



G.A.P.S. Newsletter

Gerrish Alternative Policing Strategies

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

MAY 2025



Veterans Justice Outreach

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Many people battle mental health challenges on a daily basis, including many of our Veterans, in the form of post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and anxiety, among other forms. Veterans do not have to be deployed to experience PTSD, depression or mental health strains.

This is an ideal time to educate Veterans and their families on the conditions that encompass mental health and how to seek help if needed. If you or someone you know is a Veteran who urgently needs mental health support, use the VA's confidential and free 24/7 crisis line at (800) 273-8255 or via text to 838255. The Veterans Justice Outreach program can assist Veterans with the tools they will need in order to lead a productive and law-abiding lifestyle.

This program serves Veterans of all eras, assesses health care needs and refers and links the Veteran to comprehensive health care services. They can even assist with communicating to courts and other members of the legal community (attendance, progress, treatment testing, discharge plan) to provide Evidence Based Treatment for court-monitored Veterans.

Veterans often are caught up in the legal system and the Veterans Justice Outreach program can assist in providing case management services, evaluating for housing and other services, connecting Veterans with mental health, substance abuse, and health programs. They can also assist Veterans with developing coping skills and healthy lifestyles, establishing stable support systems in the community and connecting them with community resources. There are Veterans Justice Outreach programs established in Saginaw, Alpena, Traverse City and Gaylord. The Gaylord Coordinator contact number is (800) 406-5143 Ext. 15235. Brochures are available at Gerrish PD.

Residential Camping Permits

Gerrish Township Ordinance #35 provides for the regulation and control of camping on all commercially or residentially zoned properties. Camping permits for tents and campers must be obtained prior to use. Each address is allowed up to three 4-day permits and/or one 10-day permit per calendar year. One Special Exception permit is allowed per calendar year for up to 180 days on a 5-acre or more parcel. All Camping Permits are \$2.00 each and are available at the Gerrish Township Police Department during administrative hours Monday-Friday from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. For further information please contact us at (989) 821-5207 Ext. 291 or scan the QR code for a link to our website page.

SCAN ME



Police & EMS Weeks

May 11th - 17th is National Police Week

This week is to give special recognition to those Law Enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others. We honor their courage and salute their sacrifice.

We also thank all the brave men and women who are currently serving in law enforcement and honor their commitment to the communities that they serve.

May 18th - 24th is EMS Week

This week recognizes and thanks EMS professionals for their vital work in providing emergency medical services to the communities that they serve.

We appreciate and celebrate our local EMS providers for their commitment to our residents and our community.

UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS:

MAY 2nd

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

MAY 12th

SKYWARN Free Storm Spotter Training
6:00 - 7:30 pm @ Gerrish Township Hall

MAY 14th

Spring Road Clean-Up
4:00 pm @ Gerrish Police Department

MAY 16th

COFFEE WITH A COP
8:00 - 10:00 am @ 200 Market Cafe

MAY 17th

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

MAY 26th - MEMORIAL DAY

MAY 31st

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION
9:00 am - 1:00 pm @ Roscommon County Road
Commission (820 E. West Branch Rd. - Prudenville)

BOWLING TOURNAMENT

The ACT NOW & GTPD Annual Bowling Tournament Fundraiser was held on April 12, 2025 at Fred's of Roscommon and was a HUGE SUCCESS! We would like to thank all the participants, sponsors, donors and volunteers that came out to support this event. We raised \$3,198.00 that will go towards the many community programs and projects that are sponsored by ACT NOW and the Gerrish Twp. Police Department. The 1st Place Team "Funky Monkeys" took home \$500, 2nd Place Team "Livin' on a Spare" won \$250, and the 3rd Place Team "We've Been Framed" cashed out with a \$100 prize. The 50/50 Raffle was won by Greg Patchin taking home \$375. Fourteen prizes were also raffled off during our Chinese Raffle and the Strike Ball winner was Barry Massey who won \$147 and donated \$75 back to ACT NOW. Everyone had a great time and we look forward to next year's Bowling Tournament Fundraiser!

Spring Road Clean-Up will be May 14th starting at the Gerrish Police Department at 4:00 pm. If you would like to volunteer to assist cleaning up both sides of County Road 100 from the top of Pioneer Hill south to Hillsdale Drive, please contact Julie at (989) 821-5207 X291 so that we have a headcount for pizza and pop that will be served afterwards.

JOIN US

MAY 16, 2025



**200
MARKET
CAFE**

1857 W. Higgins Lake Dr.
(Next to Country Corners)

8:00 - 10:00 am

**COME JOIN THE GERRISH
TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT
AND CHAT WITH SOME OF THE
OFFICERS THAT WORK IN YOUR
COMMUNITY**

FREE COFFEE & PASTRIES



**NO AGENDA...
STOP BY FOR COFFEE
AND CONVERSATION**

Hosted by Gerrish Twp.
Police Dept. & ACT NOW



MAY Safety Days

Did you know that May is Bicycle Safety Month and Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month?

In 2023 1,166 bicyclists were killed in traffic crashes and over 49,000 bicyclists were injured in traffic crashes in the U.S. 6,335 motorcyclists were killed which represents 15% of all traffic fatalities in the U.S. This month we would like to remind all drivers to always be aware of bicycle and motorcycle traffic, safety starts with awareness. For more information on bicycle safety and motorcycle safety and laws, visit our website at www.gerrishpolice.org and follow the link under "About GTPD" to the "Laws" page. You can also visit the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) website.

National Safe Boating Week is May 17th - 23rd, just in time for everyone to review boat laws and safety before the summer season. This information is also available on the PD website "Laws" page.

This is also National Child Passenger Safety Technician Month. Officer Zachary Stachurski is our Department's certified technician and can assist with car seat information and installations. He can be reached at (989) 821-5207 Ext. 293.

Please refresh yourself on these laws and stay safe!