



# Newport Police Department

169 SW Coast Highway  
Newport, Oregon 97365

## NPD MEDIA RELEASE

8/30/2010 8:56 AM

***Incident:*** School Starts Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>

Labor Day Weekend is the last summer vacation weekend. On the Tuesday following Labor Day, hundreds of children will be heading back to school. Traditionally there is a lot of vehicular congestion in and around schools during the first week of school.

Drivers throughout Newport are asked to be aware of children walking to and from schools. School Zones located next to schools in residential areas will now be active on school days, where the speed limit during school times is 20 miles per hour. Drivers should also be cautious near school bus stops where children are congregating. Drivers must stop and remain stopped when approaching a school bus from both directions when the bus lights are flashing and the bus' "STOP" sign is extended.

Parents are asked to share with their children the importance of traffic safety when traveling to and from school. Traffic safety should be practiced before school starts so that young children are not distracted by learning a new behavior while experiencing the excitement of the first day of school. Because of minimal supervision, young pedestrians face a wide variety of decision-making situations and dangers while walking to and from school. Here are a few basic safety tips for them to follow:

- Mind all traffic signals and/or the crossing guard -- **never** cross the street against a light, even if you don't see any traffic coming.
- Walk your bike through intersections. Always wear your helmet.
- Walk or ride your bike with a buddy.
- Wear reflective material...it makes you more visible to street traffic.

There will be extra police patrols in the areas of the Newport schools at the beginning of the school year. The Officers of the Newport Police Department want everyone to have a safe, fun and productive school year.

***Information Released By: Lt. Dave Teem, 541-574-0637***