



HILLIARD DIVISION OF POLICE BLOCKWATCH NEWSLETTER



Safety Services Building
Hilliard Division of Police
5171 Northwest Parkway
Hilliard, Ohio 43026

Emergency—911
Non Emergency 614-876-2429

Community Relations:
Officer Hyda Slone 614-334-2321
Officer Mike Deaton 614-334-2487



Summer break is quickly fading away and the upcoming school year is coming fast upon us.

Please remember that once schools starts, the 20 MPH school zone speed limits will become effective during restricted times.

The first day of classes for the Hilliard City School District is Tuesday, August 19.

St Brendan Elementary School first day of classes will be Wednesday, August 20.

Driving in Roundabouts

We get many questions about how to drive in a roundabout. Here are the basic guidelines on how drivers should approach and navigate through roundabouts:

- Choose your lane before entering a roundabout. As with any other type of intersection, signs and pavement markings provide guidance on what maneuvers can be made from each lane. At the Main Street/Cemetery Road roundabout, drivers in the outside (right) lane are not allowed to turn left and circulate around the roundabout. Failure to follow this rule could result in a crash with an adjacent vehicle in the inside (left) lane exiting the roundabout at the same time. The vehicle using the incorrect lane would be cited for this type of crash.
- Always yield to all circulating traffic. The “Golden Rule” of roundabouts is that drivers entering a roundabout **must yield** to both lanes of circulating traffic, pedestrians, and bicycles. At the Main Street/Cemetery Road roundabout, traffic in the inside (left) lane can circulate around the roundabout or continue straight through the roundabout. Drivers entering the roundabout in either lane must yield to all traffic already in the roundabout. If you are in the roundabout, you have the right-of-way. If you are entering the roundabout, you **do not** have the right-of-way. Failure to follow this rule could result in a crash, and the vehicle entering the roundabout would be cited for this type of crash.

Nextdoor.com

Nextdoor is a social networking site. It can be described as Facebook specifically for your neighborhood. It allows residents to connect with one another, post items for sale, report lost or found pets, and discuss crime and safety information. There is no cost involved and the sign up procedure is secure so that only members of your neighborhood can become a member. There are a few neighborhoods in Hilliard that are using Nextdoor already. If you have questions, contact Officer Deaton in the Hilliard Division of Police Community Outreach office at 614.334.2487.

Join Us On Social Media

The Hilliard Division of Police are members of the social media world and can be found on Facebook and Twitter. Police Chief Doug Francis likes to keep our citizens informed of what is going on in Hilliard and Norwich Township. You will find things such as our latest arrests, videos, as well as great things happening in the city of Hilliard, Norwich Township and our police agency. “Like Us” and “Follow” straight from the source:

 www.facebook.com/HilliardPolice

 [@Hilliard_Police](https://twitter.com/Hilliard_Police)

Family Vacation Safety Tips

Preparing for a family vacation is fun but can become hectic in getting those last minute details completed. Here are some safety tips to help you remember what you need to do in keeping your family and belongings safe before and while traveling:

Before you leave home:

- Stop mail and newspapers or ask a trusted neighbor to pick them up everyday and to watch your home while your away.
- Be careful telling people you are going on vacation, including on social media. That would include pictures posted on your social media pages of things you are doing on the trip. Wait until you get back to share.
- Inform your local police department of your plans so they can add your home to their vacation watch list.
- Put important papers, jewelry, etc. in a home safe, or safe deposit box.
- Place timers on several household lights.
- Turn the ringers off on your home phones.
- Make sure your computer is turned off and disconnected from the internet. Also put away bills or receipts that add to the risk of identity theft should someone break into your home.
- Make sure that everything is locked up and secure before leaving. Double check sheds, windows, garage doors, and basement windows. Unplug your garage door opener if you have one.
- Clean out your wallet or purse before you go; take only essential credit cards and identification. Try not to carry a lot of cash. You might want to think about travelers checks. Keep a record of the credit card company phone numbers somewhere so you can immediately report your card lost or stolen.

At the Hotel:

- Keep your door locked at all times. Make sure everyone has a room key.
- Don't leave your guest room key lying in plain view on restaurant tables, at the swimming pool or other places where it can be easily stolen.
- When you leave the room, leave the TV or radio on, or put your "Do Not Disturb" sign on the door; both of these tricks will give potential thieves the impression that you're still there.
- Protect your valuables by using the hotel safe.
- Don't leave your credit card/debit card lying on the counter while you are checking in. Most hotels have cameras at the check in desk and anyone with access would be able to look at the video and see your card information.

"Precaution is better than cure" ~Edward Coke