



# CHIRP

COMMUNITY HELP INITIATIVE RESPONSE PROGRAM

## IF YOU CAN BE HEARD, YOU CAN BE RESCUED

Sound is the #1 factor in deterring crime and finding lost victims. Imagine the following situation; you are walking your pet peacefully on the streets, when suddenly you hear an ear-piercing noise. What would you do? Most people would likely investigate the source of the high-pitch sound.

Safety whistles don't require much effort to blow and are significantly louder than shouting. They can help make a victim's location known so that first responders and search and rescue teams know where help is needed. Whistles are one of the best items you can have in an emergency or survival situation.

Safety whistles are the easiest, lowest maintenance alarm or alert system. They are a standard issue for emergency response and should be incorporated into emergency preparedness kits. They are designed to attract the attention of people nearby. Safety whistles were originally created to protect the user against attempted robberies and other acts of violence, but they were quickly incorporated by the senior community as a signaling tool in case of a medical emergency.

### CHIRP INFO AVAILABLE HERE:

- Resident Academy
- Lifestyle Expo & Events
- Customer Service Centers
- Weekly Bulletins
- Lifestyle Group Talks



**CommunityWatch2@DistrictGov.org**

# IMPORTANT CHIRP AWARENESS INFORMATION

## SHOUTS FOR HELP

- Can easily be drowned out by surrounding noises.
- Can leave you hoarse and exhausted in matter of minutes.
- Your voice is not at the high octave level to be heard a long distance.

## WHY THE WHISTLE IS BETTER

- The sound of a whistle is significantly louder than shouting.
- The sound of a whistle travels further.
- The sound of a whistle grabs the attention of others.
- It only takes a fraction of energy to use a whistle.

## SAFEST FORMS OF PROTECTION

- A whistle can be used if you are lost, sick, or injured.
- A whistle can be used to signal a first responder for emergency situations.
- A whistle can be used to scare animals during unexpected encounters.

## WHISTLE FOR HELP

- The whistle can be worn on a lanyard or carried on a key chain.
- Whistles should only be blown in the event of an emergency. If you are in an emergency situation, blow three loud, short blasts on the whistle to seek help.

## RESPONSE

- The community will recognize that the sound of a whistle means someone is in need of help.
- The community can call for assistance to the area that they hear the whistle.



## HOW TO USE A SAFETY WHISTLE

While blowing, count to **3** in your head so each blast lasts **3** seconds. Take a breath between each blast to give the sound time to travel and then repeat.

## BACKGROUND STORY

In the early morning hours of May 9, 2021, a Community Watch Patrol Driver was patrolling one of his assigned neighborhoods when he heard something. After slowing down to scan the area, he noticed a person lying on the driveway and unable to get up. This resident had been lying in their driveway for 5 hours in cold temperatures and wasn't able to alert anyone for help. The Community Watch Patrol Driver immediately called 911 for assistance and got the resident to safety.

On June 13, 2021 the same Community Watch Patrol Driver was doing his normal patrol in the Village of La Zamora when he spotted a resident on the ground in severe pain. The resident had decided to go for a walk and fell after losing his footing. He wasn't able to get up nor call for help. The Patrol Driver assisted the gentleman and called 911 to get the resident the help he needed.

*This program was created for instances like these – to enable residents to alert others in case of an emergency or needing assistance.*

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