

COFFEE WITH A COP

SPONSORED BY
WHOLE FOODS MARKET

BEDFORD POLICE STATION

8AM TO 10 AM TUESDAY, MAY 3

Chief Robert Bongiorno has announced that Whole Foods Market will sponsor the Bedford Police Department's <u>Coffee with a Cop</u> meeting next month. This will be the department's second event, and the first sponsored by Whole Foods Market. The supermarket will supply coffee and breakfast pastries for 70 people at the next Coffee with a Cop meeting, to be held on May 3 from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Residents are invited to join officers in the morning for coffee, breakfast, and good conversation.

The Bedford Police Department hosted their first Coffee with a Cop on the state's Primary Day in March, where hundreds of residents stopped by on their way to the polls.

Coffee with a Cop began in Hawthorne, California in 2011 as a result of police officers brainstorming ways to better interact with their community. They developed a simple plan to break down the barriers that have been built between police officers and citizens -- have a cup of coffee, discuss what's on your mind, ask questions and make suggestions that could better the community.

Since its creation, Coffee with a Cop events have been held in more than 2,000 communities in 49 states. It is regarded as one of the most successful community oriented policing programs in the United States.

"We are thankful to Whole Foods Market for their generosity and supporting our newest community initiative," Chief Bongiorno said. "Coffee With a Cop has been successful in Bedford so far, and we hope that partnering with local vendors will only grow the event."

Beginning in May, the department's Coffee with a Cop event will be held every other month at Bedford Police Headquarters, 2 Mudge Way.

For more information, visit the Coffee with a Cop <u>website</u> or contact the Bedford Police Department at 781-275-1212.