



Skokie Citizens Police Academy - Are you Up for the Challenge?

The Skokie Police Department is hosting the 35th session of the Citizens Police Academy starting in September 2016!

The 12-week academy is held on Tuesday nights from 7 to 10 p.m. at Skokie Police Department Headquarters, 7300 Niles Center Road.

The course covers a wide variety of topics, including the canine unit, criminal and civil law, crime prevention, patrol procedures, Tactical Intervention Unit, the Youth Outreach program, evidence, traffic stops, 9-1-1 telecommunications,



and use of force and investigations.

During the session participants have the opportunity to participate in a "ride-along" in a police vehicle and take a tour of the new station.

The classes are free and open to adults

who live or work in Skokie and are 18 years of age or older.

To enroll in the academy for the fall 2016 class, contact Officer Eric Swaback from the Skokie Police Crime Prevention/Community Relations Unit at 847/982-5919 or send an email to eric.swaback@skokie.org.

Celebrate National Night Out in Skokie on August 2!

The Skokie Police Department's Crime Prevention/Community Relations Unit hosts the 5th Annual National Night Out Campaign on Tuesday, August 2 from 6 to 9 p.m., at Gross Point Park, 9100 Gross Point Road.

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods a safer, better place to live.

Come out, meet your neighbors and talk to Skokie Police officers and Village Staff members about crime prevention, Neighborhood Watch, the new *Many Cultures, One Community - Keeping Skokie Safe* campaign and other happenings in the community.

The National Night Out campaign complements the Skokie Police Department's "COPS" Community Outreach Police Substation program by providing Skokie residents with a unique opportunity to meet police officers. Tours of the COPS vehicle will be available. Meet McGruff the Crime Dog, the Skokie Explorers, enjoy food, play games and win prizes!

Visit the Skokie Police Department Facebook event page for National Night Out information for details and RSVP for this free event!

**Community
Bicycle Safety
Fair!**
**August 28,
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
at Oakton
Community
College!**

Community Bicycle Safety Fair

Grab your helmet, bike and safe riding knowledge and join us at the first Community Bicycle Safety Fair (formerly the Bicycle Rodeo)!

The event is sponsored by the Public Safety Commission and is in conjunction with the Backlot Bash weekend.

The Community Bicycle Safety Fair is held Sunday, August 28 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Oakton Community College, 7701 N. Lincoln Avenue in the north parking lot.

The fair will feature bike safety and maintenance demonstrations, bike registrations and drawings for gift certificates to a local bike shop. Ride your bike to the fair using the new multi-use trail, then ride over to the Backlot Bash in beautiful Downtown Skokie for rides, games, music, food, and more and then visit the farmers' market!



How To Get Your Child To Wear a Bicycle

Skokie has a Bicycle Helmet Ordinance

Every person under the age of 16 shall wear a protective helmet that meets the standards Institute, the American Society for Testing or the Snell Memorial Foundation, whenever that person is upon a public highway, sidewalk, bicycle path or other public right-of-way within the corporate limits of the Village and is riding or being carried on any bicycle or any carrier attached to or pulled by a bicycle.

Establish the helmet habit early

Have your children wear helmets as soon as they start to ride tricycles and if they are a passenger on the back of an adult's bike. If they learn to wear helmets whenever they ride tricycles and bikes, it becomes a habit for a lifetime. It's never too late though to get your children into helmets. Allow your child to participate in choosing their helmet. They'll be able to let you know if it is comfortable. If they like the design, they are more likely to wear it.

Wear a helmet yourself

Children learn best by observing you. Whenever you ride your bike, put on your helmet. Plan bicycle outings during which all family members wear their helmets to further reinforce the message. The most important factor influencing children to wear helmets is riding with an adult who wears a helmet.

Tell your children why

There are many things you can tell your children to convince them of the importance of helmet use. Bikes are vehicles, not toys. You love and value them and their intelligence, and need to protect them. They can permanently hurt their brains or even die of head injuries. Most professional athletes use helmets when participating in sports. Bicycle racers are now required to use them when racing in the

United States and in the Olympics.

Reward your kids for wearing helmets

Praise them; give them special treats or

privileges when they wear their helmets without having to be told to. Don't let children ride their bikes unless they wear their helmets. Be consistent. If you allow your children to ride occasionally without their helmets, they won't believe that helmet use really is important. Tell your children they have to find another way to get where they are going if they don't want to use their helmets.

Encourage your children's friends to wear helmets

Peer pressure can be used in a positive way if several families in the neighborhood start making helmet use a regular habit at the same time.

How should a helmet fit?

A helmet should be worn squarely on top of the head, covering the top of the forehead. If it is tipped back, it will not protect the forehead. The helmet fits well if it doesn't move around on the head or slide down over the wearer's eyes when pushed or pulled. The chin strap should be adjusted to fit snugly.

*Remember: Head injuries can occur on sidewalks, on driveways, on bike paths, and in parks as well as on streets. You cannot predict when a fall from a bike will occur. It's important to wear a helmet on every ride.



Encourage Bicycle Safety

As a reminder to residents, the State of Illinois and the Village of Skokie have specific laws to protect pedestrians, motorists and cyclists.

- By Village Ordinance, riders under the age of 16 must wear a helmet. See above.
- Obey all traffic signs and markings.
- No more than two cyclists may ride side by side.
- Cyclist can ride on Skokie sidewalks, minding pedestrians.

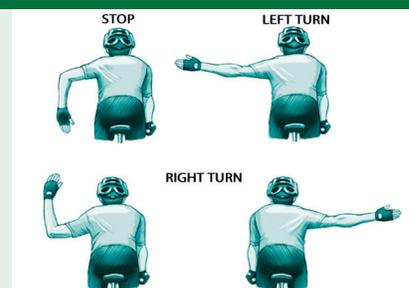
Other Village of Skokie bicycle safety suggestions include:

- Plan your route.
- Always ride with the flow of traffic.
- Yield to others, including animals.
- Wear bright or reflective clothing.
- Do not wear headphones, listen to I-Pods, or distract yourself with wireless communication devices.

Do you know hand signals for bike riding?

Cycling can be a lot of fun, but it also can be dangerous. Knowing the basic signals to use and when to use them can keep you and those around you safe.

Here are some basic signals to know before you head out on the road.





How to Prevent Bicycle Theft

The great majority of bikes are stolen because they are not locked. They're often stolen from places that are assumed to be safe when in reality they are not, like balconies and secured parking garages. Sometimes people leave their bike unlocked for just a minute while they run in the store, only to return and find their bicycle gone. Sometimes bikes are stolen even though they were locked. That's usually because the bike was improperly locked or because the lock used was not adequate for the circumstances.

Evidence as to what happens to stolen bikes is mostly anecdotal. Bikes are easily sold on the street. It's estimated that they sell for five to 10 percent of their original value. They'll pop up at pawn shops once in while, but the majority of stolen bikes seem to be sold on the street within a short time of the theft and are never seen again. Chances of recovering a stolen bike is, unfortunately, slim.

Here are some tips to help you avoid being the next victim of a bike theft:

1. Always lock your bike, even in the garage or apartment stairwell.

2. Lock to a fixed, immovable object like a parking meter or permanent bike rack. Be careful not to lock to items that can be easily cut, broken or removed. Be careful that your bike cannot be lifted over the top of the object to which it is locked.

3. Lock in a visible, well-lit area and where there are other bikes.

4. Always secure your components and accessories, especially quick-release components, with a secondary cable lock.

5. Don't lock your bike to itself (i.e. put the lock through the wheel and frame only). Lock it to something. Otherwise, it can be easily lifted and carried away.

6. It's recommended not to lock your bike in the same location. A thief may notice the pattern and target your bike.

7. Don't lock your bike to anything illegal, like a mail box.

8. Always check your lock before leaving your bike to be sure

you have secured it properly.

9. For the greatest theft deterrence, use two locks such as a U-lock and a locking cable. The longer it takes a thief to get through your bike security, the less likely your bike will be stolen.

10. Lastly, have you registered your bike? Bike registration can be done at the Village Clerk's Office at Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street. Open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and at Skokie Police Headquarters, 7300 Niles Center Road, open 24 hours, 7 days a week.

You also can register your bike at the Community Bicycle Safety Fair on August 28 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Oakton Community College, north parking lot.



Method 1 locks the front wheel and frame. Use a cable to secure the rear wheel.

Method 2 locks the quick release front wheel alongside the frame and rear wheel.



Shows bike with u-lock securing rear wheel and cable securing front wheel.

ATM Skimming.

The Scam.

ATM "Skimming" occurs when a criminal attaches a phony card reading device over the real card reader located either at the lobby entrance door or on the ATM machine, the phony device looks identical to the real device and is equipped with electronic recorders that will capture the financial information from your card. This data is later used to create "cloned" cards which will later be used to withdraw money.

What Can I Do?



Before Using

Give the card reader a tug. See if it feels loose or out of place. Inspect the ATM, gas pump, or credit card reader before using it. Be suspicious if you see anything loose crooked or damaged, or if you notice scratches or adhesive tape/residue.

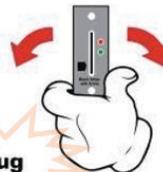
Be Aware

Be careful of ATMs in tourist areas - they are a popular target of skimmers



Tug

These devices are usually attached with two sided tape and can be discovered by simply tugging on areas where the card must be swiped.



Door

Skimming device can also be affixed to the card reader at the entrance door to the ATM.



Money Trap

Be aware of "Money Trapping", where the criminal attaches a device to the cash dispenser "trapping" the customer's money and retrieves it after the customer leaves the ATM area.



Protection

When entering your PIN, cover the keypad with your other hand to prevent possible hidden cameras from recording your number.



Report It.

Immediately report any skimming devices to your financial institution and by calling 911.





Many Cultures, One Community – Keeping Skokie Safe

The Community Outreach Police Substation (COPS) is out and about in the neighborhoods several days each week. From time to time, staff members from the Skokie Park District, the Skokie Public Library and the Village's Health Department and Human Services Division join the COPS vehicle during the neighborhood visits. During the COPS vehicle neighborhood visits, at least three police officers are in and around the vehicle meeting residents, providing vehicle tours, encouraging residents to form a Neighborhood Watch, handing out treats and prizes (while supplies last!) and walking or biking through the neighborhoods. Save the date of August 2 for Skokie's National Night Out at Gross Point Park!

Please see the scheduled dates, times and locations!*

June 26 from 4-7 p.m. at 4851 Greenwood Street

June 30 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 9035 Knox Avenue

July 7 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Lee-Wright Park

July 9 from 4 to 7 p.m. at 8944-50 Lavergne Avenue

July 15 from 4 to 7 p.m. at 4820 Concord Lane

July 16 from 4 to 8 p.m. at 4901-11 Enfield Avenue

July 21 from 4 to 7 p.m. at Tecumseh Park

July 23 from 4 to 7 p.m. at 4826-30 Lee Street

July 24 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 4839-47 Greenleaf Street

July 29 from 4 to 8 p.m. at 4818-26 Wright Terrace

July 30 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 8944-56 Bronx Avenue

August 2 from 6 to 9 p.m. at Gross Point Park



August 4 from 4 to 7 p.m. at Winnebago Park

August 6 from 4 to 7 p.m. at 4851 Greenwood Street

August 7 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 8935-47 Lacrosse Avenue

August 12 from 4 to 8 p.m. at 4820 Conrad Street

August 13 from 4 to 8 p.m. at 9123-33 Keating Avenue

August 18 from 4 to 7 p.m. at Tecumseh Park

August 20 from 4 to 7 p.m. at 4839-47 Greenleaf Street

August 21 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 8944-56 Bronx Avenue

*Schedule is subject to change. Visit www.skokie.org or the Skokie Police Department Facebook page for weekly updates.

Summer Events in Skokie!

Don't miss out on some awesome events in Skokie this summer!

- Wednesdays on Green, every Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Village Green through August 17, 2016. Visit downtownskokie.org for details.
- Fourth of July Parade, noon in Downtown Skokie, rain or shine, with fireworks that evening at Niles West High School.
- Visit the Skokie Farmers' Market opening every Sunday, through November 6 from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Located next to Village Hall, 5127 Oakton Street
- August 2 is National Night Out! at Gross Point Park from 6 to 9 p.m.
- Explorer Car Wash is held Saturday, August 13 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 7300 Niles Center Road
- Community Bicycle Safety Fair on Sunday, August 28, 2016 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Oakton Community College, 7701 Lincoln Avenue, north parking lot
- It's Backlot Bash time, August 26, 27 and 28. Visit www.backlotbash.com for details

neighborhood **WATCH**

is published four times a year.

Generously printed by the fine firemen and women of Fire Station 18. Thanks for helping keep Skokie safe!



 @skokiepolice

7300 Niles Center Road • Skokie IL 60077
Emergency: 9-1-1

Main/Non-emergency: 847-982-5900
Fax: 847-982-5934

Officer Tammy Jacobsen/Crime Prevention Division
direct: 847-982-5919 • Tammy.Jacobsen@skokie.org
24-Hr. Crime Tip Hotline: 847-933-TIPS (8477)

Text-A-Tip: Text "Skokie" and your tip to 847411

Email: crime.prevention@skokie.org