

ZONE 6 COMMUNITY NEWS

October 2009

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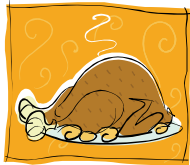
Zone Six Borders:
 Austin Blvd to Oak Park Ave
 Madison St to I-290

Holiday Crime Prevention Tips

Robberies and thefts occur more often this time of the year due to the approaching holiday season. In order to reduce chances of becoming a possible victim, please take the following tips into consideration:

- Try not to carry a purse or large amounts of money on your person.
- Always be aware of your surroundings.

- Don't leave packages or other valuables in your auto that are in plain view.
- Never leave your auto running unoccupied.
- Report any and all suspicious persons, vehicles and activity as soon as possible and be ready to give a description.



Halloween Safety Tips

- Remember costumes should be light in color so they are easily visible to drivers. Reflective tape is useful on dark colored costumes.
- Confine Trick-or-Treating to the Village's recommended times of 3pm to 7pm.
- Allow children to eat only wrapped treats that you have inspected.
- Keep children close when crossing the street. Cross as a group at the intersections and never between cars.
- Children should never Trick-or-Treat alone nor enter homes to receive treats. Always stay on the porch or front steps.

Reporting Crime

Your help as a citizen and resident is extremely important in stopping crime. When you observe someone or something unusual call 911 immediately and let us determine if a crime has occurred. Provide the dispatcher with as many details as possible pertaining to the suspicious activity. Be ready

to describe a suspicious individual (ie., sex, age, race, approximate ht, wt, unusual characteristics, and clothing). Please include vehicle descriptions (make, model, color, license plate, and directions vehicle is traveling.



School bus safety

In our haste to reach our own destinations, we often disregard school buses while they load and unload children by illegally passing the stopped school bus. Illinois laws require that vehicles traveling in either direction must stop before reaching a school bus that has its flashing lights on and/or stop arm extended. Vehicles must remain stopped until the visual signs have been deactivated.



Violation of this law is a mandatory three months suspension of your driver's license.

Snow Parking

During inclement weather, snow parking rules keep streets open to traffic, including emergency and public service vehicles. After a two inch snowfall, parking is prohibited on designated now routs.



Community Meetings

Held 1st Wednesday of every month at 618 S. Austin, 7pm.

Surfing Safely

Remind children of hidden dangers that lurk on the internet

As parents, we know what advice to give our children about physical dangers: look both ways before crossing the street; never get into a car with someone you don't know; say "no" to drugs. But with the popularity of the internet soaring and the age of its users dropping, a whole new set of dangers that are much less tangible threaten our children. That's why it's important to talk to your children about safety in cyberspace.

The Oak Park Police Department is giving this issue special attention as part of its I-Search personal safety curriculum, taught in the elementary and junior high schools by Community Police officers and Social Workers. Below are a few simple rules for children who are surfing the net:



- Go online with a friend, if possible.
- Never give out your personal information, such as your name, address, phone number, school, description or picture.
- Use chat rooms specific to your interest and age.
- Don't open e-mail from screen names you don't recognize.
- Don't "instant message" with screen names you don't know.
- Never meet in person someone you met online.
- Tell an adult if you are trouble by anything you see online.
- Use computers in supervised environments, such as home or the library.
- Remember, people you meet online aren't necessarily who they say they are.
- Parents should contact their internet provider for information on Parental Control and how to restrict access to certain sites.



How to Contact my RBO?

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