



# COMMUNITY DISPATCH

April 2023



Looking for a way to give back and beautify your community? Charles County Community clean-up, hosted on **Saturday, May 20th**, is a great opportunity to get out and show your support for your neighborhood by pitching in to keep your community looking nice...it's also a perfect time to get outside on a beautiful spring day, meet your neighbors and meet some of your Community Officers! The Charles County Government will be providing supplies (gloves, trash grabbers, etc.) and will pick up any bags of trash collected. To register your neighborhood please go to [www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/Cleanup](http://www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/Cleanup) and get your community involved!

## JUST A FRIENDLY REMINDER

**Don't forget to test and/or change the batteries in your smoke and carbon dioxide detectors!!**

## Don't Forget!

Test your smoke alarms **once a month** and **change the batteries** at least **once a year**.



## BE ALERT

Auto theft numbers in Charles County are on the rise!! To minimize your chances of becoming a victim, we recommend the following:

- Park your vehicle in a well lit and secure area when in public/at home, park in a garage if possible.
- Ensure valuables are moved out of eyesight inside your vehicle.
- Manually check if your car is locked via the door handle before walking away. Signal jamming (by thieves), may cause your key fob not to lock your vehicle.
- Add theft deterrents to your vehicle, The Club and Disklok steering wheel locks, aftermarket alarm systems.
- Get anti-theft software/upgrades installed from your vehicle dealership.



Consider registering your vehicle in the "Watch Your Car" program, sponsored by the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council. Vehicle owners sign an application stating their vehicle is not normally used between the hours of 1:00am and 5:00am. The owners are given special decals, which are placed on the front and back windows of their vehicle. Once registered, this gives law enforcement officers permission to stop your vehicle between the hours of 1:00am and 5:00am to verify that the driver is actually the owner of the vehicle or an authorized driver. For more information on the "Watch Your Car" program, please call 1-800-96-THEFT or email the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council at [msp.vtpc@maryland.gov](mailto:msp.vtpc@maryland.gov).

## Community Outreach



Members of the Charles County Sheriff's Office Community Engagement Unit, recently conducted a Fraud/ Scam presentation, with members of the National Association Of Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Chapter 126. This presentation was held at the Moose Lodge in Indian Head. The most current frauds and scams were discussed, with tips and advice provided, to minimize becoming a victim.

**TRAFFIC COMPLAINT LINE: 301-932-3062 or [trafficoperations@ccso.us](mailto:trafficoperations@ccso.us)**



**Questions, comments, complaints?**

Please contact our Civilian Community Coordinator

Mr. Gus Proctor: (301) 932-3080 / [proctora@ccso.us](mailto:proctora@ccso.us)



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## ANNOUNCEMENT

Members of the Charles County Sheriff's Office's Community Engagement and Community Policing Units, enjoy and look forward to participating in community events throughout the year. As we are finally getting back to normal life, post-Covid, the number of community events we've been asked to attend has steadily increased. Especially during certain times of the year, such as summer time, Easter, Halloween, Christmas, etc.

On occasions, our units receive multiple community requests for the same day. In order to maximize efficiency, we ask for notification at least a month in advance. This will allow our units to adequately schedule and staff submitted requests. If anyone needs to schedule an upcoming event, and wishes the CCSO to be present, please reach out to our Community Organizer at 301-932-3080 or [proctora@ccso.us](mailto:proctora@ccso.us)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### CRIME WATCH KICK OFF MEETING



**APRIL 12, 2023  
7 PM**

Get Answers to  
Your Questions

Voice  
Your Concerns

at the  
**AMERICAN LEGION POST 82**

6330 CRAIN HWY, LA PLATA, MD 20646

*Come on out and meet your District Commanders*



Have you registered for the upcoming CCSO Crime Watch Kickoff Meeting or the National Night Out event yet? We're excited and can't wait to see you all!! To register for either event, please contact our Community Organizer at 301-932-3080 or [proctora@ccso.us](mailto:proctora@ccso.us)



## WELCOME



### BUSINESS WATCH PROGRAM IN FORCE

WE IMMEDIATELY REPORT ALL  
SUSPICIOUS PEOPLE & ACTIVITIES TO  
THE SOUTH PASADENA POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Business Watch Program is designed to enhance the communication between businesses and the Charles County Sheriff's Office. The purpose of the Business Watch Program is to support businesses through proactive collaborative efforts to actively reduce and prevent crime impacting the business community, using communication, education, and enforcement. Information regarding current crime trends and crime prevention tips will be sent through an e-mail chain from the Charles County Sheriff's Office Community Engagement Unit to the business owners and business supervisors who wish to participate.

To register your business please contact the Community Organizer at [proctora@ccso.us](mailto:proctora@ccso.us) / 301-932-3080.

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**TAKE OUR  
SURVEY**



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