

What is the Safe Routes to School Program?

The Safe Routes to School Program is a federally funded program through the New York State Department of Transportation and is administered by the Town of Smithtown Youth Bureau. The program is designed to provide opportunities for children, along with their families, to safely walk and bike in the neighborhoods surrounding their schools and to spread further interest in walking and biking. On a broader level, the SRTS program aims to enhance children's health and well-being, ease congestion near schools and improve overall quality of life.



We recognize that times are not the same as when some of us grew up walking and biking to school. We want to help bring back walking and biking (to school and elsewhere), only if it can be done *safely*. We want to work with administrators, teachers, PTA members and all parents to create safe environments for students of all abilities; and to teach safety skills to walkers, bicyclists and drivers!

Town of Smithtown Youth Bureau
Horizon Center
161 E Main Street
Smithtown, NY 11787





SMITHTOWN YOUTH BUREAU
**SAFE
ROUTES
TO SCHOOL**



Our Programs

Offered to you and your students at **NO CHARGE** and include:

Walk to School Days

A walk to school day is an organized program held in the fall; typically in October in recognition of National Walk to School Day. Students and family members are invited to walk along a predetermined path escorted by police officers and Safe Routes to School staff.

Walk to School Month

Walk to School Month is a walking incentive program where students, escorted by a family member, are encouraged to walk to and from school for the entire month (typically in the fall and/or spring). Upon arrival at school each day, children receive a walking charm that they can collect on a key chain. Collect as many as you can!

Bike to School Days

A bike to school day is an organized program run similarly to our Walk to School Day program, typically in May in recognition of National Bike to School Day. Students and family members are invited to bike along a predetermined path escorted by police officers and Safe Routes to School staff. The Safe Routes to School program will donate a bicycle rack to any school that does not currently have a bicycle rack.

Bike to School Month

Bike to School Month is a biking incentive program where students, escorted by a family member, are encouraged to bike to and from school for the entire month (typically in the spring). Upon arrival at school each day, children receive a biking charm that they can collect on a key chain. Collect as many as you can!

Before or after school walking and mileage clubs

Walking, or mileage clubs, are programs designed to encourage students to get some exercise before and/or after school. Studies show that students perform better in school when they are active. The program can set a goal for the distance each student is striving to reach over a pre-determined period of time (i.e. 26.2 miles or the distance to NYC, etc.). Incentives are provided.

AAA School Assemblies

Partnering with AAA, school assemblies can be scheduled on the following safety topics: Passenger and Pedestrian Safety, Bicycle Safety, School Bus Safety, Halloween Safety and Bike Rodeos. Advanced registration is required as programs book quickly!

Distracted Driving Awareness Presentations

Programs available on the dangers of reckless and distracted driving are available for all ages, including parents. These are also ideal projects for SADD clubs.

Safety Walks

This program can be school-wide or grade specific. At this program, students are led by police, school security, safe routes to school staff and parent volunteers on a one mile walk near school. During the walk, important tips on how to be a safe pedestrian are discussed and practiced including; walking on the correct side of the road; looking out for cars in driveways; where to cross safely and how to use a crosswalk.



For more information about the Smithtown Youth Bureau Safe Routes to School Program or to schedule one of our programs, please contact Gina Shalhoub via email at gshalhoub@smithtownny.gov

We can work with you to customize a program that meets your school's specific needs.