

PRESS RELEASE

METRICH Enforcement Unit
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES CONDUCT SECOND MARIHUANA ERADICATION OPERATION

On Wednesday, September 02, 2009, the Seneca County Drug Task Force - METRICH Enforcement Unit, consisting of the Seneca County Sheriff's Office, Tiffin Police Department, Fostoria Police Department & the Seneca County Prosecutor's Office, along with additional officers and deputies from the Seneca County Sheriff's Office, Fostoria Police Department, Zero Tolerance Task Force, Marion County Sheriff's Office, in conjunction with the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation & Identification conducted their annual State Marihuana Eradication throughout Seneca County for a second time this year.

The multi-jurisdictional operation resulted in the successful seizure of 96 plants from local fields throughout Seneca County, Ohio. The seizure has an estimated "street value" of approximately \$96,000.00.

Today's efforts were just a small example of our accomplishments with working together with all the local & state law enforcement agencies to combat against drugs in our communities, Seneca County Sheriff Tom Steyer said. The Seneca County Sheriff's Office & the Seneca County Drug Task Force - METRICH Drug Task Force, along with other local law enforcement agencies will continue their efforts, whether it's by air or by "hitting" the local streets to work towards removing drugs from our communities in Seneca County. "Tips from area farmers & citizens assisted officers with successfully confiscating the Marijuana plants", Sgt. Donald Joseph (Seneca Co. Sheriff's Office/Lead investigator) said.

I would like to encourage citizens to continue to report suspicious activity to their local agencies or the Seneca County Drug Task Force - METRICH Enforcement Unit Crime Hotline at 1-877-446-Drug (Local #443-0463).

METRICH is a ten county decentralized task force in North Central Ohio whose mission is to improve the quality of life for the citizens we serve by reducing the availability of illegal drugs and weapons through proactive enforcement efforts. The success of METRICH is a tribute to the cooperation and support within the Law Enforcement Community in the METRICH region and to those citizens who have chosen to improve the quality of life in their communities by assisting METRICH in reporting suspicious activity and valuable information.

Citizens may report suspicious activity to the crime hot lines at:
1-800-589-DARE and www.METRICH.com

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