, headlights, brake lights, etc. to make sure they are all working.

Check your tires for tread and proper inflation

Grills, patio furniture and garden hoses will still be in use while the weather cools just a bit and there will be time to put all those away. Take one day at a time and don’t injure yourself trying to do too much at once. Enjoy the change in the weather.



CCSO
COMMUNITY
ORGANIZER
CONNIE GRAY
 301-932-3080
grayc@ccso.us

National Night Out 2017

Another AWESOME National Night Out for Charles County. We had 55 neighborhoods to visit. Officers traveled from Cobb Island to Nanjemoy and Indian Head to Waldorf and Hughesville and many stops in between. What a great night. It was hot but we did find a few celebrations with a nice breeze. We were greeted at all celebrations with smiles and good ole hospitality. I think at every stop someone asked if we wanted something to eat, and it all looked

good. Maryland's Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford could have visited anywhere in Maryland but he chose to visit Charles County. He gave a few remarks at our kickoff and then proceeded to go out and visit a few neighborhood celebrations. State, County, Natural Resources, Department of Transportation and Town Police were out visiting and enjoying the citizens of Charles County. Our County Commissioners attended a few celebrations and so did Tony Covington our

State's Attorney and his large group. They enjoyed visiting with lots of neighborhoods. We had representatives from the governor's office and letters from Senator's offices. Charles County was the place to be on NNO.

I hope your neighborhood joined in with a NNO celebration. If not please contact me to see what you may be able to do next year. I can be reached at grayc@ccso.us or 301-932-3080

Just My Thoughts



We live in such a fast paced world. Parents are getting home from work and making sure their children make it to soccer practice, karate classes and lots of other social engagements. I get it! These kids need to get out there and compete and get exercise they are not getting sitting in

the classroom or at home with their electronics. How often do you get to sit down to dinner as a family? How often do you help your child with their homework? Sometimes a child just needs you to sit and listen for a few minutes. Ask them: how was your day? Did anything ex-

citing or out of the ordinary happen today? Is everything good at school? I think you would be surprised at how much they have to say. I think we all need to take a deep breath and slow down. Make the time, it's there somewhere. You'll be glad you did.

School Bus Safety

- Walk to the bus stop.
- Be at the bus stop at least five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
- If you are late, NEVER run to catch a moving bus.
- When the bus arrives, stay away from the danger zones.

WHAT ARE THE DANGER ZONES?

The danger zone is the area on all sides of the bus where children cannot be seen by the bus driver and are in the most danger of being struck by the bus.

Front Danger Zone: the area which extends ten feet in front of the bus.

Side Danger Zone: The area which extends ten feet on each side of the bus.

Rear Danger Zone: The area which extends ten feet behind the bus.

If you can touch the bus, you are **TOO CLOSE!!**

- Make sure the bus is stopped and the red school bus warning lights are flashing and the stop and crossing

arms are extended before getting on the bus.

- If you have to cross the street, go at least 5 big steps in front of the bus and wait until the driver signals for you to cross the street.
- When entering the bus, hold the handrail. Watch out for dangling pieces of clothing, drawstrings on hoods or backpack straps that could get caught or tripped over.

Stay seated, facing front to avoid injury. Keep all body parts inside the bus. Be respectful of others: use inside voices and keep your hands to yourself.

No eating or drinking on the bus.

No large musical or sport equipment on the bus.

Follow the directions of the driver.

- When exiting the bus, look to the right before stepping onto the curb.
- Never go back to the bus after you get off it. If you drop something, wait until the bus is

gone.

How exciting for new kindergarten students to ride the bus. We highly encourage the parent to teach their child to know their name and address. We also encourage parent/student to know their assigned bus number.



The parent/guardian of a kindergarten student must be available at the bus stop 10 minutes before listed stop time. If no one is available at the bus stop to greet the kindergarten student, unless accompanied by an older sibling, they will be returned to the student's school.



Motorists, if red lights are flashing, **STOP!** They show that children are getting on or off the bus and may be crossing the street. Proceed only when lights stop flashing and the bus has started moving.

The fine for passing a stopped school bus is \$570. I'm sure you can find other things to spend this money on.

SLOW DOWN!





Charles County Sheriff's Office

6915 Crain highway
P.O. Box 189
La Plata, MD 20646

(301)932-2222

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.