

The Patroller



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The Mid-Atlantic Foundation for Safety and Education is a non-profit organization funded by members of AAA Mid-Atlantic.

Thank You!

Leaders, as you head into the final stretch of the school year, we would like to thank you for your time and effort in implementing a successful AAA School Safety Patrol program. Your support allows AAA to have a strong, flourishing AAA School Safety Patrol program. We thank you!

Coming Soon!

Due to numerous inquiries, the Mid-Atlantic Foundation for Safety and Education is in the process of designing a AAA School Safety Patrol t-shirt for patrols to purchase. Watch for more details in September!

Have a question regarding the AAA School Safety Patrol Program? Visit AAA.com/foundation.

Visit the Mid-Atlantic Foundation for Safety and Education website, and view the expanded AAA School Safety Patrol webpage, which contains valuable information for sponsors, parents, and patrols. Our hope is to provide updated information, helpful tips, guidelines, and special events for the AAA School Safety Patrols.

School Highlights

- On September 26, 2008, Mr. George Nelson's AAA School Safety Patrol at the Toll Gate Grammar School in the Hopewell Valley District, Pennington, NJ was sworn in as official patrollers in front of the entire student body. Also in attendance were faculty, administration, and parents, as well as Pennington Borough Mayor, Anthony Persichilli.



- On October 15, 2008, Mr. Erik LeBrun's AAA School Safety Patrol at the Captain James Lawrence Elementary School in Burlington City, NJ sponsored a breast cancer walkathon to benefit the Susan B. Komen Foundation. The patrol safeguarded the perimeter, escorted the walkers, and provided refreshments, while students, teachers, and the principal walked the marathon around the city block covered by the school.



- On September 29, 2008, Mrs. Alice Thompson's AAA School Safety Patrol at the Franklin Township School in Quakertown, NJ was sworn in as official patrollers in front of the entire student body. Also in attendance were faculty, administration, and parents.



- On October 17, 2008, Ken Chrusz, Manager, Safety Services swore in the newly organized AAA School Safety Patrol at the Chesterbrook Academy in Manalapan, NJ during an assembly before the entire student body. Pictured with the proud new Safety Patrollers are Patricia Rogrove, Vice-Principal and Julie Pasquale, School Programs Director.



A LEADER IN TRAFFIC SAFETY

The Patroller is Going "Green"

In an effort to save paper and reduce costs, the Foundation will be posting all future editions of *The Patroller* online at <http://AAA.com/Foundation> (link to **School Safety Patrol**). Beginning with the September edition, your school will be notified via postcard that the newsletter is online and ready to be downloaded or viewed. There will be two editions of *The Patroller* each year. Look for new editions in February and September.

Patrol Training

Now is the time to recruit new AAA School Safety Patrols. When possible, train new patrol members for the upcoming school year before the end of this school year.

Refresher training for both new and veteran members should be provided before the new school year begins.

Ken Chrusz, Safety Services Manager, is available to speak at area schools and to patrol groups regarding traffic safety issues and patrol training. Please contact Ken at (609) 570-4132 or via e-mail at kchrusz@aaamidatlantic.com.

AAA School Safety Patrol Training Corner

Part of the pledge school patrols take is a promise to "report dangerous student practices." Just what are those practices? A dangerous practice endangers students. When a patrol member observes a dangerous practice, he or she should:

- ◆ Politely explain the risk to the offender (if it is another student).
- ◆ Seek assistance from an adult, if the behavior continues.
- ◆ Never touch another student unless it is an emergency situation.
- ◆ Report dangerous situations to a patrol officer or the patrol sponsor for follow-up.

If another patrol member is involved in a dangerous practice, this should be reported to the Patrol Supervisor. Individual school system guidelines should be in place to handle such disciplinary actions, including probation, suspension, and dismissal.

Traffic Safety Tip Cards

To learn more about traffic safety education and to download the following guides for parents, sponsors, and patrols, visit <http://AAA.com/Foundation>.

- ◆ "The Safest Route to School"
- ◆ "Parents: Avoid Becoming a Traffic Hazard"
- ◆ "Drivers: When the School Bus Stops..."
- ◆ AAA School Safety Patrol Belt Positioning
- ◆ AAA School Safety Patrol Equipment Care
- ◆ AAA School Safety Patrol Reminders
- ◆ *And much more!*

AAA School Safety Patrol Sponsor Survey

A recent survey was sent to several area schools in the AAA Mid-Atlantic service area. The following are suggestions/ideas from patrol sponsors:

- ◆ Have police officers come to patrol meetings and interact with patrols.
- ◆ Make membership a revered position.
- ◆ Provide an "end of the year" picnic.
- ◆ Check posts regularly.
- ◆ Have a school bus brought in for patrol training.
- ◆ Select a Patrol of the Month.
- ◆ Provide small treats—hot cocoa, Halloween candy, etc.
- ◆ Frequently change patrol responsibilities.
- ◆ Create a monthly bulletin board highlighting different safety concerns within the school. In addition, display patrol photos and recognition.
- ◆ Have safety patrols provide lessons on traffic safety to children in lower grades at the school.
- ◆ Ride the bus with students to reinforce rules and model for patrols.
- ◆ Insist that belts be worn properly. See <http://AAA.com/Foundation> (link to **School Safety Patrol**).
- ◆ Participation should be based on schoolwork completion.

Look, Act, and Be Alert!

A good AAA School Safety Patrol is always on the job. Patrols should strive to set a good example, making their school and classmates proud of the way they appear and behave while on post.

- ◆ Look, act, and be alert.
- ◆ Report to duty on time.
- ◆ Be neat and clean while on duty.
- ◆ Wear your belt and badge proudly.

Proper Belt Placement

Belts should be worn over the right shoulder and clasped in the front. For photos of proper belt placement, visit <http://AAA.com/Foundation> (link to **School Safety Patrol**).

End of the Year Awards

The following are guidelines used for distributing awards to AAA School Safety Patrols at the end of each school year.

- ◆ Award of Merit certificate should be provided to every AAA School Safety Patrol.
- ◆ Second-year patrols should receive an award of merit certificate and a silver lapel pin.

Collection of Patrol Equipment

Please do not provide belts and badges as awards and souvenirs.



Thinking about starting a AAA School Safety Patrol Program at your school? For more information, please contact Ken Chrusz, Manager, Safety Services at (609) 570-4132 or via e-mail at kchrusz@aaamidatlantic.com

The Mid-Atlantic Foundation for Safety and Education is a designated "write-in" agency for United Way.

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