



PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION
1915 Olive St.
St. Louis, Missouri 63103
(314) 444-5603

NEWS RELEASE

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Service, Integrity, Leadership, and Fair Treatment to All

April 11, 2016

SLMPD Shares Safety Tips to Ensure a Fun and Safe Opening Day

St. Louis, Mo. - The Metropolitan Police Department, City of St. Louis along with the St. Louis Cardinals, would like to inform the citizens of St. Louis as well as visiting fans of street closures and safety precautions. The City of St. Louis will celebrate the annual return of baseball to St. Louis with a 3:15 p.m. game against the Milwaukee Brewers on Monday, April 11, 2016.

The gates to the stadium open at 12:45. The department urges all fans to allow themselves plenty of time to get to the Downtown area and plenty of time to get inside the gates at Busch Stadium. Due to walk-through metal detectors at all of the gates and stadium entrances, fans should plan on arriving early.

During Opening Day festivities, motorists should pay attention to roadways, as roads they are familiar with may have changed. There are several lane closures on I-44. Fans heading Downtown should consider using I-70 or I-64, or allow themselves extra time to get through the work zones on I-44. As usual, Clark Street will be closed between Busch Stadium and Ballpark Village. We encourage motorists traveling to Busch Stadium to plan ahead and take alternative routes.

Fans are encouraged to take MetroLink. To avoid costs of parking and game day traffic, fans can use one of 21 free Park-Ride lots along the MetroLink line and take the train to Stadium Station, right across the street from the ballpark. Check the Metro website at www.MetroStLouis.org for schedules and the Park-Ride lot nearest you.

Those choosing to drive are urged to “park smart”— park in well-lit, populated lots with attendants, concealing valuables by placing them in compartments or vehicle trunk prior to arrival. The department strongly encourages citizens to leave firearms at home. Events such as baseball games are no place for firearms, as they are not allowed inside Busch Stadium and leaving them in a vehicle creates opportunity for criminals. Don’t let your legal firearm become an illegal firearm in the hands of a criminal.

Fans are also advised to remain aware of their surroundings and if choosing to consume alcohol, are urged to drink responsibly. Criminals often target those who appear to be most vulnerable, including those who might be intoxicated.

There will be a significant law enforcement presence in all areas surrounding Downtown and Busch Stadium. We strongly encourage anyone who sees criminal or suspicious activity to alert a nearby officer or dial 9-1-1.

The department hopes all those in attendance will have a safe and enjoyable event.

###