



SALEM POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

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SALEM POLICE TO STEP-UP PATROLS AS SCHOOL OPENING APPROACHES

Salem schools are set to open on September 6, and the Salem Police Department is encouraging drivers to increase their awareness of children, school zones and speed limits.

Children will be back at bus stops throughout Salem's neighborhoods in the coming weeks, and drivers in the city are being asked to slow down and use caution or they likely will receive a ticket. Officers will be increasing their radar patrols in these neighborhoods and in school zones as the start of school approaches.

"The department has highway safety money to pay overtime and allow more officers to be assigned to school zones during the opening weeks of school this year," Salem Police Chief Jeff Dudley says. "We want drivers to be aware that children will be out waiting on the buses at street corners and drivers need to be on guard for children who may dart into the street. They also need to be cautious in the school zones, particularly along 4th Street. This is an area where many children cross the street coming and going to G.W. Carver elementary and Andrew Lewis middle school."

Chief Dudley offers the following reminders for motorists:

- Slow down. **Observe the speed limit in school zones at all times.**
- Be especially careful when driving on neighborhood streets and around school zones.
- Always expect the unexpected.
- Be alert for children walking and biking as you back out of your driveway or leave your garage.
- Watch for children on bicycles, especially at intersections.
- Stop your car when you see lights flashing on a school bus.
- Red flashing lights indicate that the bus is stopped and students are getting on or off.
- Don't start driving until the red lights stop flashing. Be aware that a child may dash across the street.

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