

TAKOMA PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY POLICING ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS - 2025

7500 Maple Avenue

Takoma Park, MD 20912





I was officially granted permission to "steal" this amazing photo from a conference for future use—and it's absolutely perfect!

As they said on *Cheers*: "Making your way in the world today takes everything you've got. Taking a break from all your worries sure would help a lot."

This photo? Total mood!

Coffee with a Cop is a community-oriented event designed to foster better relationships between police officers and the communities they serve. The concept is simple: officers and community members come together in a relaxed, informal setting—usually at a local coffee shop or public space—to chat, ask questions, and share concerns.

The event has no set agenda or speeches, allowing for open, one-on-one interactions where people can discuss issues or simply get to know the officers serving their area. It helps build trust and understanding between law enforcement and the community by breaking down barriers and humanizing both sides.

It's often promoted as a way to make officers more approachable and to encourage transparent communication about safety, policing, and neighborhood issues. Many departments across the United States and beyond regularly host these events as part of their community engagement strategies.



COFFEE WITH A COP

Cielo Rojo Restaurant



Many thanks to our community & City staff who donated supplies for the Montgomery County Family Justice Center Foundation for victims/families of domestic violence during Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October This event was successful due to your generosity!



COLLECTION OF EMERGENCY CARE
PACKAGES FOR VICTIMS/FAMILIES OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



Takoma Park Police collected 353 lbs. of unused & expired medications during the Nationwide Prescription Drug Take Back Day, as well as throughout six months at our permanent collection box site!

PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK

ANNUAL TOY DRIVE FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

Because of community and city donations, countless children in our community experienced the joy and magic of the season, receiving gifts that brought smiles, laughter, and cherished memories.



Takoma Park Volunteer Fire and Takoma Park Police
Departments Present

TOY DRIVE

BRING A TOY AND GIVE JOY!
Collecting Nov 7 - Dec 13, 2024

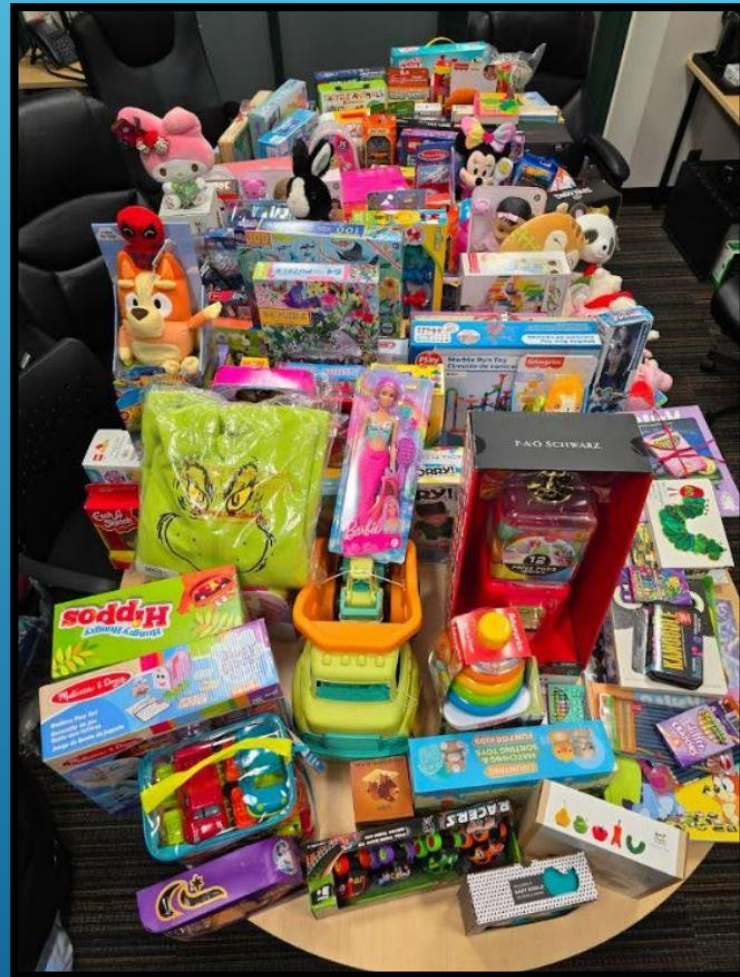
Drop Off Locations:
TPVFD, 7201 Carroll Ave, Takoma Park
TPPD, 7500 Maple Ave, Takoma Park

For more info contact:
Cathy Plevy, 301-891-7142
cathyp@takomaparkmd.gov

Collecting NEW unwrapped toys
and gift cards

JOY

The poster features a dark blue background with a string of colorful lights at the top. Two green Christmas trees with lights and ornaments are on either side of a central brown teddy bear wearing a red bow. To the left of the bear is a wrapped gift with a red bow, and to the right is a blue gift box with a white bow and the word 'JOY' on it. Snowflakes and stars are scattered around the text.





Takoma Park Police @TakomaParkPD · Jan 12, 2024



Is Officer Lane trading the badge for a basketball? No! But, exciting times are ahead as our fearless law enforcer turns into the Winter Hoop Commander! Brace yourselves for epic layups and justice served on the court! #WinterHoops #CoachLane #TakomaParkRecDept @TakomaParkMD



Our officers had the honor of celebrating our community resident Ms. Scales' 100th birthday! Here's to a century of smiles, stories, and cherished moments! Happy Birthday, Ms. Scales!



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

DONATE YOUR BLOOD

Giving blood is crucial to save people's lives & make sure
blood is available when it's needed



Takoma Park
Municipal Bldg
7500 Maple Ave
Takoma Park, MD
Azalea Room, 2nd Fl

DEC 7, 2024
11:30 - 4:30 PM

GIVE THE GIFT
OF LIFE



The blood drive went very well! We started with 32 registered donors (out of 33 spots) and saw a steady stream of walk-ins throughout the day, collecting 34 units of blood (possibly 35). About half were returning donors, and we welcomed many new faces. We also handed out t-shirts and lots of socks!

BLOOD DONOR DRIVE



Inova Blood Donor Services

Takoma Park Blood Drive



Saturday, December 7, 2024

11:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD
Inova Blood Donor Services will be in the
Azalea Room.

Contact
Catherine Tunis
tunis.catherine@gmail.com

Donate and receive your exclusive holiday
socks*.

Photo ID required. Allow one hour for your donation. *While supplies last. Colors and styles may vary.



WITH A
SMART PHONE
OPEN THE CAMERA
AND SCAN THIS QR
CODE TO FILL OUT
THE QUESTIONNAIRE.



Book your appointment today!

Visit <https://bit.ly/Takoma1207>

Call 1.866.256.6372, use code 8844

Takoma Park Police @TakomaParkPD · Aug 19, 2024

As back-to-school season approaches, remember to protect your child's privacy! Avoid sharing too much personal info like their school, grade, or teacher's name on social media. Let's keep our kids safe online!

#BackToSchoolSafety #PrivacyMatters



SCHOOL SAFETY

Takoma Park Police @TakomaParkPD · Aug 7, 2024
Prioritizing Safety! Remember, it's best not to put your child's name on yard signs. Let's keep their identities protected and ensure their privacy.
#ChildSafety For info: bit.ly/30LjwPd

Congrats on a wonderful new school year! ✓

Congrats on your 1st Day of Kindergarten!

Sally Smith & Joey Smith
Somewhere Elementary School



We wanted to emphasize protecting your child's personal information as being crucial. Avoid sharing their names, schools, or milestones on social media or with yard signs—it can put their safety at risk by providing potential predators or scammers with details they could misuse.



Public Safety Appreciation Day unites law enforcement and Fire Rescue Services for a day of celebration with their amazing communities.



PUBLIC SAFETY DAY



GAME NIGHT WITH SANTA

Kids and adults alike brought the holiday cheer—and some serious game face! Huge thanks to Chuck E. Cheese for this amazing partnership!

Join Takoma Park Police and
Chuck E. Cheese for:

GAME NIGHT WITH SANTA

- Pizza
- Drinks
- Photo w/bilingual (Engl & Span) Santa
- Family Fun

DEC 17 2024 **5:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

Chuck E. Cheese
1127 Univ Blvd
Takoma Park, MD

GOODIE BAGS FOR THE FIRST 150 KIDS

DISCLAIMER: THE GAMES AT CHUCK E. CHEESE ARE NOT PAID FOR BY TAKOMA PARK POLICE OR CHUCK E. CHEESE. WHILE WE STRIVE TO PROVIDE AN ENJOYABLE AND ENTERTAINING EXPERIENCE WITH SANTA, THE ARCADE GAMES AND ATTRACTIONS REQUIRE TOKENS OR PAYMENT FOR PLAY.

Únete a la policía de
Takoma Park y
Chuck E. Cheese para:

NOCHE DE JUEGOS CON SANTA

- Pizza
- Bebidas
- Photo con Santa que es Bilingüe (Inglés y español)
- Diversión familiar

DIC 17 2024 **5:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

Chuck E. Cheese
1127 Univ Blvd
Takoma Park, MD

BOLSAS DE REGALOS PARA LOS PRIMEROS 150 NIÑOS

ADVERTENCIA: LOS JUEGOS EN CHUCK E. CHEESE NO SON PAGADOS POR LA POLICIA DE TAKOMA PARK NI POR CHUCK E. CHEESE. MIENTRAS NOS ESFORZAMOS POR BRINDAR UNA EXPERIENCIA AGRADABLE Y ENTRETENIDA CON SANTA, LOS JUEGOS Y LAS ATRACCIONES REQUIEREN FICHAS O PAGO PARA JUGAR

National Night Out



An annual event hosted by the police department to bring the community together as a whole to increase awareness in safety and crime prevention; to support locally-based businesses, groups and organizations; and to strengthen relationships among the community members and between the community and local police department.

Location: Piney Branch Elementary School, 7510 Maple Ave

August 6, 2024 6 PM - 9 PM

COME OUT AND MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS AND POLICE DEPARTMENT AND HAVE SOME FUN!



Police Vehicles on Display
MD National Park Police Horses
McGruff the Crime Dog
Child ID Kits
DJ Music/Dancing
Let's Play America

Dunk Tank/Basketball
Face Painting/Moon Bounce
Games & Giveaways
Food & Drinks
Sand Art
Selfie Station



And much more!!!



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT





Ms. Plevy, Police Public Information Manager, attending the National Information Officers Association Annual Training.

Officer Haines, mental health counselor Jill Larson, and Capt. Evans are all smiles at the International Crisis Intervention Team Training! Their dedication to learning and collaboration is a big step towards better mental health support in our community.

TRAINING





This event raises money to support the athletes of Special Olympics Maryland, helping provide sports training and competition opportunities for individuals with intellectual disabilities.



Team Handcuffs & Halligans

POLAR BEAR PLUNGE

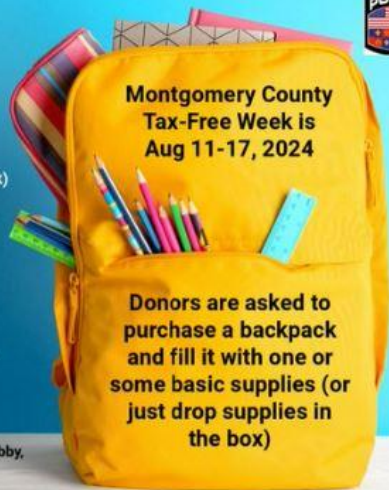


**BACK TO SCHOOL
BACKPACK DONATION DRIVE**



SUPPLIES NEEDED

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Binders | Scissors |
| Loose-leaf paper | Highlighters |
| Subject dividers | Pencil sharpeners |
| Spiral notebooks | Pens (blue and black) |
| Pocket folders | Calculator |
| Pencil pouches | Composition books |
| No. 2 pencils | Plastic school box |
| Crayons | Construction paper |
| Markers | Tissues |
| Colored pencils | Lunch box |
| Erasers | Index cards |
| Glue sticks | Book covers |
| Rulers | Organizer/Calendar |
| Post-its | |



DONATION BOX: Takoma Park Police Department Lobby,
7500 Maple Avenue

DATES: July 15 - August 16, 2024 Questions? Cathy Plevy @ 301-891-7142 or cathyp@takomaparkmd.gov

SCHOOL BACKPACK DRIVE

This was the largest amount of supplies and backpacks we have ever received! The incredible generosity of our community and staff made a world of difference for the children as they headed back to school.





HONOR GUARD

**We were proud to have our Honor Guard representing
our department at the Sons of Italy 36th National
Education and Leadership Awards Gala!**

FIRST DAY BACK TO SCHOOL

Endless
Possibilities



INVITATION
TO BASEBALL
GAME WITH
THE TAKOMA
PARK
VOLUNTEER
FIRE
DEPARTMENT

Takoma Park
Police Honor
Guard
Presented
Colors





Big shout out to Sgt. Pedersen and Pvt. Haines for spending St. Patrick's Day at the Takoma Park St. Baldrick's 2024 Fundraiser – Shave the Day! Their dedication to rocking the bald and raising awareness to conquer childhood cancer is truly inspiring.



St. Baldrick's
Foundation
Conquer Kids' Cancer

The Church of Christ (Iglesia ni Cristo) celebrated their 110th anniversary with us! They also turned it into Police Appreciation Day, visiting police departments around the DMV to share gratitude and care packages. We were thrilled to receive a basket of goodies from them. Thank you!



Giving warmth to
those in need!



SUCCESSFUL WINTER COAT DRIVE

Our officers joined in the fun at MCPD's event at Long Branch Rec Center! They had great fun spending time with the incredible kids, cheering them on, and lending a hand as soccer referees! Great, unforgettable memories!





Our officers had a cracking good time at the egg hunt! It was egg-cellent to see the community come together for some springtime fun.



Sgt. Elfadl had the honor of assisting Maryland Special Olympics at the Fall Sports Festival at Mount St. Mary's University. He escorted athletes competing in the World Games and presented medals to nearly 100 athletes! Over 400 athletes from across the state competed.





Captain Holmes is at Reagan National Airport, assisting with survivor escorts as part of National Police Week 2024.

LGBTQ+ Community Liaison Officer



By serving as a liaison, Corporal Torres is dedicated to ensuring the collective and individual voices of the LGBTQ+ community are heard and their needs addressed effectively.

Corporal Torres is bilingual in English and Spanish.

CONTACT INFO:

Corporal Cindia Torres
cindiat@takomaparkmd.gov
301-891-7101 ext. 5676



We have a dedicated liaison for the LGBTQ+ community to address any law-enforcement or community-related concerns they may have. Along with our agency's Victim/Witness Coordinator, our officer works with victims of reported hate crimes, offers assistance and resources as they navigate the criminal justice system. Strengthening the relationship between the police department and the LGBTQ+ community is an agency priority. Our officer cultivates inclusion, promotes equity, and fosters acceptance through outreach, educational programs, and participation in community events.





Officers enjoying game time with Let's Play America!

Let's Play America is a nonprofit organization that promotes play as a way to foster community engagement, physical activity, and social interaction. The group organizes free or low-cost play events for people of all ages, aiming to create spaces where everyone can come together and enjoy activities in a fun, inclusive environment. Events often include games, sports, and creative activities that encourage participants to connect, laugh, and stay active.



The young actors of Lumina Studio Theatre stole the show at the 2024 Street Festival! Big thanks to Cpl. Addison, Pfc. Ayala, and Sgt. Atakilt (L-R) for taking time to pose with them. Great community vibes all around!



**Making Tracks
Summer Youth
Camp Fun!**



OPERATION CHILL

The Takoma Park Police Department is proud to again partner with 7-Eleven in its "Operation Chill" program; a program that aims to reduce crime and build rapport between kids and law enforcement. "Operation Chill" is a great way of teaching the importance of making good decisions, being kind and doing the right thing.

FREE SMALL SLURPEES!



Officer Sims giving out free Slurpee coupons during our summer operation chill partnership with 7-Eleven!

TILE MATE GIVEAWAY EVENT

Tile Mate Giveaway to Help you Track Your Vehicle

Introducing a Way to Locate Your Vehicle in Real Time



Compatible with both
iPhone and Android
phones

To help our residents keep track of their valuables, Takoma Park Police will be distributing free tracking tags to residents of Takoma Park. These tags are tracking devices that can aid in locating and recovering missing or stolen property. Distribution will occur while supplies last - first come, first served.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Participants must live in Takoma Park.
- Participants must have a photo identification card and matching vehicle registration showing proof of address.
- Employees of the City are eligible if they live in Takoma Park.



FAQ & Video - scan the QR or visit:
www.takomaparkmd.gov/police
under "Services & Programs"



Date: Saturday, September 28, 2024
Time: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Place: Corner of Maple Avenue & Sligo Creek Pkwy

There will be a registration and education booth



We distributed approximately 134 Tile Mate devices to local residents to help them locate their vehicles in the unfortunate event of theft. This initiative is part of our ongoing effort to enhance community safety and security.

The Takoma Park Police Department is thrilled to announce that Officer Mark Elfadl participated in the 2024 Tour de Force 9/11 Memorial Bike Ride, an incredible accomplishment that raised an impressive total of \$528,137. This money benefitted the families of law enforcement officers who were killed in the line of duty.





National Police Women's Day

Thank you to all of the women who have served and currently serve the City of Takoma Park.



Mental Health Counselor

The City of Takoma Park collaborated with its first mental health counselor, appointed for a two-year pilot program aimed at delivering comprehensive mental health services to residents. She joined Takoma Park from the Montgomery County Crisis Center, where she excelled in providing mental health mobile outreach, petition evaluations, on-scene support, Domestic Violence lethality screenings and referrals, grief support, and training.

Our counselor also serves as a Crisis Intervention Team instructor specializing in thought disorders, offering in-service training and consultation to enhance the community's response to mental health crises.

Before transitioning to social work, our liaison spent 17 years as a Police Officer. During her tenure, she worked in the human and sex trafficking units, engaged in negotiations, served as an investigation's liaison, and acted as a Field Training Officer. This diverse background in both law enforcement and mental health equips her with a unique skill set to effectively support the residents of Takoma Park. This pilot program is a collaboration between the City of Takoma Park and the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). It aims to implement and evaluate a counselor-only response system for mental health calls, moving away from traditional police-only or police and counselor models. An additional mental health counselor is expected to join the program in the coming months.



Retirements:
Capt. Richard Cipperly
Crossing Guards Liz James & Harriett Saxton
Emergency Manager Ron Hardy

Officer Adopts Found Kitten

Takoma Park Police @TakomaParkPD · Aug 18, 2024
Talk about paws-itively heroic!! When a driver heard tiny meows coming from under their car, Officer Haines didn't hesitate to roll up his sleeves—literally! After removing a tire, he rescued the cutest kitten from the undercarriage. The kitten is now safe, sound, and adopted—obviously by Officer Haines! Name pending but we're thinking it'll be something purr-fect! #HeroHaines #KittenRescue #RescueMission



Takoma Park Police @TakomaParkPD · Aug 18, 2024
UPDATE: Officer Haines has officially named his new furry sidekick **Oliver!** A big Disney fan, Officer Haines thought **Oliver** and Company was a perfect match—**Oliver** will never be short of good company at the station or home. At six weeks old and weighing in at 1.16 lbs, **Oliver** is healthy but definitely in need of a bath. The vet prescribed meds to get him ready for his feline vaccinations. Officer Haines sends his thanks for all the community love and support! ❤️ (We are told that some officers have nicknamed him MotorKat)! #OliverAndCompany #KittenChronicles #StationKitty



Takoma Park Police @TakomaParkPD · Aug 19, 2024
A huge meow of thanks for the thoughtful donation of a cat tag for our newest furry recruit, **Oliver** (a/k/a MotorKat), who was rescued by Officer Haines! And an extra high-five for the bonus tag for Officer Haines too—now they can both be stylishly tagged while on duty! Your [Show more](#)

Hi Cathy! The cats are in the mail (LOL) One for Oliver, one for Officer Haines. 🐾



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Leo Mangum



It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of Leo Mangum. Leo passed away peacefully this morning. Leo was a longtime Police Department employee, serving as our Property and Evidence Specialist. Prior to that, Leo spent over 20 years as a Montgomery County Police Officer, a service he was extremely proud of. He had a distinguished career with MCP serving many years as an Academy instructor, where he taught many of us how to be police officers. He was also proud of his service in the Air Force and in Vietnam. Leo was a longtime Takoma Park resident and especially proud of his "toys" aka his cars. He was a fixture at the VFW in Silver Spring where he served as a bartender for many years. Leo's personality was infectious. He was 100% real, no filler. He touched so many of our lives in an immensely positive way.

Leo is survived by his daughter Michelle and grandsons Jayden and Jordan. Leo will now join his beloved wife Noelle who passed away last year.

Additional details on Leo's lasting legacy and celebration of life services will be put out in the near future.

Please keep Leo's family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

In
Memoriam



In Memorium: K9 Kota

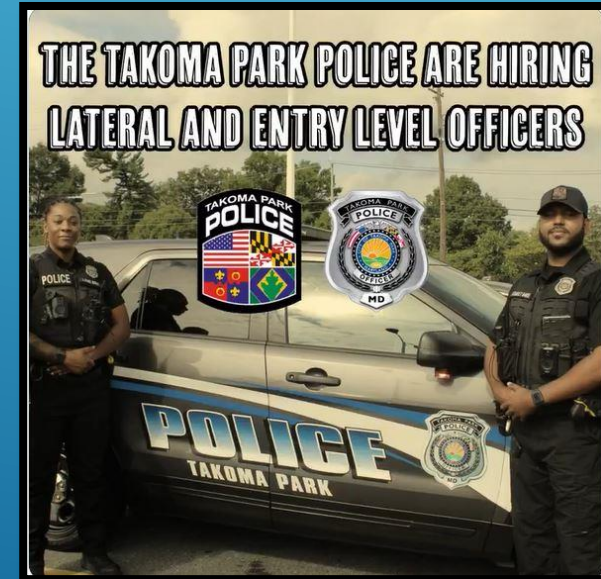
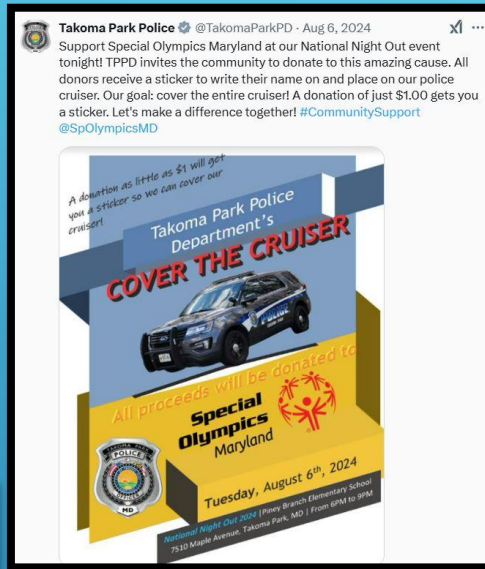
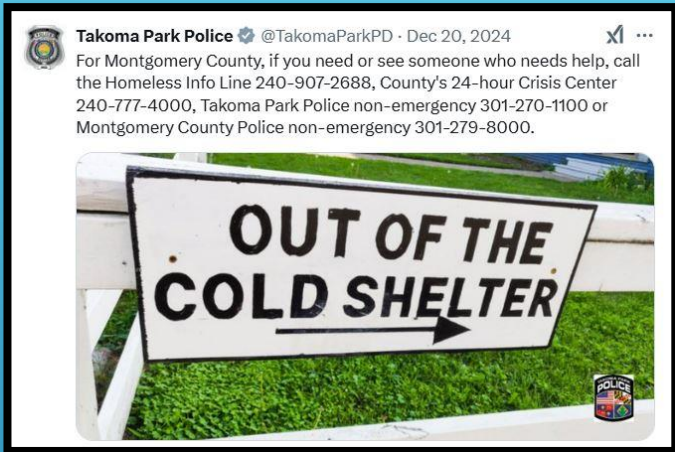


**Rest Easy
Good Boy**

We're saddened over the passing of K9 Kota who was 12 years old. Kota was a patrol/narcotics trained K9 who served Takoma Park and its community from 2015-2021. He had two handlers during his tenure, Officer Black (top L) and Lt. Muzzatti (top R). Both officers and their families are in our thoughts and prayers. We honor Kota's work to make his community safe. Rest easy, good boy. #RainbowBridge



Tweet Treats!





Takoma Park Police @TakomaParkPD · Oct 1, 2024

October is Crime Prevention Month. Please remember that TPPD has an engraving machine that can be checked out to mark your property to keep it safe. Link: takomaparkmd.gov/government/pol...



ENGRAVE YOUR VALUABLES



Takoma Park Police @TakomaParkPD · Aug 12, 2024

If you're texting, you're not driving. No conversation is worth a ticket or your life. #itcanwait #putitdown #drivesafely #arrivealive



There is not an app for saving your life.

Don't text and drive!



Takoma Park Police @TakomaParkPD · Aug 29, 2024



**Turn Around
Don't Drown**

When approaching a flooded or barricaded road, please make the smart choice: turn-around and go the other way. It is never safe to drive or walk through flooded areas. It could endanger your life and the lives of first responders.



Takoma Park Police @TakomaParkPD · Jul 8, 2024

Always a good time spending time with our Takoma Park radio crew, on and off air! 🎧 🌟 #RadioFam #TakomaPark #TakomaWOWDRadioFM takomaradio.org/on-the-radio

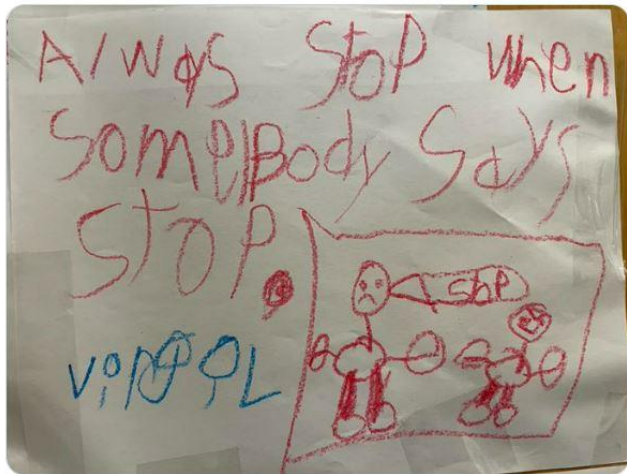




Takoma Park Police @TakomaParkPD · Jun 28, 2024



The Takoma Park Summer Camp had an awesome tour at the police station on Wednesday! Cpl. Bolanos and Pfc. Valenzuela asked the children safety questions. One little camper's answer about what to do if you ask another camper or friend to stop doing something... #SummerCamp #SafetyFirst #TakomaPark



Takoma Park Police @TakomaParkPD · Mar 23, 2024



Its #NationalPuppyDay. Here's our PIO's #pup, Mia, who is spoiled, loved, and a big goofball. She's a blue merle border collie who has an incredible energy level. Show us your puppies!



Takoma Park Police @TakomaParkPD · Apr 18, 2024



Safety Letter to Dangerous Drivers

Don't react to bad drivers and/or engage in road rage. If you see someone driving dangerously, report it and we will contact them. Send an email to Cathy Plevy at cathyp@takomaparkmd.gov with a description of the vehicle, license plate number/state, date and place of occurrence and what happened (i.e., running a stop sign).

While a ticket cannot be issued, we can send the registered owner of the vehicle a safety letter letting him/her know that members of the community noticed their dangerous driving behavior and what types of fines would be associated with such behaviors, as well as some driver safety tips.



Takoma Park Police @TakomaParkPD · Jan 18, 2024



Info: bit.ly/3Ss22dW



Takoma Park Police @TakomaParkPD · Dec 2, 2024

Staying connected and informed is essential for the safety and well-being of our community. The Takoma Park Police Department offers two valuable resources to help you stay updated on important information and emergencies through police emails and our Takoma Park Alert system. Info: bit.ly/417Y9PW

TAKOMA PARK ALERT WEATHER • EMERGENCY INFO • TRAFFIC

Takoma Park Police @TakomaParkPD · Jun 13, 2024

CHILD SUMMER SAFETY TIP

Sometimes we attend large events during the summer months. Before taking children to these events, take a second, pull out your cell phone and take individual pictures of each child. That way, if the unthinkable happens and a child gets lost, you have a picture of how they are dressed and what they look like that day.

TAKE THE PICTURE!

The photo can also be immediately sent to police to aid in locating the child. Seconds can be precious in this scenario. So, take a second, make it a habit and take the picture!

#TakeThePicture

Takoma Park Police @TakomaParkPD · Feb 11, 2024

Unfortunately, many traffic deaths occur on "Super Bowl Sunday" due to drunk driving. We urge everyone to have a game plan to prevent unnecessary tragedies and fatalities. [#DesignateADriver](#) [#DontDriveDrunk](#) [#DesignatedDriver](#) [#DriveSober](#) [#SuperBowlLVIII](#) [#SuperBowl2024](#)

SUPER BOWL LVIII
PLAY IT SAFE!

February 11

If you go out and alcohol is involved, have a game plan that includes a designated driver.

Takoma Park Police @TakomaParkPD · Sep 9, 2024

You never know when a disaster will occur...are you ready? September is National Preparedness Month. Visit ready.gov/kit for items to have in your emergency kit. [#NationalPreparednessMonth](#)

ARE YOU READY?

September is National Preparedness Month
Be disaster aware, take action to prepare.
Insure you and your family are ready for disaster.

Start planning, Start thinking, Start preparing

SHINE
Bright

Stay tuned—we've got even more heart-warming, community-driven stories and tips/advice coming your way! From acts of kindness to moments that bring us all together, you won't want to miss the joy and inspiration we have in store. Let's keep celebrating the amazing people and events that make our communities shine!

