



PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION
1200 Clark Ave.
St. Louis, Missouri 63103
(314) 444-5603

NEWS RELEASE

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Service, Integrity, Leadership, and Fair Treatment to All

October 9, 2009

**Metropolitan Police Department to Participate in Our
Neighborhood is G.R.E.A.T.**

Event Will Take Place in the City's Seventh District

Elementary students in the city's Seventh District will do their part to make their neighborhood a better place during "Our Neighborhood is G.R.E.A.T. Day," a program held Saturday, October 10, 2009. The Metropolitan Police Department, City of St. Louis is partnering with Operation Brightside to organize the event which will start with a kick-off at 10 a.m. at Ford Elementary School located at 1383 Clara Avenue.

Students will then walk through surrounding neighborhoods to pick up trash and neighbors will be offered "Our Neighborhood is GREAT" signage for their windows and yards. Those in attendance will also have the opportunity to see demonstrations from several units of the department including Canine, Mounted Patrol, Mobil Reserve and Bomb & Arson.

The event is part of the department's G.R.E.A.T. program, a federal school-based program aimed at preventing violence and gang membership. Officers from the department currently facilitate the program at 23 St. Louis schools, both public and charter and instruct on topics such as decision making, communication and anger management.

WHO: G.R.E.A.T Officers and Operation Brightside
WHAT: Our Neighborhood is G.R.E.A.T. Day
WHERE: Ford Elementary School, 1383 Clara Avenue
WHEN: Saturday, October 10, 2009 at 10 a.m.

Reporters and photographers are welcome. There will be sound opportunities available.

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