



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 can 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

Thank you for your Support

After 3 failed public safety levies in the past decade, you cast your vote for fiscally responsible public safety in Clackamas County. It's a public trust the men and women of the Sheriff's Office and I don't take lightly.

Over the past decade, the Sheriff's Office hasn't kept pace with Clackamas County's explosive growth. We have fewer deputies now than we did in 2001 and have continued to do more with less.

In November when voters chose to pass measure 3-246, the Clackamas County Public Safety Levy, you made it clear that you recognize that problem -- and want to help us open closed jail beds and bring service back up to the levels you need and deserve. We're honored by your trust and your vote.

The men and women of the Sheriff's Office will work hard to demonstrate to the voters this was a wise investment of their hard earned dollars. We have a lot of work in front of us now and I'm confident you will see a great return on your investment. On behalf of the entire Sheriff's Office staff, my sincere thanks for your vote "Yes on 3-246" and your commitment to improving public safety in Clackamas County. -- Sheriff Roberts.

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.1-800-Volunteer.org and look up "Crime/legal" in the Issue area drop down box, with zip code 97045.

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 Crime Prevention Unit at (503) 353-4441.

To receive further information or to join the Neighborhood Watch Program contact:

Community Service Officer Tom Solano
Crime Prevention Unit
(503) 353-4441
crimeprevention@co.clackamas.or.us

Is your Emergency Kit packed?

It seems as though once a season somewhere in Clackamas County the electricity goes out, or we have some amount of flooding. We are also home to an active volcano- Mt. Hood.

Whether it is a windstorm a river overflowing its banks or an eruption of Mt. Hood, The Clackamas County Sheriff's Office along with Clackamas County Emergency Management suggests keeping an emergency kit in your home. Here are some hints for preparing your kit:

- Choose a closet or where it is cool and dark, yet somewhere that it will be easy to find in an emergency
- Pack in order of importance.

Top: First-aid kit
Flashlight
Battery powered radio
Water (one gallon/person per day)
Canned foods/ Condensed Milk
Blankets
Fire Extinguisher
Small utility box containing:
- Wrench and pliers.
- Whistle- to signal for help
- Matches
- Can opener
- Extra Batteries
- Garbage bags
- Moist towelettes.
- Prescription medications
- Cash: In the event of a power outage ATMs may not be working!!
- Important paperwork in a waterproof bag / container:
Insurance forms
Bank information
- Personal Hygiene items

If you have children, don't forget a few board games, or something to keep them entertained. If you have pets, remember the pet food for your kit.

There is more to be prepared than just the kit. Please visit the Clackamas County Emergency Management website at:
www.co.clackamas.or.us/emergency

National Consumer Protection Week February 4th to 10th, 2007

According to the Oregon Revised Statute (ORS 165.800) "A person commits the crime of identity theft if the person, with the intent to deceive or to defraud, obtains, possesses, transfers, creates, utters or converts to the person's own use the personal identification of another person."

In 2005, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) received 255,565 identity theft complaints. Complaints from Oregon account for 2,973, making Oregon the 13th highest in Identity Theft per capita. The Clackamas County Sheriff's Office took almost 1000 (934) Identity Theft reports in 2005, and that number does not include other fraud related crimes such as forgery or fraudulent use of a credit card.

Identity theft is only one aspect of consumer protection. There are countless Internet scams and fictitious payout scams, along with shady and sometimes criminal business practices.

Here are three simple rules to remember when faced with a suspicious situation that may be a scam.

1. **Your bank will never call or email you to verify your personal information.** If you get a call from your bank you are suspicious of, ask them if you can call them back, and then call a number you know to be correct.
2. **Verify Funds!!** If selling a high value item such as a vehicle, and the seller does not have cash, follow the buyer to their bank to get the money. Even cashier's checks are often forged or altered.
3. **Don't be greedy! If it sounds too good to be true it probably is!** Nobody is going to give you a large sum or money for nothing.

If you have a complaint against a business or want more consumer protection information call the Oregon Attorney General's Office at (1-877) 877-9392 or visit their web site at www.doj.state.or.us and click on programs and services. More information can be found at www.consumer.gov. If you were the victim of fraud over the Internet report it to www.ic3.gov