



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS



CLACKAMAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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What Neighborhood Watch is: A crime prevention program that encourages Neighbors to get to know each other and their routines so that any out-of-place activities may be observed and recognized for what they are, then reported and investigated if necessary.

What Neighborhood Watch is not A program designed for Participants to undertake personal risks to deter crime.

Sheriff's Key Phone Numbers

Emergency:

911

24-hour Non-Emergency:

(503) 655-8211

Business Number:

(503) 655-8218

Sheriff's Office Website:

www.clackamas.or.us/sheriff

Firearms Safety

There are an estimated 200 million firearms in American homes. Of those firearms 60 million are handguns. Each year an estimated 1500 children, 14 and under are hospitalized for unintentional firearm injuries. During the summer months, while children are out of school, and sometimes less supervised, the chances that they will get their hands on an unsecured firearm increases.

Here are some simple firearms safety tips for you and your children:

- Always put your guns in a safe when not in use.
- Always use a gun lock for your weapon.
- Always store and lock ammunition separately from your firearm.
- Never leave a firearm in an unattended vehicle. Felons cannot buy guns, but they can steal guns.
- Tell your children that if they ever find a gun not to touch it and to notify an adult immediately.
- If your child goes to a friend's home with firearms, talk to the parents about how their firearms are secured.

The Clackamas County Sheriff's Office Citizen Volunteer Auxiliary/Neighborhood Watch Program publishes the NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS quarterly. To learn more about volunteering for the Sheriff's Office, go to www.volunteerhere.com and look up the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office.

This newsletter can be found online at the Sheriff's Office Website, www.co.clackamas.or.us/sheriff. If you need additional copies you may call the Neighborhood Watch News Info Line at **(503) 353-4444**.

Reminder! National Night Out is August 1, 2006. Go to www.nno.org/nno to learn more. Then be sure to contact the Sheriff's Office if you would like us to attend your event!

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Crime Prevention Unit
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crimeprevention@co.clackamas.or.us

Clackamas County Sheriff's Office – Neighborhood Watch News

- If you allow your child to use a gun in a supervised manner teach them never to point it at another person.
- Teach your children that even if a gun looks like a toy, it may be the real thing. Children should never touch any gun without adult supervision.

Over the past several years the manufacturers of toy guns and airsoft pellet guns have made them to look more and more realistic.

Here is a test- one of the guns pictured below is an airsoft version of the Glock 19 and the other is a real Glock 19.: Which one is real?



The gun on the left is the airsoft. The gun on the right is the real thing. If one of these were pointed at you would you know the difference? Police treat every gun as if it is real.

For more information on gun safety courses or to get a free gun lock (while supplies last), please contact the Public Safety Training Center at 503-353-4649, or visit the Sheriff's Office website, and click on Training Center.

Is your child safe on the Internet?

Perhaps you heard the recent news story about the teenage girl who flew to the Middle East to meet a man she met on the Internet. Maybe you have seen the NBC News series "To Catch a Predator."

For all the positive things the Internet can be used for there are just as many and more dangers that kids can run into on the Internet. Does your child have a computer with Internet access in his or her room, or do you let them use the Internet without supervision? Much like guns, children's Internet access should always be supervised.

If your child has an online web page or profile, talk to them about the information they put on their page. Many of these pages are fun for kids to interact with their friend's, however they need to remember that what they put on the Internet can be seen by anyone. Some web sites, including www.myspace.com, allow members to choose to keep a page private, so only invited people may view the information. If available, always have your child select private. It is a good idea for parents to create their own profile on this site so that you can view what their child is doing.

Another way kids keep in contact with their friends is through instant messenger programs. These programs such as Yahoo Messenger and AIM allow people to have real-time one-on-one conversations with people over the Internet. Like web page's, they can be used innocently or by adults trying to prey on children. Children should never talk to people on the computer that they do not know personally. Even providing limited, seemingly casual information, such as your name, age and school is enough for someone to track you down.

There are many warning signs that your child may be taking part in risky activity on the Internet. Listed below are a few of them:

- Spends large amounts of time on the Internet.
- Becomes withdrawn from his social groups and friends.
- Receives telephone calls or mail from adults or people you do not know.
- Quickly turns off the monitor, or goes to another web page when he sees you.

Have open communication with your child, and supervise their computer access. This will reduce the risk of your child being lured or hurt by someone on the Internet.

For more information on the dangers that face children please visit the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's website at www.missingkids.com.

If you have information pertaining to the online solicitation or exploitation of minors report the information to the Cyber Tipline at www.cybertipline.com or 1-800-843-5678.

Filename: nhw06_07
Directory: H:\web3\sheriff\packets
Template: C:\Documents and Settings\All
Users\Documents\Templates\CCSO Forms\CCSO Letterhead 010504.dot
Title: SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
Subject:
Author: Deputy
Keywords:
Comments:
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