

PATH WATCH

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

THE LAW

Chapter 4511 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) governs the operation of vehicles on roadways: "Vehicle" means every device...in, upon, or by which any person...may be transported or drawn upon a highway...(including)a bicycle...

ORC 4511.55 Operating bicycles and motorcycles on roadway as practicable obeying all traffic rules applicable to vehicles...

(C) This section does not require a person operating a bicycle to ride at the edge of the roadway when it is unreasonable or unsafe to do so. Conditions that may require riding away from the edge of the roadway include when necessary to avoid vehicles, surface hazards, or if it otherwise is unsafe or impracticable to do so, including if the lane is too narrow for the bicycle and an overtaking vehicle to travel safely side by side within the lane.

ORC4511.12 Obedience to traffic control devices.

(A) No pedestrian, driver of a vehicle, or operator of a streetcar or trackless trolley shall disobey the instruction of any traffic control device placed in accordance with this chapter, inless at the time otherwise directed by a police officer.

Westerville Division of Police



Westerville Path Watch is a partnership of the Westerville Police Department, Westerville Parks and Recreation and the Citizens of Westerville.

Modeled after the neighborhood watch program, path watch is comprised of trained volunteers. These volunteers become the "eyes and ears" for the Police and Parks and Recreation, to help keep the paths as safe and enjoyable as possible by preventing crime and hazards on the paths.



Westerville Division of Police
29 South State Street
(614) 901-6490

Westerville Parks & Recreation
350 N. Cleveland Ave.
(614) 901-6512

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BENEFITS

- Establishes additional communication
- Reinforces safer areas to recreate
- Strengthens community relationships
- Provides more “Eyes on Westerville”

THE CITY’S ROLE

- Assist with problem solving and leadership skills.
- Provide information on current criminal activity on the paths.
- Educate residents in safety and prevention techniques.
- Provide quarterly newsletter and crime statistics.
- Provide support and program assistance.
- Maintain vital communication link between the community and the City.
- Responds to reports by Path Watch volunteers.

STANDARDS

Path Watch Participants

- Ride only from dawn until dusk
- Report injuries of path users
- Report suspicious activity/behavior on the paths
- Report crimes and hazards on paths

Path Watch Participants Must Be

- Friendly
- Helpful
- Courteous
- Non-confrontational or argumentative

REQUIREMENTS & EQUIPMENT

- Personal Cell Phone
- Personal E-mail address
- Must be 18 years old or older
- Complete 10 hours of initial training
- Carry volunteer ID on person at all times
- Wear provided Path Watch vest
- Complete a background check
- Provide 40 hours of committed time per year

INITIAL TRAINING

- Approximately 10 hours
- Police procedures and reporting
- Bicycle maintenance
- Parks and Recreation procedures and reporting
- CPR and First Aid



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact Lieutenant Ron McMillin at ronald.mcmillin@westerville.org or Laura Horton, Parks and Recreation Program Supervisor at laura.horton@westerville.org.

BECOME A PART OF PATH WATCH

If you are interested in being a part of the Path Watch Program, please fill out the following information and return to one of the addresses below:

Division of Police
Attn: Ron McMillin
29 S. State Street
Westerville Ohio 43081

OR

Parks and Recreation Department
Attn: Laura Horton
350 N. Cleveland Ave.
Westerville Ohio 43082

PATH WATCH VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____