

CROSSING GUARD APPRECIATION DAY

Each day, school crossing guards help our students safely get to and from school. Help us honor these safety superheroes by using this toolkit to learn how your school and community can recognize your local crossing guards on Crossing Guard Appreciation Day.

WHAT IS CROSSING GUARD APPRECIATION DAY?

The **first Friday in February** is traditionally celebrated as Crossing Guard Appreciation Day in Florida. We encourage your school and community to use this day to show your appreciation for the people who help make safe routes to school a reality. f this date doesn't work, feel free to celebrate any day in February!

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Crossing Guard Appreciation Day is the perfect opportunity to get the entire community involved! Anyone can participate in thanking local crossing guards, including:

- Schools & PTAs
- Students & Parents
- Community groups/HOAs
- Law enforcement agencies
- City & county governments
- Local businesses

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

You don't need a huge budget or a lot of hands to do something special for your crossing guard!

We've got you covered with several ways that you can participate. →



Download templates and graphics to celebrate your crossing guard at scpto.com.



SAFE DRIVING IS THE SIMPLEST THANK YOU!

One of the easiest ways to show your appreciation is by keeping our crossing guards safe! Remember to always follow speed limits, stop for people crossing, and obey the crossing guard's instructions.



There are many free or inexpensive ways to show your appreciation for your local crossing guards! Whether you're a parent, educator, law enforcement, or community member, here are some ideas to and resources to get you started:

- Encourage students to walk/bike to school and thank their crossing guard(s) in person.
- Have students <u>use our templates</u> or make their own "thank you" cards to give to the crossing guard(s) as part of homeroom, social studies, or art.
- Help students create a chant, cheer, poem, or song to celebrate and thank their crossing guard(s). Have students perform their routine on Crossing Guard Appreciation Day.
- Have kids complete our <u>toolkit worksheets</u>. Hang them on a bulletin board and invite your crossing guard in to see them or collect them and distribute them on Crossing Guard Appreciation Day.
- Provide parents with a <u>template "thank you" card</u> and encourage them to draft a note to your local crossing guard(s). Remember to provide their names!
- Recognize crossing guard(s) wherever you can: in your newsletter, on social media, morning announcements, websites, and on outdoor marquees.
- Create a thank you banner with student signatures and hang it at their post.
- <u>Use our template</u> or create your own certificate of appreciation for your crossing guard(s).
 Present it to them at their station, on the morning announcements, or surprise them at an awards assembly.
- Ask local businesses to donate gift cards or other small gifts that could be given to your crossing guard(s) and provide them with a thank you card or goody bag.
- Work with your local PTA or ask a local business to sponsor a breakfast, coffee hour, or donut social in honor of your crossing guard(s).
- Think of your own special way to celebrate! There's nothing too big or too small to show someone that you appreciate them.

HELP US HONOR YOUR CROSSING GUARD!

Tag us on Facebook at @SCTPO or email your photos and crossing guard information to shelby.villatoro@sctpo.com so that we can celebrate your crossing guards with a shout out to our friends across the Space Coast.

