



WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Conserving the Peace Through Values Driven Service
Sheriff Pat Garrett

PRESS RELEASE

Sheriff's Office Promotes Back to School Safety

September 2, 2015—Washington County Sheriff's Office reminds drivers that school will be back in session beginning September 8th.

The Washington County Sheriff's Office asks everyone to be safe and extra cautious as most schools will begin next Tuesday. The Washington County Sheriff's Office Traffic Safety Team will be providing enhanced patrols in and around school zones to remind drivers to expect the thousands of children crossing streets.



Drivers need to pay attention and watch for school zone flashing lights and signs advising the busiest times for children to be present. Drivers should be alert for school buses to stop often and unexpectedly.

Children are the least predictable pedestrians and the most difficult to see. Take extra care to look out for children not only in school zones, but also in residential areas, and around playgrounds and parks. Many children ride their bicycle to school and may be on the roadway, sidewalk or behind a vehicle that may back out of a driveway unexpectedly.

Every year Washington County Sheriff's Deputies respond to complaints of speeding drivers in school zones. A number of the speeding drivers are parents dropping their children off at school. Plan ahead and expect traffic delays around all schools, especially during the first week. Drivers are reminded to stop behind the crosswalk and not obstruct the designated area causing children to walk around their vehicle.

Drivers are cautioned that some school zone warnings may have changed since last year. Speeding in a designated school zone doubles the presumptive fine.

The Sheriff's Office wishes everyone to have a safe and enjoyable school year.