



Sharing Ohio's Best Program

Recognizing Outstanding Community Policing



Agency of the Month

Norwalk Police Department

April 2026

The Norwalk Police Department provides noticeable, professional, and dedicated service through citizen-focused efforts that solve problems, maintain public trust and produce a safe, prosperous community. They also encourage all members of the community to take an active role in the protection of life and property to make Norwalk the most desirable place to live and work.

Norwalk Officers, led by Chief Scott Dahlgren, participate and attend many community engagement events throughout the year.

D.A.R.E

The Norwalk Police Department has taken part in teaching the D.A.R.E Program for numerous years to 5th grade classes across two schools. Teaching between the two schools totals about 200-250 students year after year. The D.A.R.E program is typically taught toward the end of the school year leaving the students on a positive note before summer break.



Safety Town

Norwalk PD has been teaching Safety Town since 1964. Safety Town is taught to children getting ready to go to Kindergarten (age 4-5). Each Safety Town class is 4 days long and covers a wide variety of categories. The classes are taught by a Norwalk Officer and covers cross the street safely, house and fire safety and gun safety. The students take part in several activities;



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including, bus ride and emergency exit plan, walks to cross the street using traffic lights, tricycle rides, fire and police vehicle tours and several safety videos.



Shop With a Cop

Each year during Christmas time, Norwalk PD takes part in Shop With a Cop at the local Walmart with several other area agencies. Several Norwalk Officers participate in this, taking children shopping throughout Walmart.



Coffee With a Cop

This is a relatively new community outreach program within the Norwalk Police Department. Police administrators and patrol officers sit down with community members and discuss several topics over coffee. This is a great way to learn how the community views our PD and learn new ways to improve our community outreach.



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Bike Helmet Program

For the past several years, Norwalk's local ice cream shops have donated coupons for officers to hand out to children wearing a helmet when riding their bikes. These coupons consist of a free small ice cream or slushie or a free round of mini golf. This has been a fun way to support local businesses and reward the youth for practicing safety.



Drug Take Back Program

The Drug Take Back Program is a twice-annual initiative run by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in collaboration with local law enforcement. It provides a free, anonymous, and secure opportunity for Americans to safely dispose of unused, expired, or unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medications at designated drop-off sites. The program aims to prevent accidental poisoning, reduce drug misuse and abuse, including diversion to friends and family and protect waterways from contamination caused by flushing pharmaceuticals.



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Trunk Or Treat

The Norwalk Police Department has been invited and participated in Trunk or Treat at Don Tester Ford. Along with this event the police department has handed out candy in various neighborhoods during Halloween and participates in the downtown trick or treating.



Touch A Truck Events

Throughout the year, Norwalk PD participates in several touch a truck events. This allows children and other citizens to see the police cruisers and gear up close and how it all works. This also presents the opportunity for the public to ask questions or present concerns they may have.

National Night Out

We recently held our first National Night Out event in the parking lot of the police department and city hall. The event offered free haircuts to youth in the community, a touch a truck with various businesses in the community, food trucks, bounce house, DJ, dunk tank, and civic organizations all coming together to create a fun environment where officers interacted with the community.



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Bears All Star Game

Yearly the police department is invited to participate in the Bears vs. All Stars charity basketball game. Numerous officers have competed over the years on the All-Stars team against the Bears team consisting of athletes through the Huron County Board of Developmental Disabilities.



Breakfast of Champions

Yearly the Chief and Asst. Chief are invited to the breakfast of champions at the Norwalk Middle School. The champions are selected by the school and are based on behavior, and attendance (no attendance issues, detentions, or demerits). We congratulate the winners and the Lions Club sponsors the breakfast for all community members and winners to eat together at the school.

Right To Read Week

Officers were invited to the Norwalk Elementary Schools for Right to Read week. K-9 Legion also went to the schools to participate and sit with the kids while officers read stories.