

The following programs are available through the Monroe County Sheriff's Office. For more information, please contact Sheriff Todd A. Martin at 570-517-3312.

Children

1. The Friendly Deputy Sheriff
2. Sheriff's Office Tours
3. McGruff Safety Program
4. Child Identification/Fingerprinting
5. Halloween Safety
6. Boys Clubs, Girls Clubs, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Royal Rangers
7. 9-1-1 Communication System
8. McGruff the Crime Dog – Costume
9. Deputy Phil Child Safety Program

Adults

1. Senior Safety
2. 9-1-1 Communication System
3. Neighborhood Crime Watch
4. Business/Retail Theft Awareness
5. Community Pharmaceutical Take-Back Program

Special Events

1. Community Fairs, Health Fairs and Job Fairs
2. Civic Association Meetings
3. Parades
4. Ringing the Bell Campaign
5. Child Passenger Safety Week – Teddy Bear Program
6. Inmate Worker Program

Children

1. The Friendly Deputy Sheriff

A deputy visits your daycare or classroom to talk about what a Deputy Sheriff's responsibilities are. The purpose of this program is to familiarize young children with what Deputy Sheriff's and Police Officers wear; and that when you see one they are your friend. Children are taught to look and listen for a Deputy Sheriff or Police Officer in case of an emergency, and are reminded how important it is to help people in times of need. The children are encouraged to touch and actually try certain pieces of equipment that we wear to get a hands-on experience. In conclusion of this program, children are encouraged to participate in a question and answer period and upon the completion of such each child receives a Junior Deputy Sheriff's badge (sticker) personalized with the Monroe County Sheriff's Office name.

2. Sheriff's Office Tours

Children are brought to the Sheriff's Office for a tour of the office, courtrooms, holding cells, and Sheriff's vehicles. These tours are conducted by the Sheriff, Chief Deputy, or a designated Deputy Sheriff on duty. Children are given explanations on how their duties are assigned, details on juvenile and adult prisoner transports, the different vehicles used by this office, and the different types of equipment carried in each vehicle. Hands-on experience may include handcuffing techniques and vehicle tours. Upon leaving the Sheriff's Office, children are given Junior Deputy Sheriff's badges (stickers) and handout material reinforcing what they learned that day.

3. McGruff Safety Program

The McGruff Safety Program is targeted for children three to six years of age. The emphasis of this program is to teach children and parents the basic values of safety and prevention during everyday situations. Children will learn the importance of basic decision-making in different situations in an effort to keep them from being harmed by those who prey upon school children. This program is an educational tool for children and parents as well as teachers and other adults who play a strong role in our children's lives. At the conclusion of this program, children are encouraged to take important handouts home and to relate what they have learned to the rest of the family.

4. Child Identification/Fingerprinting

This program is targeted primarily for children three to six years of age, but is available to children of all ages upon the request of a parents group or organization. The emphasis of this program is to create a comprehensive program to educate families and children about child safety issues and to encourage parents to maintain current standardized photographs, fingerprints, and physical descriptions of each child. As a prerequisite to this program, a parent

or legal guardian must sign a consent statement prior to having their child's fingerprints processed by the deputies. At the conclusion of this program, the parent or legal guardian will receive their child's fingerprint card along with hand-outs and a Junior Deputy Sheriff's badge (sticker) personalized with the Monroe County Sheriff's Office name.

5. Halloween Safety

This program is targeted primarily for children enrolled in the elementary school level, but is available to all ages upon request of a parents group, organization, or school district. The emphasis of this program is to teach children and parents the basic values of safety and prevention during the Halloween season. Children are assisted with costume suggestions, neighborhood door-to-door safety and the difference between accepting treats rather than tricks. At the conclusion of this program, children are encouraged to take important handouts home and to relate what they have learned to their families and friends.

6. Boy's Clubs, Girl's Clubs, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Royal Rangers

The Sheriff and his deputies have always been very involved with many clubs and organizations throughout the county. Many of our programs are presented at meetings and special events located at each individual club's/organization's location upon request. One important aspect of this as well as many of our programs is community involvement, without you we would not exist.

The Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Royal Rangers frequently contact this office to assist with Merit Badges and required assignments. It is and shall always be a priority to assist the youth of this county with good direction, citizenship, and benefits of a strong body and mind.

7. 9-1-1 Communication System

This program is designed to familiarize children with the 9-1-1 Communication System. Materials used are a video filmed and produced by local emergency organizations in Monroe County followed by class participation on the do's and don'ts with 9-1-1. The purpose of this program is to stress the importance of knowing the 9-1-1 Emergency number, knowing personal information such as: address, telephone number, grid number and what specific emergency services can be reached by activating 9-1-1. This program is presented in conjunction with the Monroe County Emergency Service Office and the Monroe County Communication Center who support and direct this system on a daily basis.

8. McGruff the Crime Dog

McGruff the Crime Dog is a costume used in conjunction with most programs directed towards the younger children. McGruff can usually be found during special events and primarily with the previously mentioned McGruff Safety Program. A very popular figure, McGruff can be used to highlight a specific program or just promote crime prevention for community and civic organizations.

9. Deputy Phil Child Safety Program

The Deputy Phil Child Safety Program is provided to children in kindergarten through second grade. This program and its accompanying materials are part of an ongoing educational process. Involvement by law enforcement, teachers, and parent's reinforces the concepts presented. It is our priority to teach our children the concepts of safety. Safety not only involves learning how to avoid accidents but also how to avoid becoming victims. Our children also need to learn about positive attitudes, values, and respect for authority figures and the concept of private property.

Adults

1. Senior Safety

This program is targeted for the Senior Citizen age groups as a guide to maintaining personal safety practices, basic awareness for residential security and precautions on securing your residence while you're away. The emphasis of this program is primarily towards the basic education of personal safety and assisting your seniors with forming their own guidelines for a happy today and a safe tomorrow.

2. 9-1-1 Communication System

This program is designed to familiarize adults and senior citizens with the 9-1-1 Communication System. Materials are a video filmed and produced by local emergency organizations in Monroe County followed by a question and answer period on the do's and don'ts with 9-1-1. The purpose of this program is to stress the importance of knowing the 9-1-1 emergency numbers, knowing personal information such as: address, telephone number, grid number and what specific emergency services can be reached by activating 9-1-1.

This program is presented in conjunction with the Monroe County Emergency Services Office and the Monroe County Communication Center who support and direct this system on a daily basis.

3. Neighborhood Crime Watch

This program is a citizen's involvement program, where citizens, in cooperation with the Monroe County Sheriff's Office, directly participate in the detection and prevention of crime. Citizens are trained in how to recognize suspicious or criminal activities and report these activities to their local police agency. Citizens are reminded that they are not sworn law enforcement personnel and they are not authorized to carry a firearm or apprehend anyone suspected of suspicious or criminal activity.

4. Business/Retail Theft Awareness

This program is targeted towards small business that continually have problems with retail and employee theft. Deputies provide the employer and employees with different ways to deter theft and goals that can be achieved with a knowledgeable staff.

5. Community Pharmaceutical Take-Back Program

This program is designed to encourage consumers to more safely discard unused, unneeded or expired prescription drugs instead of throwing them in the trash or flushing them into our water systems. Adults can drop off any unwanted drugs Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm. This program is made possible thru a partnership with CVS Pharmacy and the DEA.

Special Events

1. Community Fairs, Health Fairs, and Job Fairs

These special events are at the request of community organizations and school districts. The majority of these events are held at night or on weekends. This office attends these affairs, both indoors and outdoors, with an informational display. Safety literature, crime watch information, and numerous handouts are provided to the public. These events are usually repeated year after year with the Monroe County Sheriff's Office being an established component.

2. Civic Association Meetings

This office is repeatedly requested to attend civic association meetings. Once again, these meetings are primarily held at night or on weekends. This office is sometimes invited to give a presentation or simply be available for a question and answer session. This office firmly believes

in attending these meetings to further community relations with the Sheriff's Office. Numerous contacts are made and friendships are forged.

3. Parades

This office participates in all local parades as well as those parades we are formally invited to attend. This office is and always has been proud to display our fleet of vehicles for which we take great pride in.

4. Ringing the Bell Campaign

This campaign is a Salvation Army project sponsored during the Christmas season. During the Christmas season, the Sheriff and his deputies donate their time by manning specific posts in appeals to the community for donations to this worthwhile cause.

5. Child Passenger Safety Week – Teddy Bear Program

"Child Passenger Safety Week" is a national program sponsored by the Monroe County Comprehensive Highway Safety Program on a yearly basis. Deputies are responsible for viewing the public while driving their vehicles to assure that they, along with their children are properly restrained in a child safety seat and/or seatbelt. Deputies reward the parents/children with a stuffed "teddy bear", free of charge, donated by the Highway Safety Program for complying with the state law.

The emphasis of this program is to promote our concerns for the safety and well being of their children and passengers. A letter to the parents of the child/children accompanies each "teddy bear" explaining the program and is signed by the Sheriff, Chief Deputy Sheriff and the deputy who presented the "teddy bear".

This program has been received very well by both the members of this office and the communities for which we serve.

6. Inmate Worker Program

This program is operated by the Monroe County Sheriff's Office in conjunction with the Monroe County Correctional Facility. A Deputy Sheriff is assigned a specific detail and with the assistance of inmate workers, the assignment is completed efficiently and effectively under his/her direction.

Some examples of assignments are as follows: litter pick up, snow removal, landscaping, road work, manual labor, etc.

These services are provided for state, county, or municipal government projects and for nonprofit organizations and agencies when said agency projects are pre-approved by the prison board.

7. Annual Toys for Youth Drive

This program is used to assist families throughout Monroe County who have experienced catastrophic losses, and are unable to provide toys, clothing, etc. for their family during the holiday season. In addition, since 2001, the “Holiday Toys for Youth Program” has also contributed toys and winter clothing accessories for the benefit of those children who have been taken out of their home for their own protection and are in foster care under the Monroe County Children & Youth Services.

8. Annual American Red Cross Blood Drive

This annual event has been sponsored by the Monroe County Sheriff’s Office since 1986. It is an effort to promote community awareness, participation and volunteer services in support of non-profit organizations whose mission and goals reflect the preservation of life and humanitarian values.