The Fairfax County Police Department

Youthful Driver Program

The Fairfax County Police Department has recognized the need for advanced driving skills for our youthful driver population. Teenage drivers are at a higher risk than any other age group of being involved in fatal crashes. Inexperience, peer pressure, and the increased risks that our younger drivers take is a recipe for disaster. In an effort to reach out to this very specific population group, (teens aged 16-18) we have undertaken a partnership with the community to address this issue.

The FCPD's Youthful Driver Program is a one-day, hands-on course developed to provide advanced driver training techniques to these younger drivers. The course is held one Saturday a month. Subjects that will be covered are:

- Basic Vehicle Dynamics
- Proper Seating Positions (forward & reverse)
- Proper Steering Techniques (forward & reverse)
- Anti-Lock & Threshold Braking Techniques
- Skid Recovery Techniques
- Crash Avoidance
- Controlling Weight Transfers
- Off Road Recovery Techniques

These techniques are some of the same skills taught to FCPD's officers. The instructors are law enforcement officers who teach driver training skills to their peers. Fairfax County's Emergency Vehicle Operations Course and Instructors are ranked among the best in the nation.

Training takes place on Saturdays from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The training is conducted at the Fairfax County Criminal Justice Academy's Emergency Vehicle Operations Center located at 3725 Stonecroft Blvd, Chantilly, Virginia. It is a secured facility located just off Route 50. The track is a 1.1 mile circuit constructed in 1994, and only one of a handful in the country built specifically for law enforcement driver training. Students will drive front wheel drive four door Chevrolet Malibu's and Ford Taurus's.

Class requirements

- Participants must be 16 to 19 years old
- Fairfax County residents (other residents welcome if space permits)
- Possess a valid drivers or provisional license (NO LEARNERS PERMIT)
- Authorize a DMV record check (status only)

How do I sign up?

Complete the form below, print, and mail along with your check written to **"County of Fairfax" in the amount of $200.00** to:

Fairfax County Criminal Justice Academy
Attention Emergency Vehicle Operations Center
3725 Stonecroft Blvd. Chantilly, VA 20151-1008

Accommodations can be made on a case by case basis for a youthful drivers who meet the target criteria but do not have the funds to attend the training.

Questions regarding the youthful driving program email FCPDYouthfulDriverProgam@Fairfaxcounty.gov. or contact MPO Michelle Humphries at michelle.humphries@fairfaxcounty.gov or (703) 818-1924.

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