



CHARLES COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

# WATCH WORKS

SHERIFF TROY BERRY

SEPTEMBER 2019

**September 2:**

Labor Day

**September 3:**

School Starts

**September 8:**

Grandparents Day

**Sept**

**12,13,14,15:**

Charles County  
Fair

**Sept 23:** Autumn  
begins



## Virtual Crime Watch



In an effort to enhance investigative efforts of criminal matters, the Charles County Sheriff's Office is launching a new program called *Virtual Crime Watch*. If you have a home or business surveillance camera, you can register it with the CCSO, which will then become part of a database the Agency can use to ascertain if anyone has a security camera system in the vicinity of a reported crime. The CCSO will not have a direct link to the footage from your camera, they will simply know that you have a system that may have captured critical footage associated with the event being investigated.

"Providing us with the location of your security camera has the potential to help us apprehend or identify criminals faster. As officers respond to criminal incidents, they may be able to use the information or footage from the security camera to assist in the apprehen-

sion and prosecution of the criminals involved, thus keeping our communities safer," said Sheriff Troy Berry. After registering your camera, you would only be contacted by a member of the CCSO if there is a crime in the area of the security camera. "Any information that's captured on a camera is of value to us. Our goal is to get as much information as quickly as possible in regards to any investigation we work, and video surveillance footage is excellent evidence when prosecuting crimes," said Lt. Louis Schmidt, III, Commander of the Agency's Homeland Security and Intelligence Section.

The CCSO is committed to advancing policing through technology to help keep communities safe. To register a camera, visit [Crimereports.com](http://Crimereports.com), click on "Register my Camera" and follow the prompts to create your

own account. Links are also available on the CCSO webpage at <https://www.ccsso.us/>. For more information and instructions, view our [tutorial video](#).

- What are the benefits?

Virtual Crime Watch is a program which allows citizens with residential/commercial security cameras in Charles County to register their address in an effort to help solve crime.

- Is my information protected?

Absolutely! We understand that it is important to safeguard your information, therefore, no one besides the police has access to the registry.

# Fall Changes



**CCSO**  
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I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer. Now back to reality. The kids are back in school. The weather will soon be changing.

Here are a few suggestions to help you ease into it.

Check your children's jackets and coats to see if they still fit and are clean and ready to go, along with your own. Does anyone need new hats or gloves?

Get your furnace serviced. Yes, soon you will want to turn that on to take the chill out of the house. Have your fireplace checked and cleaned if it needs it.

Leaves will be chang-

ing. Yes they are pretty but can pose a hazard to motorists. Fallen leaves when wet can create very slick conditions.

Children like to play in leaf piles so be alert! Never drive through a pile of leaves.

While it's still nice outside winterize your home by insulating walls and attics, caulking and weather-stripping doors and windows.

Keep fire extinguishers on hand, and make sure everyone in your house knows how to use them.

Check the tires, windshield wipers, brakes and fluid levels in your vehicle.

With the days getting shorter, visibility when driving in the fall can be a challenge. Many people walk along the side of the road at dusk with dogs, riding bicycles and enjoying the changes in the trees. School is also in session so kids are out playing. Slow down when driving, especially on curvy or narrow roads where visibility around corners is difficult, and pay attention to postings for animal crossings, and obey school zone speed limits.

Watch out for deer. The cold weather brings them out and it's mating season.

## This Month's Challenge

**Don't argue!** Everyone has their own opinion. Everyone has different beliefs. Just because they don't agree with you doesn't

mean either one of you is wrong. Let others believe what they may. And if you are right about something and they are wrong the details will come

out shortly. Sit back and wait for the outcome. Try not to gloat.



# Your Social Security Number



Is this Mr. Smith. Well you missed jury duty today and we are going to put out a warrant for your arrest. Oh, you didn't know you had jury duty? Well give me your full name and date of birth so that I can check and make sure we have the right Mr. Smith. Looks like it might not be you. Let me get your Social Security number to really make sure you aren't the Mr. Smith we are looking for.

SOUND FAMILIAR?

Scams involving your Social Security number and benefits are on the rise!

Your Social Security number is very important and should be protected.

Facts are if you get a call from what seems to be an official government site, scammers can fake your caller ID. It could seem to be from the SSA's real phone number (800) 772-1213 or the SSA Inspector General's Fraud Hotline number. Don't be fooled.

Government employees will not threaten to take away benefits or ask for

money or gift cards. They will not ask for personal information to protect your Social Security card or benefits.

If a caller asks for your Social Security number, bank account number or credit card information, hang up.

If you receive a message asking you to call back, check the number with the phone directory, or use the internet to get a number that is legit.

Report suspected scams to the SSA Inspector General at (800) 269-0271 or [oig.ssa.gov/report](http://oig.ssa.gov/report)

Visit [Identitytheft.gov/SSA](http://Identitytheft.gov/SSA) for more tips.



## Unwanted Guest At The Fair

Yellow jackets! They are the most menacing insects known to man. These brightly colored wasps possess a fiery sting and bite seeming out of proportion to their size. Yellow jackets are more aggressive than other stinging insects such as wasps, hornets or bees. Since yellow jackets don't lose their stinger, they can sting numerous times, and will do so unprovoked. In fact, they usually bite your flesh to get a better grip as they jab their stinger into your skin. They are scavengers and are a common pest at picnics and other outdoor activities such as the fair. For people who are allergic one sting could be dangerous. Even if you don't have an allergic reaction, the sting is plenty painful. Try and stay away from trash cans where soda cans and cotton candy papers still hold lots of treats for the unwanted guest. If you get stung and aren't sure if you are allergic or not seek help at the nearest EMT or first aid station. Information taken from "Why are Yellowjackets so dangerous"







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**REMINDER**  
FROM THE  
CHARLES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



**LOCK YOUR  
VEHICLE  
DOORS**

**#9PMROUTINE**