

APRIL 2021



Raleigh Police Department Community Newsletter

This newsletter is produced by the Public Affairs Unit of the Raleigh Police Department. It provides Raleigh citizens with crime prevention tips, seasonal information, and upcoming RPD community activities.

In this edition of the RPD Community Newsletter, we share information about Distracted Driver Awareness Month, Child Abuse Prevention Month, Animal Control Officer's week as well as an Earth Day community event that our officers participated in. We hope you will share this information with your friends, family, and neighbors.

APRIL IS DISTRACTED DRIVER AWARENESS MONTH

Distracted driving has become a deadly epidemic on our roads. While texting behind the wheel is one of the biggest distractions that drivers have, other risky actions include talking on the phone or to others in the car, setting your navigation, adjusting the volume or channel, drinking, eating, and more.

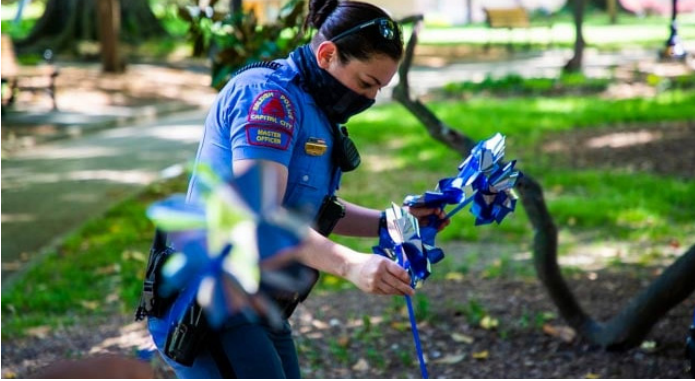
April has been designated as national Distracted Driving Awareness Month. It is a good time to remind all drivers to put away their distractions and keep their minds on the road. Below are a few tips for a safe ride every time:



- Need to send a text? Pull over and park your car in a safe location. Only then is it safe to send or read a text.
- Assign your passenger as your "designated texter." Allow them access to your phone to respond to calls or messages.
- Don't scroll through apps, including social media, while driving. Mobile phone use can be habit-forming. Struggling to not text and drive? Put the phone in the trunk, glove box, or back seat of the vehicle until you arrive at your destination.
- Let people that are riding with you know that when you're in the driver's seat, it's the only thing you should be doing. No distractions.
- If your driver is texting or otherwise distracted, ask them if you can help so that they can focus on the road.
- Ask your friends to join you in pledging not to drive distracted. Share your pledge on social media to spread the word — #JustDrive.

Please call 911 if you have experienced a crime or if you want to report any suspicious activity.

NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH



National Child Abuse Prevention Month, which is observed each April, was first designated in 1983 by President Ronald Reagan as part of the ongoing effort to increase public awareness of the need to ensure all children's safety and welfare.

Locally, we mark Child Abuse Prevention Month by highlighting that we all play a role in strengthening families and keeping kids safe. One of the most effective ways to prevent child abuse is for individuals and communities to work together to support kids and families.

In honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month, the Raleigh Police Department and Raleigh Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Department were present for the Pinwheels in the Park event where pinwheels were planted in Raleigh Parks throughout the city to show support for child abuse prevention.

Throughout April, we posted [videos](#) on our social media channels about this important subject. Please click [here](#) for more information on Child Abuse Prevention.

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER APPRECIATION WEEK

This year, Animal Control Officer Appreciation Week was celebrated April 11-17. The week of appreciation was designed to give recognition to the hard-working men and women of Animal Care and Control who risk their lives and devote huge amounts of personal time and resources, while they serve the public like other public safety and law enforcement agencies with the same duties.

Click [here](#) to watch our [video](#) that highlights some of our Animal Control Officers with some of their two and four-legged customers.



RPD COMMUNITY OFFICERS HELP PICK UP LITTER ON EARTH DAY



On April 22, in celebration of Earth Day, Southeast District community officers teamed up with volunteers to help pick up trash in Southeast Raleigh. A big thank you to the City of Raleigh, Raleigh Solid Waste Services, Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department, and State Street Community Church for helping with this important effort.

To see more photos from the event, visit the RPD's Facebook page or click [here](#).