

# G.A.P.S. Newsletter

Gerrish Alternative Policing Strategies

"Community with Police...Caring & Sharing Together"

OCTOBER 2024

Hosted by Gerrish Twp. Police/Fire/EMS  
& ACT NOW



## 16th Annual TRUNK OR TREAT

OCTOBER 31, 2024

6:30 - 8:00 PM

2997 E. Higgins Lake Drive  
On the Grass Field Behind the Gerrish Twp. Hall

Trunk or Treat  Warming Stations  
Warm Cider and Donuts

### Prizes for Trunk Participants

Vehicle Registration Forms are available at the Gerrish Twp. Police Dept. or Gerrish Twp. Main Office or Scan the QR Code for Link to Form



CANDY DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT THE GERRISH TWP. POLICE DEPT. OR GERRISH TWP. MAIN OFFICE

## HAPPY HALLOWEEN

It's that time of year...we are planning for our 16th Annual TRUNK OR TREAT event that will take place at the Gerrish Township Municipal Complex on Halloween night. The event will run from 6:30 - 8:00 pm.

We are currently seeking trunks to register and come hand out candy to all of the kids.

You don't have to decorate your vehicle/trunk to participate, just bring some candy and if you run out we will have extra to supplement your stash!

There will be several Random Participation prizes given out along with our traditional three judged category prizes for Best Decorated Trunk, Scariest Trunk and Most Creative Trunk. Vehicle registration forms are available on-line by scanning the QR code (on the flyer to the left) or you can pick up a copy at the Gerrish Twp. Main Office or the Gerrish Twp. PD.

If you don't want to participate with a vehicle, we are still graciously accepting candy or monetary donations at the Main Office or the Police Dept.

Everyone is welcome as this is a community event and we appreciate your support!

### National School Bus Safety Week



prepare to **stop** on yellow.  
completely **stop** on red.

it's the law.

 NHTSA

OCTOBER 21 - 25, 2024

National School Bus Safety Week is held during the third full week of October every year to promote public education for parents, students, teachers, motorists, school bus operators, school administrators to join forces and address the importance of school bus safety.

When you see a school bus slowing down or stopping, it's not just the bus that you need to have your eyes on, but the surrounding area too.

Children wait several feet away from a bus and often cross the street when boarding or getting off the bus. This is why you must stop for school buses and do not attempt to pass or go around them.

Yellow flashing lights indicate that the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. Slow down and prepare to stop. Red flashing lights and extended stop arms indicate the bus has stopped and children are getting on or off. You must stop and wait until the red lights stop flashing, the extended stop arm is withdrawn, and the bus begin moving before you start to drive again. It is illegal in all 50 states to pass a school bus while the red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended.

Tips for children and other bus safety information can be found at the National Highway Traffic Safety Admin. website at [www.nhtsa.gov/school-bus-safety/keeping-children-safe](http://www.nhtsa.gov/school-bus-safety/keeping-children-safe)



## UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS:

### OCTOBER 4th

ACT NOW Executive Board Meeting  
10:00 am @ Gerrish Twp. Police Dept.

### OCTOBER 9th

CERT Reunification Training/Bag Checks  
6:00 - 9:00 pm @ Gerrish Township Hall

### OCTOBER 15th

Scrap Metal Project Closes for the Season

### OCTOBER 19th

Food Truck Distribution @ Roscommon Area Schools  
Bus Garage (10:00 am until food is gone)

### OCTOBER 31st

16th Annual TRUNK OR TREAT  
6:30 - 8:00 pm @ Gerrish Twp. Municipal Complex  
4:30 pm Vehicle Registration & Set Up Begins



### 2024 Law Enforcement Torch Run



Gerrish Twp.

Thank you to all of the participants and volunteers that made our 14th Annual Law Enforcement Torch Run a great success! The 5K event took place on a beautiful September 10th evening with 42 participants and 2 dogs. We raised \$1,680.00 for Special Olympics Michigan and look forward to our next year's 15th Annual LETR which is scheduled for 09/09/2025.

## National Crime Prevention Month

October is National Crime Prevention Month. In 1984, October was designated as Crime Prevention Month through a Presidential proclamation and since then the National Crime Prevention Council has been working with local law enforcement, government agencies, civic groups, schools and businesses, and other organizations to help them spread the word about crime prevention. This is a great time to check out the Gerrish Township Police Department website as we provide guides for keeping you and your home safe. There is a "Home Safety Checklist" and a "Home Safety Booklet" available at [www.gerrishpolice.org/safety-tips/home-security-tips/](http://www.gerrishpolice.org/safety-tips/home-security-tips/)

It is also that time of year when people head to warmer climates or back to their primary residences leaving their homes here in Gerrish Township vacant for the winter. You can sign up for our Unoccupied Residence Checks on our Mobile App, our website under the "Contact Us" tab "House Check Request" or by stopping by the Police Department and filling out a form. Patrol officers will regularly check your property to make sure everything is safe and secure until you return in the Spring. This service is also available if you are going away on vacation but won't be gone the entire winter.

Remember to be careful about posting your travel plans on social media, especially dates that you will be gone. You never know who's looking!



Plans are underway for two of our 2024 Christmas Programs. December marks the 23rd Annual Shop-With-A-Cop Program and the 16th Annual Kids Helping Kids Foster Christmas Program. Both of these programs are sponsored by Gerrish Township Police Department and work with ACT NOW and other community partners to furnish gifts and food for families in need of assistance during the holidays. The Kids Helping Kids Program is specifically targeted to assist Roscommon County foster children and foster families. Watch for more information to come next month. If you are interested in making a donation to either of these programs, please contact Gerrish P.D.