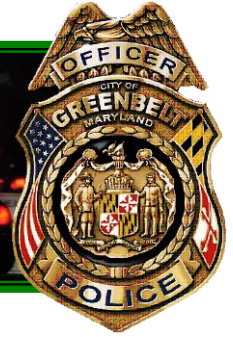


GREENBELT POLICE DEPARTMENT



MEDIA RELEASE

August 26th, 2019

12:37 P.M.

Operation SODS Begins Monday

School is again just around the corner and with it comes an increased volume of traffic including parents, teachers, staff, and school buses. In an effort to educate more drivers at the beginning of the school year, reduce traffic complaints, and most importantly attempt to provide a safe trip to and from school for students, the Greenbelt Police Department is undertaking a new enforcement initiative this year. Operation SODS -Schools Open Drive Safely- is an initiative named by Greenbelt Police Department Traffic Officer Scott Yankow's nine year old son Mike Yankow.

During this two week campaign, which begins Monday, August 26th, officers will be conducting targeted enforcement in the immediate area of all Greenbelt schools during arrival and dismissal times. This enforcement is starting the week before students start school in an attempt to be visible and increase traffic compliance prior to the beginning of the school year. Enforcement will continue through the second week of school to ensure the safety of all as the school year gets underway.

Enforcement will be focused around the main walking routes to the schools. Officers will be looking for all violations, but will be focusing on speeding, stop sign violations, distracted driving and other traffic offenses dangerous to pedestrians.

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PUBLIC INFORMATION LIAISON

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GPD # 28



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