

Capital Region Gun Buyback - Back Again!

MEDIA ADVISORY

GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION TARGETED BY AREA HOSPITALS, LAW ENFORCEMENT, TRIAL LAWYERS AND COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS

- Who:**
- Connecticut Children's Medical Center
 - Hartford Hospital
 - Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center
 - City of Hartford
 - Hartford Police Department
 - Hartford State's Attorney's Office
 - CT Trial Lawyers Association
 - Community Renewal Team of Greater Hartford
 - Emergency Nurses Association
 - Mother's United Against Violence
- What:** Capital Region Gun Buyback Press Conference
- When:** May 16, 2013, 10:30 a.m.
- Where:** Connecticut Children's Medical Center (Cafeteria)
**** Media parking is available at J's Restaurant across from the entrance to 282 Washington Street. ****

The *Capital Region Gun Buyback Coalition* is made up of the area's three major hospitals, law enforcement officials and community supporters to heighten awareness about gun violence prevention in the Capital City region.

This unique collaboration, started in 2009, is now expanding to include faith-based groups, the Connecticut Trial Lawyers Association, Stop & Shop, and other Hartford-area community organizations.

Food gift cards will be given to those turning in firearms. Gun owners who want to remain anonymous can also bring in firearms.

A smaller portion of the current group has held an annual buyback for the last several years, but the recent spate of incidents involving gun violence has prompted it to expand and to take more action in the form of greater awareness of gun safety and sponsor more buyback events.

This year the *Capital Region Gun Buyback Program* will provide Stop and Shop gift cards to individuals who turn in operable firearms: \$150 gift card for an assault rifle; \$75.00 gift card for a handgun/revolver; and a \$25 gift card a shotgun or rifle.

Non-working guns, black-powder weapons, BB guns, flare guns, and ammunition may be turned in, but will not be eligible for a gift card.

The last gun buyback, which was held December 1, 2012, brought in 181 working firearms, including 148 handguns. Over \$10,000 in gift cards were given to participants.

Firearm violence is a major public health problem, and removing unwanted guns from the community prevents children and criminals from accessing these weapons. This event is a wonderful opportunity to do something positive for the community, and to help make the region safer.

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