Montgomery County Safe Routes to School

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Montgomery County Safe Routes to School Program is led by the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) and is supported by the Montgomery County Police Department. We work collaboratively with schools to develop creative solutions for school related traffic problems.

SUCCESS

A successful Safe Routes to School program is a sustained effort that involves bringing the right mix of people together, identifying the issues and finding ways to improve walking and bicycling conditions. Safe Routes to School programs work to…

• assess the safety of school travel routes

• encourage more walking and bicycling to school through fun promotions and events

• make engineering changes such as building sidewalks, sign and crosswalk markings, installing traffic signs, curb extensions, etc.

• educate students, parents and drivers about safe travel

• promote safe walking and bicycling throughout the community

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SHA
State Highway
Administration

Choose Safety for Life

Safe Routes to School

Improving health, safety, and transportation in Montgomery County, MD

Montgomery County
Department of Transportation

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program

IMPROVING HEALTH, SAFETY, AND TRANSPORTATION AMONG MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOLS

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is a local and nationwide program designed to Improve the health and well-being of children by enabling and encouraging them to walk or bicycle to school.

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs promote safe and active walking and bicycling to and from school. It provides an opportunity to make walking and bicycling safer and more accessible for children, including those with disabilities, as well as to increase the number of children who chose to walk and bike.

BENEFITS OF SRTS PROGRAMS:

- ✓ Increases physical activity which helps reduce childhood obesity
- ✓ Improves traffic congestion around schools
- ✓ Increases community involvement
- ✓ Increases walking and bicycling to and from school for grades K-8
- ✓ Decreases motor vehicle emissions that pollute the environment
- ✓ Provides safe passage for bicycling and walking

Free services available for Montgomery County schools kindergarten to 8th grade

International Walk to School Day

If your school participates in Walk to School Day on the first Wednesday of October, you are one of 5,000 schools from 50 states and 40 countries walking to raise awareness of pedestrian safety.

Walk to School events work to create safer routes for walking and bicycling and emphasize the importance of issues such as increasing physical activity, traffic congestions, the environment, and building connections between families, schools, and the broader community.

Bike Safety Rodeo

SRTS offers a free bicycle safety workshop or "bike rodeo" to county schools. Students begin by listening to a presentation on the skills they will need to ride safely. A course is laid out with tape, cones, flags and even a mini stop sign and "car." Students will learn how to fit their helmet properly, how to use hand signals, stopping, starting, and weaving through cones. Remember: Bike Safe! Bike Smart!

WHAT TYPES OF SERVICES ARE OFFERED THROUGH MONTGOMERY COUNTY'S SRTS PROGRAM?

Free services are available for a wide variety of activities to encourage children to walk and bicycle safely to school. These include:

- ✓ Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Education Classes or Assemblies
- ✓ Bicycle Safety Rodeos
- ✓ Crosswalk Simulation Activity
- ✓ Training for Volunteers or Staff on how to develop a Walking School Bus/Bicycle Train
- ✓ Crossing Guard Appreciation

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is a movement that is changing communities and making children healthier by getting children to use their own power to get to and from school. So whether you're a parent, teacher, or community member, you can start a Safe Routes to School Program at your school. Contact us to find out how. Call or email: 240-777-7169 or nadji.kirby@montgomerycountymd.gov. Or visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/walk.