



# PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Traffic Safety Tips for Children

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA . . . Did you know that children – especially boys between the ages of 5 and 9 – are at high risk of being hit in a pedestrian crash? Young children are frequently struck in the neighborhood streets near their homes. Being struck by a car is a leading cause of death and injury, nationwide, to children.

To help educate parents and other caregivers about this problem, the Prince William County Police Department is putting into high gear an ongoing education and enforcement campaign aimed at reducing the number of pedestrian crashes with motor vehicles. From now through mid-April, the Department will focus its attention on violations that are known to contribute to these types of crashes.

#### **Children's Safety Tips, especially for very young children:**

- Ask a parent or other caregiver before walking anywhere without them.
- Use sidewalks or paths. If there are none, walk as far from the cars and trucks as possible on the side of the street where **you** are facing the traffic.
- Watch for vehicles turning or pulling out of driveways.

#### **Children's Safety Tips for older children, in addition to the above tips:**

- Choose a route with the fewest streets to cross. Avoid crossing busy or high-speed streets.
- Be more visible to drivers by wearing bright clothing in the daytime. When there is little or no light, wear reflective clothing or carry a flashlight.
- Always look out for vehicles. Drivers are supposed to obey the rules but you should not count on them to always do so.

You can get more tips on pedestrian safety for children by visiting our website at [www.police.pwcgov.org](http://www.police.pwcgov.org) and clicking on the "Traffic Center" topic on the left. Then look for the Pedestrian Safety page.

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