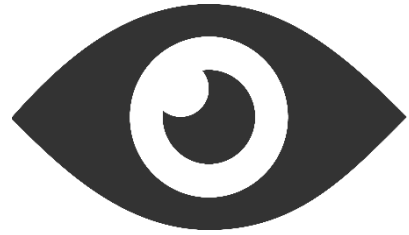


NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER

April 2018



Crime Prevention & Safety

Text to 911

On April 2nd, 2018, Text to 911 officially launched in Scottsdale. Texting in an emergency is now an option in Scottsdale and across Maricopa County! Remember, calling is always the best option when possible, as voice calls allow the dispatcher to more quickly ask questions and obtain information from the caller.

Users of text to 911 system include individuals who are deaf or hearing impaired, those with a speech impairment, victims of domestic violence, and victims who are concerned about being heard on the phone by an assailant.

Just as with a voice call, the dispatchers will have many questions that will allow them to send the right emergency responders to you. Be prepared: You will have to provide the dispatcher with the location of the emergency. Help will soon be on the way!

See this helpful [guide](#) put out by the Police Department.

Drowning Prevention

Simply stated, the ABC's of drowning prevention are:

A – Adult Supervision, 100% of the time

B – Barriers

C – Classes (CPR, swim lessons) & Coast Guard approved life vests

See the Scottsdale Fire Department's recommendations on how to protect your family with a water safety plan [here](#). ***See related event below – April Pool's Day**

Kids & Electronic Devices

- The following is a blog post from the Federal Trade Commission. If your child has an electronic device of their own, this is a MUST READ!
- Not sure how to talk to your kid(s) about being safe online? Here is a good read and some age appropriate checklists from Getsafeonline.org with their recommendation for "The Best Approach."

Scam Alert

The FTC is mailing 36,830 checks totaling more than \$10 million to people who lost money to Advanced Tech Support, which also used the business name Inbound Call Experts. According to the FTC, the defendants used high-pressure sales pitches to market tech support products and services by falsely claiming to find viruses and malware on people's computers. Refund checks have already been mailed, and they will **not be** contacting any new claimants or accepting any new claims. The FTC has had reports of **scam phone calls** about this specific refund program. Do **not** allow anyone who calls you to access your computer remotely. That goes for this program or any other request to remotely access your computer!

Protect your home from wildfire

Set up defensible space: defensible space gives fire fighters room to put out fires. Maintain at least 30 feet of lean, clean and green space surrounding your home.

- **Lean:** Prune shrubs and cut back tree branches, especially within 15 feet of a chimney.
- **Clean:** Remove all dead plant material from around your home. This includes dead leaves, dry grass, firewood and any other combustibles.
- **Green:** Use fire-resistant vegetation, where possible, and keep it healthy. Local landscape specialists can provide more details about these types of plants.

Report a Crime Tip

In the event of an in-progress crime, you are always urged to call 911. For non-emergency police issues, contact the Scottsdale Police Department on their non-emergency line, 480-312-5000. To submit a tip to the Scottsdale Police Department related to unsolved crimes and any non-urgent illegal activity, citizens are asked to use [TipSoft](#).

Scottsdale Services

Vacation Watch

This long-standing [service](#) allows residents to request Police Officers drive by their home to check when they are on vacation. There are no guarantees that officers will be able to check the home each day and is subject to department priority calls for service.

Green Housing Rehabilitation Program

While many cities offer housing rehabilitation assistance to low- and moderate-income families, Scottsdale's program takes an environmentally-friendly twist by focusing on energy-efficient fixes. The [Green Building Rehabilitation Program](#) helps qualified homeowners save energy and reduce their home's environmental impact by providing up to \$65,000 in assistance toward owner-occupied housing improvements.

Neighborhood Advisory Commission

The Neighborhood Advisory Commission advises and makes recommendations to the city council on policies, plans, strategies and programs for the preservation, improvement and revitalization of Scottsdale's neighborhoods.

The NAC's Regular Meetings, open to the public, are held every fourth Wednesday of the month, 5:00 p.m. For more information, past meeting minutes and agendas, visit the City's page on the [NAC](#).

Teen Volunteer Opportunity

Library looking for summer teen volunteers. Those 14-17 years old can apply to [volunteer](#) at libraries starting April 1. Participants will help with the Summer Reading Program. [ScottsdaleLibrary.org](#)

Parks & Rec's summer class list

[Get details](#) on summer camps, recreation programs and classes, special events, senior programs, fall afterschool programs, facility and pool schedules, park listings and more. [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](#), search "recreation classes"

Events

April Pools Day

"[April Pools Day](#)" features drowning prevention information, a mock rescue, interactive booths, games and raffles. The free event runs from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 29, at [Eldorado Aquatic and Fitness Center](#). [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](#), search "April Pools Day"

Shred It Day

Protect your identity by attending "Shred It" event, May 5th. This will be the final opportunity until fall. Bring your personal and/or commercial documents to the "[Shred It](#)" event from 7 to 10 a.m. Saturday, May 5th in the [Walmart](#) parking lot, 15355 N. Northsight Blvd. Cost is \$4 per box.

Electronics Recycling Day

Recycle your old electronics equipment, including computers, TV's and phones. Our next event will be from 7:30 am to 2 pm Saturday, May 5th, at the North Corp Yard, 9191 E San Salvador Drive. Find out all the [items](#) that can be recycled.