

Schererville Morning Call Program designed to check on well-being of Town's senior citizens

"Schererville remains a safe place to live and work because of strong community involvement in our community outreach programs in addition to our well-trained and caring police officers and support staff," said Police Chief Peter Sormaz.

One of those free community outreach efforts – The Schererville Morning Call Program – is designed to check on the well-being of the Town's senior citizens who are living alone. Established in 2013, this program is staffed entirely by members of Schererville's VIPS (Volunteers in Police Service).

Monday through Friday of each week, excluding holidays, the volunteers call individuals participating in the Morning Call Program. Individuals and/or family members can register residents who are to be called, said Police Officer Jeffrey Zemburski.

"Residents or family members reach out to us and fill out one piece of paper that includes the person's name, address, phone number and garage code number, if a police officer needs to gain access to the home in case of an emergency," Officer Zemburski said. "This information can be gathered on the phone when they

call us at (219) 322-5000, ext. 2322 and ask for myself or Police Sgt. Timothy Arvantis."

If the VIPS caller is unable to reach a program participant, a police officer, relative or neighbor will check on that person. That information about who to notify is provided on the registration form, Officer Zemburski said.

"This system ensures that there is little or no delay if assistance is needed," he said.

This program can also help educate participants about crimes they could experience, including phone calls asking for money or someone coming to the door with fake IDs saying they need to check something in the house, said Chief Sormaz.

To sign up for The Schererville Morning Call Program, please contact Police Officer Jeffrey Zemburski or Police Sgt. Timothy Arvantis at (219) 322-5000, ext. 2322.



Residents can sign up for RAVE Alert & Smart911

Schererville residents who want to receive a variety of notifications from the Town can sign up for a free Smart911 account. This allows residents to receive alerts from the Town via the Rave Alert System. Alerts can come in the form of emails, text messages, or voice messages, said Dan Gin, Director of Information Technology.

Examples of RAVE alerts include information about severe weather, road closures, boil water advisories, local emergencies and how to respond, and other important notices. For example, this past winter RAVE was utilized to remind residents of street parking ordinances during snowfall events and trash pickup delays due to inclement weather, he noted.

Residents can rest assured that if they do not want to sign up for this service, it won't affect their ability to dial 9-1-1 in the case of an emergency. All 9-1-1 calls will continue to be handled as they have in the past, Gin said.

However, signing up for Smart911 allows residents to create a safety profile that will provide emergency dispatchers with valuable, time-saving information, he noted. Residents are able to add as little or as much information to the profile as they want. Information may include allergies, medications taken, medical conditions, pets, emergency contacts, and more.

Residents new to Smart911 must create a new account in order to use it and opt-in to RAVE Alerts. To sign up for Smart911, visit <https://www.schererville.org/smart911>, click on the green "Sign Up Now" button, and then follow the instructions.

Residents without internet access who are interested in signing up for notifications are advised to ask a friend, family member, neighbor, or other trusted person to assist them. "The Town does not maintain accounts for residents nor do we have access to their accounts," said Gin.



Sign up to receive alerts

POWERED BY:
Smart911

Emergency alerts and notifications via
Phone call, text message, email and social media



Sign Up Now