SEPTEMBER IS BICYCLE SAFETY MONTH

The schedule of bicycle safety programs at the Rockville Centre elementary schools is available from the schools, from the Rockville Centre Recreation Department (678-9339), in This Month in Rockville Centre and online at www.rvcny.us (select “Current Events” and “RECREATION DEPARTMENT”)

A Guide for the New School Year

SCHOOL TRAFFIC SAFETY

POLICE DEPARTMENT
INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
34 Maple Avenue
Rockville Centre, New York 11570
766-1500
ALL DRIVERS

- Schools are opening for a new year. Be alert for children traveling to and from our schools and watch for buses around schools and in your neighborhood.
- Observe all traffic signs and crossing guard directions. The school zone speed limit is 20 mph.
- Do not use your cell phone while driving.
- Never pass a stopped school bus with its red lights flashing and/or its stop sign extended.

A court appearance is mandatory if you are charged with passing a stopped school bus. The maximum penalty includes a $400 fine and 5 points on your driving record.

PARENTS

Prepare your children for the new school year by following the tips on the next page. This is also a good time to remind them to avoid strangers who are not police or school personnel and to report anyone who approaches them on the street.

If you DRIVE children to school:
- Consider carpooling, especially in bad weather.
- **DO** — observe the orange or red traffic cones: pick-up and drop-off are not allowed in areas marked by cones.
  — instruct your children when and where to meet you for pick-up.
- **DO NOT**
  — park and unload children across the street from school.
  — do double park, park on the sidewalk or in crosswalks or in “no parking” or in “no stopping” zones or in “bus loading” zones even for “just a minute.”

Takes the BUS:
- **DO**
  — wait for the bus on the sidewalk.
  — wait for instructions from the bus driver to cross a street.
  — ask the driver if you need help.
- **DO NOT**
  — wait for the bus in the street.
  — cross the street without a signal from the driver.
  — get too close to the front or rear of the bus or reach underneath it.

Rides a BIKE:
- **DO**
  — wear a helmet.
  — ride with the flow of traffic, in single file, on the right edge of the roadway.
  — attend the Rockville Centre Police and Recreation Departments’ bicycle safety program at your elementary school in September.

IF YOUR CHILD WALKS to school:
- Walk the route to school with your children and review safe practices. Encourage them to ask questions if they are unsure of what to do.
- **DO**
  — walk on the sidewalk.
  — cross streets only at corners and only after looking in all directions.
  — use corners with stops signs, traffic signals, crosswalks or crossing guards when they are available.
  — watch for turning cars.
  — obey the instructions of crossing guards and ask them for help if you need it.
- **DO NOT**
  — cross streets in mid-block or from between parked cars.
  — run into the street.
  — assume a driver sees you.
  — assume it is safe to cross because a light is green or the “walk” sign is flashing; always check for traffic.