In our continuing commitment to the highest level of campus safety, NOVA is launching a new mobile safety app, called LiveSafe, on April 2. The LiveSafe app will improve communication between students, faculty, staff and NOVA Police, and will facilitate emergency response in critical situations. By having access to the latest safety information, our goal is to help build a safer campus, together. The app allows you to:

- Report tips to or request emergency services anonymously from NOVA Police.
- Send your location to NOVA Police.
- Let friends or family monitor your movements, so you never have to walk alone.
- Share your concerns and suggestions with NOVA Police.
- Have critical safety information at your fingertips.

Getting the app is fast, easy and free!

1. Visit the iTunes or Google Play store and download the LiveSafe app (blue shield icon).
2. Choose NOVA from the list of schools.
3. Fill-in your name and contact info so we can reach you in the event of an emergency.

If you have any questions about LiveSafe, check out www.LiveSafeMobile.com or call NOVA Dispatch at (703) 764-5000.
Do You Know What to Do in an Elevator Emergency?

Have you ever been trapped in an elevator due to a malfunction or a power outage? It can be a frightening experience. The following tips will assist you in obtaining assistance quickly.

If you are trapped in an elevator, do the following in this order:
- Use the emergency phone/call button located on the elevator panel. These self-dialing devices will connect you to NOVA Police Dispatch if you are on campus or 9-1-1 if you’re in an off-campus NOVA facility.
- Contact NOVA Police (703) 764–5000 (or 9-1-1, as appropriate) on your cell phone if the emergency phone or call button is not working.

Notify others in the vicinity of the elevator(s):
- Shout, if necessary, to attract attention.

Remain calm and stay in the elevator car:
- Do not attempt to force open the elevator doors or exit the elevator.
- Wait for the fire department or rescue personnel and follow their instructions.

Provide the following information:
- Your name
- Building name
- Elevator number and floor, if known
- Number of people in the elevator
- Remain on the line until told to hang up
- Any relevant medical information needed by emergency medical services

Additional information:
- Only trained fire and rescue personnel are allowed to remove passengers from an elevator. Untrained persons could cause further damage or injury. Bystanders can attempt to call the elevator to a floor to see if the doors might automatically open, but nothing else.
- Never use an elevator in emergencies, such as a fire or earthquake.
- If an elevator is malfunctioning, even if it does not trap you, call NOVA Police Dispatch and we will inform facilities to expedite repairs.
NOVA Police Conduct Annual Training

The Northern Virginia Community College Police Department is recognized by colleges and universities throughout the state as a leader in its field. NOVA officers train other jurisdictions’ officers at local police academies and regularly write articles on police procedures and operations for a national campus safety magazine viewed by thousands of police chiefs and officers and other security personnel. Further, NOVA police receive the same initial and continuing training as other Virginia state, county and local law enforcement officers and have the same authorities and responsibilities.

In order to maintain our edge, NOVA officers train regularly at the firearms range to meet state certification standards. Officers also attend a minimum of 40 hours of biennial refresher training in cultural diversity, legal matters, the use of state and national criminal data bases, and myriad other topics. Officers also undergo annual training on the Clery Act, the Violence Against Women Act, and Title IX laws and reporting responsibilities.

An important part of annual NOVA police training consists of Active Shooter response and Defensive Tactics. In February and March, the department conducted this training on the Alexandria Campus. Led by NOVA officers who are certified as instructors, our officers received training on active shooter response tactics and then practiced relevant tactical skills, such as gathering intelligence; moving in a formation in hallways, intersections, and stairs; the use of shields and other equipment; advancing under fire; dynamic room entry; communications and command responsibilities; and dealing with evacuees. Teams of officers were also required to demonstrate their practical training in a fast-paced and realistic exercise featuring multiple shooters, wounded victims, evacuating victims, and other realistic obstacles. The scenarios benefitted from the use of role players from a local police fraternal organization. The officers were evaluated after their respective scenarios and lessons learned were identified and incorporated into on-going departmental training.

Officers also received extensive refresher training in Defensive Tactics, including classroom lectures on the use of force, practice in performing key skills such as safe handcuffing, and various compliance techniques. The officers were tested and later critiqued in a realistic scenario.

NOVA officers train regularly to provide the highest standards of professional police services and protection to the NOVA Community. If you have questions about our training or would like to receive briefings on active shooter response for civilians, self-defense considerations, or any of the numerous safety and security training topics offered by the NOVA Police contact Officer Tony Ong, the department’s community outreach officer, at tong@nvcc.edu.
Warm weather is finally just around the corner! While you are enjoying outdoor activities, your family may not be together when an emergency occurs. What if a loved one is hurt on a bike ride or while hiking with friends? What if you need medical assistance but cannot contact your loved ones? Plan ahead on how you will communicate in different emergency situations.

**Suggestion 1: Create a Contact Card**
Complete a contact card for each adult family member. Have them keep these cards handy in a wallet, purse or briefcase, etc. Additionally, complete contact cards for each child. Put the cards in their backpacks or book bags. You can find sample cards, along with other important emergency plan reminders at: [http://www.ready.gov/emergency-planning-checklists](http://www.ready.gov/emergency-planning-checklists).

Check with your children’s day care or school. Facilities designed for children should include identification planning as part of their emergency plans.

**Suggestion 2: Add In-Case-of-Emergency (ICE) to Your Phone Contacts**
Let’s face it, we never go anywhere without our cell phones, right? If you or a family member is involved in an accident, rapid, emergency communications may be needed. Program ICE in your cell phone contacts. By including numbers on your cell phone designating ICE Dr., ICE Husband, ICE Mom or ICE Son, family members or your designated emergency contact can be located more readily. If you are in an accident, emergency personnel often check your ICE listings to call emergency contacts. Make sure to tell your family and friends that you’ve listed them as emergency contacts.

Once you’ve collected this important information, gather your family members and discuss the information in your plan. Practice your plan at least twice a year and update it as needed.

It’s been a long winter and everyone is eager to get outside to enjoy the warm weather. Please be safe and plan ahead. While we can’t predict when emergencies occur, we can prepare ourselves to deal with them if they do. If you have any questions about family communication planning or general emergency preparedness, visit [www.nvcc.edu/emergency](http://www.nvcc.edu/emergency) or contact the Office of Emergency Management and Planning through Police Dispatch.

Northern Virginia Community College partnered again with NBC 4 (WRC-TV) for a Community Shred on Saturday, March 15 from 8—11 a.m. The event took place at the Annandale Campus and provided citizens an opportunity to dispose of materials that could be exploited by identity thieves.

This is the eighth time NOVA has hosted this popular event. Over 2,000 cars and trucks came to NOVA to drop off boxes of papers to one of 12 shredding trucks supplied by the Shred-It Company.
Upcoming NOVA Police Outreach Training And Events

DEA Drug Take-Back Event

NOVA Police will again participate in DEA’s Drug Take-Back Event, scheduled on April 26th, from 10 am to 2 pm. Below are the drop off sites for NOVA:

Annandale Campus: CA Building, 1st Floor, Main Entrance
8333 Little River Turnpike
Annandale, VA 22003

Alexandria Campus: AA building (Entrance from A-4 Parking Lot)
3001 N. Beauregard St
Alexandria, VA 22311

Contact Community Outreach Officer, Tony Ong for any questions or refer to the website below for more information. Tong@nvcc.edu


SAFE—Women’s Self-Defense Training

Sexual Assault Free & Empowered (SAFE) is a free women’s self defense program offered by the NOVA College Police Department. SAFE is dedicated to empowering women with knowledge to reduce the occurrence of sexual assault crimes. The program provides effective options by teaching women to take an active and positive role in their own self defense and psychological well-being.

Statistics:

- Acts of violence occur every 15 seconds in the United States
- 6 million American women are beaten each year by their husbands or boyfriends
- 90 percent of crime is opportunistic
- 90 percent of self defense is in the prevention of an attack

Course Content:

- Risk awareness, risk reduction, crime prevention strategies and defensive concepts
- Hands-on training in physical defense techniques
- Simulated, controlled environment to test skills
- Courses taught by certified SAFE instructors
- Take home reference manual provided

Dates/Location:

April 11, 2014, from 8 am to 4 pm. If you are interested in attending this class, register with NOVA Police Community Outreach Officer, Tony Ong, tong@nvcc.edu. Spaces are limited, so please register early.