



**Office of the Sheriff  
County of Franklin  
Newsletter July 2022**

**Upcoming Dates & Events**

**July 1<sup>st</sup> – Rotary Club of Rocky Mount  
Independence Festival**

5:00 PM

Franklin County High School

**July 4<sup>th</sup> – Independence Day**

**July 8<sup>th</sup> – Concerts by Canoe**

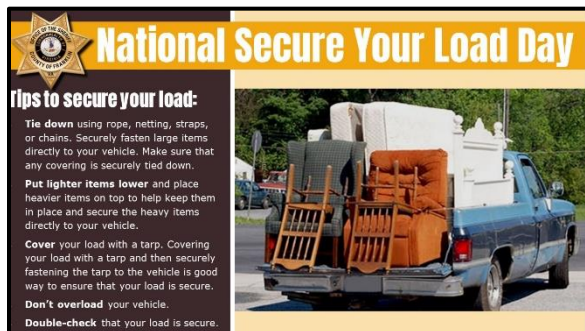
Twin Ridge Recreation Area

6:30 PM

**Secure Loads**

Driving with an unsecured load is both against the law and extremely dangerous. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, unsecured loads resulted in 82,479 crashes, 16,595 injuries and 715 deaths in a single year.

- Put lighter items lower and place heavier items on top to help keep them in place and secure the heavy items directly to your vehicle.
- Cover your load with a tarp. Covering your load with a tarp and then securely fastening the tarp to the vehicle is good way to ensure that your load is secure.
- Don't overload your vehicle.
- Double-check that your load is secure.
- Questions to ask yourself:
- Is there any chance of debris or cargo falling or blowing out of my vehicle?
- Is my load secured at the back, sides, and top?
- What would happen to my load if I had to brake suddenly or if I hit a bump?
- Would I feel safe if I were driving behind my vehicle?



Want more information? Click on [www.secureyourload.com](http://www.secureyourload.com)

**Hot Days**

Here are some tips to make sure your load is secure and you're driving safe on our Virginia roads.

- Tie down using rope, netting, straps, or chains. Securely fasten large items directly to your vehicle. Make sure that any covering is securely tied down.





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During the second week of June, Franklin County experienced the hottest days of 2022. Temperatures reached the 90's with heat indexes over 100. The Office of the Sheriff reminded residents to check on their neighbors, loved ones and the elderly during this intense heat event.

## Flag Day



The Office of the Sheriff celebrated Flag Day on June 14<sup>th</sup>. Our flag belongs to all Americans, and its red, white, and blue colors are woven into a rich tapestry of different cultures, backgrounds, and beliefs which connects us and honors our shared history. Old Glory has flown around the world in times of war and in times of peace. It has traveled to the Moon and to Mars. It has sailed on ships and flown on planes. It waves high above the White House, courthouses, post offices, schools, and homes across the Nation, and also above our embassies and military bases overseas.

## Fall 2022 Citizen's Academy

The Office of the Sheriff is pleased to announce that a Citizen's Academy for Fall 2022 has been scheduled! This session runs for 12 weeks beginning August 23rd and continuing through to mid-November. Classes begin at 6:00pm, once a week.

This academy allows the residents of Franklin County an in-depth look inside of their Sheriff's Office. The participants will learn about every facet of what our office does on a day-to-day basis. Portions of the academy will be classroom and segments will allow attendees to have a "hands on" experience to various elements of the job.

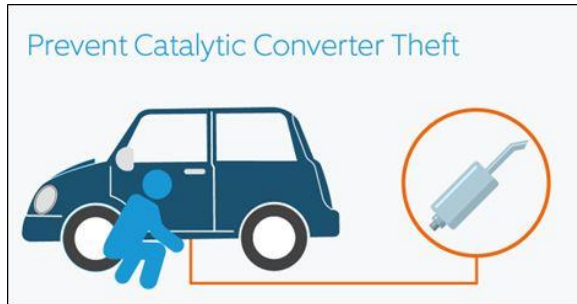
For more information on our upcoming Citizen's Academy, please feel free to contact Sergeant Darryl King at [Darryl.King@franklincountyva.gov](mailto:Darryl.King@franklincountyva.gov) or at [FCSO@franklincountyva.gov](mailto:FCSO@franklincountyva.gov)



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**Catalytic Converter Thefts**

- Avoid leaving your car unattended for long periods of time



Catalytic converter thefts are increasing nationwide and Franklin County, like other local jurisdictions, is seeing this increase. Catalytic converters contain platinum, rhodium, and palladium. The price of these metals has increased in the past few years, and this is causing the increase in catalytic converter theft within the county. It can cost thousands of dollars to replace stolen catalytic converters. If your catalytic converter has been stolen, you will notice a loud rumbling noise as soon as you turn on the vehicle, and the sound will get louder as you hit the gas. If you have been a victim of theft, contact the Sheriff's Office at 540-483-3000.

**Preventing Catalytic Converter thefts**

- Try to park your car in a garage, well-lit area, or close to the house
- Install motion sensitive lights near your parked vehicle
- Anti-theft devices