

## **PRESS RELEASE:**

With summer rapidly approaching and another school year about to come to an end, the Martinsburg Police Department would like to issue the following reminders for the health and safety of all citizens in the Borough.

Skateboards and roller blades are not permitted on the roadways or sidewalks. Permission must be obtained prior to the use of skateboards and roller blades on private property and sidewalks.

Watch out for bicyclists and pedestrians. Parents are encouraged to instruct their children on the rules of the road, prior to letting their child out on the highway. Remember, adults and children must obey all laws pertaining to bicycles on the highway. Example - Stop signs, drive on right side of roadway, bicycles must be equipped with lights after dark etc... **All young people under 12 years of age must wear an approved bicycle helmet.** We encourage everyone to pick up a Bicycle "Driver's Manual", available free of charge at the Martinsburg Police Department. The Police Department also offers free bicycle registration, which is very helpful in the event a bicycle is lost or stolen.

Speeding continues to be a common source of complaints in the Borough. It is also a factor in many accidents. Motorists are asked to use caution, maintain the proper speed, and follow at a safe distance. We will be checking the speeds of vehicles and strictly enforcing the laws. Please remember - "Click It or Ticket" – buckle up for your safety, it's the law. Texting while driving is not legal and is not safe.

Dogs are not permitted to run at large, and if off of your property, the dog must be on a leash. Dogs shall not bark and create a nuisance within the community. Make sure dogs have shelter, food and water. It is unlawful for any dog to enter upon the property of another, or to deposit excretions or animal wastes on another person's property. If this occurs, it is the dog owner's responsibility to clean up after their dog. The police department has received numerous complaints recently regarding dog waste on and along the streets in the borough that the dog owners are not cleaning up. All dogs must be properly licensed and have their rabies shot.

Curfew is 10:00 PM within the Borough of Martinsburg if you are under the age of 18, unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

Balloons, streamers, signs or other objects shall not be attached to any street sign or signpost. Yard sale signs should be removed at the end of the sale. Don't ruin the appearance of the community with signs hanging around especially if the sale has ended. Also, it is not legal to attach signs or other items to utility poles with nails, tacks or staples.

All trees and shrubs along a street or alley must be trimmed so that no part of the tree or shrub protrude out over any street or alley for a minimum height of not less than fourteen (14) feet above the paved portion of the street or alley.

Keep in mind, the Borough of Martinsburg does have a nuisance ordinance and we would encourage all residents to keep their grass cut and to remove all vehicles that may be in violation of the ordinance. Abandoned vehicles will be towed at the owner's expense along with a fine and court cost. The accumulation of junk and rubbish is also prohibited.

Citations can be issued with fines and court costs imposed for violations of any of these ordinances or state laws. Citizens are urged to contact the Martinsburg Police Department if there are any questions concerning these or other Borough Ordinances or State Laws. Please assist us in keeping our community clean and safe throughout the year.

Be attentive to your surroundings and neighborhoods and please notify the police department of any suspicious activities you observe. For more information about local ordinances, and to see a list of special events planned for the year, visit our web site at [www.martinsburgpa.org](http://www.martinsburgpa.org).

Let's share the pride we have in our community by keeping it beautiful and safe, because we are "***The Crossroads of the Cove***" and there will be thousands of people passing through our community this summer. We hope you enjoy a safe summer.