It is back to school time here in North Carolina. Anxious children are out early in the morning waiting on their buses, and are eager to get home in the afternoon to report about their day at school. While everyone learned the rules when they received their drivers’ licenses about when to stop for a school bus, a refresher is always a good idea. You want to make sure you stop when it’s required because not stopping could lead to a serious accident with devastating consequences.

BOTH DIRECTIONS OF TRAFFIC MUST STOP FOR A STOPPED SCHOOL BUS:
1. On a two lane road
2. On a two lane road with center turn lane; and
3. On a four lane road without a median.

TRAFFIC FOLLOWING THE BUS STOPS ON:
1. Divided highway with four lanes or more with median separation; and
2. Roadway of four lanes or more with center turning lane.

To summarize, if you are on a two lane road and a bus has blinking red lights and the stop sign out, STOP. It doesn’t matter what side of traffic you are on, you have to stop. If you are on a four lane road, and you are behind the bus, you have to stop regardless of whether there is a median or turn lane when the bus puts on the flashing lights and puts out the stop sign. However, you only stop on a four lane road when traveling in the opposite direction of the bus if there is no median or turn lane.

To learn more about school bus safety and rules, you can visit the North Carolina School Bus Safety website.
WE CAN’T WAIT TO SEE YOU AT NATIONAL NIGHT OUT!

After taking a year off from in-person events due to the COVID-19 pandemic, America's night out against crime will return on Tuesday, Aug. 3. This annual community-building campaign promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live.

The Raleigh Police Department has supported National Night Out for more than 30 years and is inviting the community to come together to observe America's annual night out against crime.

In observance of National Night Out, RPD asks you to leave your porch light on from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. The porch light is a symbol of alertness and awareness; it makes your neighbors and friends feel welcome. Participation is not limited to leaving your porch light on only Aug. 3. RPD also asks that you take time to get to know your neighbors better.

For additional details on National Night Out events across the community:
• Check with your homeowners association or property manager
• Ask your neighborhood leaders
• Contact RPD's community officers
• Look for information on your neighborhood's NextDoor site
• Register your neighborhood event through July 26

CHECK OUT RPD’S 2020 INTERACTIVE ANNUAL REPORT

The Raleigh Police Department’s 2020 Annual Report provides information regarding the various divisions and units within the Department and offers a glimpse into our activities and accomplishments from this past year.

The report features budget information; community engagement and outreach efforts; crime statistics; departmental processes; district locations; initiatives and programs; personnel demographics and more. The report also contains information on protests held in 2020 with live links to relevant documents.

Click here to read the 2020 Annual Police Report

REMEMBERING FALLEN RPD DETECTIVE PAUL HALE

End of Watch: July 11, 1997

Detective Hale was fatally shot in the head while attempting to apprehend a murder suspect. He and his partner were approaching the suspect’s vehicle when the suspect fired a shot, striking Detective Hale. His partner returned fire, wounding the suspect, who was taken into custody.

Detective Hale had been with the RPD since 1990 and was promoted to detective on July 7, 1997, only 5 days before the incident.

View Fallen Detective Paul Hale’s video here.