

Milledgeville Police Department

*Office of Public Relations
Public Information Officer
Felicia Cummings*

Contact Information

*PIO F. Cummings
(478) 414-4012 office
(478) 456-0048 work cell*



NEWS RELEASE

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Milledgeville PD on alert for holiday period

Officials with the Milledgeville Police Department (MPD) remind motorists to begin planning now if they will be traveling during the upcoming Memorial Day holiday weekend.

Every year during the Memorial Day holiday travel period, law enforcement agencies in Georgia join forces for an enforcement blitz. MPD patrol officers will be in high alert during this time due to the increased number of motorists on Milledgeville's roads.

"Roads will be busier than usual, with the holiday weekend bringing in more traffic, so our officers plan to be out in full force," said Maj. John Davis, MPD Patrol Commander.

The 78-hour Memorial Day holiday period begins Friday, May 24 at 6 p.m. and ends at midnight Memorial Day, May 27.

Maj. Reenae Gray, supervisor over the Specialized Patrol Unit, also reminds motorists to make use of their seatbelts and not to drive impaired.

"Make sure you plan your trips carefully," she said. "Don't drink and drive, and make sure your seat belt is fastened at all times. Also, make sure children traveling in the vehicle with you are properly restrained as well."

In addition to increased enforcement during this holiday travel period, MPD patrol officers will also participate in the Click It or Ticket campaign and 100 Days of Summer H.E.A.T.

"In the coming days, officers will be patrolling during peak travel times, strictly enforcing seat belt laws and keeping an eye out for impaired drivers," Davis said.

The Click It or Ticket campaign is a nationwide initiative sponsored by the Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS) in conjunction with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). During the campaign, which is slated from May 20-June 2, MPD patrol officers along with traffic enforcement officers in the department's Specialized Patrol Unit

will be stepping up seatbelt and child safety restraint enforcement in an effort to increase seatbelt usage and save lives.

“Every day, unbuckled motorists are losing their lives in motor vehicle crashes. As we approach the Memorial Day holiday, we want to make sure people are doing the one thing that can save them in a crash — buckling up.” Gray added.

Gray also reminds motorists that 100 Days of Summer H.E.A.T. enforcement campaigns are also underway for the holiday period.

H.E.A.T is a 4-month program focused on traffic enforcement of high speed, aggressive and distracted driving. The program is intended to reduce the number of unsafe motorists and traffic accidents. Milledgeville H.E.A.T. will last until late August and will focus traffic operations on roadways with high numbers of citizen complaints and traffic accidents.

The enforcement period for 100 Days of Summer H.E.A.T. started today and the focus area for May is South Elbert Street from Hancock Street to Vinson Highway with concentrations on speeding, failure to yield, following too closely and seatbelt requirements.

Through Click It or Ticket, Summer H.E.A.T., and the upcoming Memorial Day holiday travel period, the most important thing to remember is to be a safe and responsible driver.

“The Milledgeville Police Department wishes all citizens a safe Memorial holiday as they enjoy time with family and friends, but we also want to make sure everyone has a safe holiday. The best advice we can give is to be alert and drive cautiously so that everyone on the road can make it through another holiday travel period safely,” Davis said.

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