

# The Eagle Eye

A Publication of the Eddie Eagle Gunsafe® Program

**Quarterly Newsletter** 

Winter 2023

### Winter is Upon Us!

Winter brings so much to our communities. The holiday season alone brings us excitement, joy, local festivals, and time with family. We are in the middle of hunting seasons across the country. Kids are home from school and friends are in and out of our homes. These are the perfect times to share messages of safety with our friends and family. Eddie Eagle can help us share this message through family conversations and handouts to the community at local events and festivals.



#### **Get Your Materials!**

Holidays and winter breaks are approaching. It's time to plan for class parties, school events, church and community events, and so many opportunities for sharing the lifesaving Eddie Eagle message! Don't wait to order! Please give us 3-4 weeks for your order to be delivered in time for your presentation or event. Materials may be ordered through our NRA Program Materials Center (nrahq.org).

Remember: Law enforcement, schools, hospitals, libraries, fire departments and other non-profit organizations may receive free materials thanks to NRA Foundation grant funds. To receive more information on receiving free materials contact our office at eddie@nrahq.org.

## Law Enforcement, Fire Departments, EMS and School Administration Can now purchase the Eddie Eagle Mascot Costume!

You heard that right! It is no longer restricted to only law enforcement agencies! We want to give you the opportunity to really get the kids excited and involved in your Eddie Eagle message.

Please reach out to us at eddie@nrahq.org for more information.

### **Hometown Spotlight**

SRO Avery Aytes with the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office in Crossville TN first heard about the Eddie Eagle program in 2016 from a parent of one of the students in his school. Soon after, his Sergeant called to let him know that the department had gotten an Eddie Eagle Mascot Costume from the NRA. He also announced that the department would be scheduling to present the program in the schools starting in the next few weeks. Fast forward to today, and they now share Eddie at all nine of the public elementary schools, private schools and daycare centers in Cumberland County, Tennessee. They are also invited to community events, such as the Blue Ribbon event, Super Hero Day and the Sheriff's Youth Academy. Eddie is a favorite everywhere he goes!

Officer Aytes really embodies the enthusiasm and spirit of Eddie Eagle! He came to our attention here at NRA Headquarters through the Facebook page that he runs for their Eddie Eagle program. He posts photos from events that he participates in as Eddie Eagle. He tells me that his favorite thing about the program is having the students see him in the hallways, and they sing the Eddie Eagle jingle of "STOP! Don't Touch! Run Away! Tell a Grown-Up!". He loves that they get so excited about seeing Eddie! They give him high fives and hugs. Students love receiving the activity books and stickers. They really love Eddie Eagle.

The future looks bright for Eddie Eagle in Cumberland County! The Sheriff's Office with Officer Aytes plans to continue to bring Eddie Eagle and his lifesaving message to as many students as possible. We look forward to seeing the adventures he continues to have!







### **Eddie Eagle in the News**

<u>Sheriff's Office continues Eddie Eagle program to keep children safe - The Suffolk News-Herald | The Suffolk News-Herald </u>

Oct 28 | 2nd Annual FREE Gun Lock Give-away This Weekend | Lakeland, FL Patch

GUEST COLUMN: We should all work together to promote gun safety | Community | thetimestribune.com

Students shown gun safety demonstration at elementary school (wymt.com)

Central Florida Non-Profit Group Conducts 2nd Annual Child Safety Free Gun Lock Give-Away - PR.com