

CRIME FIGHTER

The Safety Newsletter of the Oro Valley Police Department

Second Quarter 2014

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Myths & Realities About Vehicle Theft

Myth #1

I lock my car doors, which is enough to protect my car from getting stolen.

Reality

Although locking your car doors is great common sense, that alone is not enough to protect your car from being stolen. The AATA recommends a layered approach to protection as the most practical way to make your vehicle tough to steal.

Myth #2

No matter what steps I take, a car thief can easily steal my vehicle.

Reality

Vehicle theft IS preventable! By taking a few extra precautions to secure your vehicle, you can make it more difficult for a thief to steal. Research shows that thieves are looking for easy targets with little or no risks of being detected. If your vehicle is secured with several layers of protection and at least one visible theft deterrent device, thieves will most likely target a different vehicle.

Myth #3

I'll only be away from my car a moment – besides it's so hot what will it hurt if I leave the car running while I run into the convenient store (or dry cleaners, or gas station)?

Reality

Vehicle theft is often a crime of opportunity! NEVER leave your vehicle running and unattended with the keys in the ignition, not even for a minute.



**Oro Valley
POLICE**

www.ovpd.org

Safety While Exercising

Posted on September 15 by www.crimepreventiontips.org



Maintaining Safety While Exercising Outdoors

Running, cycling, power walking and other outdoor activities are a great way to spend time outside and get active. Not only do these exercises not require a membership fee, they also come with the benefit of spending some time out of doors. It can be a great opportunity for a little peace and quiet and privacy, but for safety's sake it is also a good idea to take a trusted friend with you. Please read these crime prevention tips below and keep your activities enjoyable.

One of the problems behind working out is finding the time to do it. People work, take care of families and have a long list of duties and responsibilities. This causes exercise enthusiasts to take advantage of any free time they can set aside, which usually means early in the morning and later in the evening. Fitness buffs are often found outside before the sun goes up or after it has already set. Unfortunately, criminals are well aware of this fact.

Danger In The Dark

Being outside alone can be dangerous, especially when it is dark. Predators will lay in wait for individuals to pass by so they can catch them by surprise. The lack of light provides an ideal setting for them to hide and remain unseen until they spring out and attack. They have the element of surprise and can easily catch victims off guard. Exercising with a partner will greatly reduce the chances of this happening to you. Most criminals prefer to accost a person who is on their own, and will shy away from groups of two or more.

Whenever you do go out, alone or with an exercise partner, always be on alert. Pay careful attention to your surroundings and avoid areas that are not well lit and may have numerous hiding places for criminals. You might enjoy listening to music while you exercise, but remember to keep the volume low enough that you can hear what's happening around you. A predator can easily sneak up from behind if they know you have neither seen nor heard them.

Arm Yourself

No matter how many precautions you take, it is possible you will encounter a thief, mugger or violent criminal while enjoying some outdoor activity. People who spend time outdoors regularly can learn to defend themselves from an attack by taking a self defense class or training with a self defense tool. Non lethal devices like pepper spray, and stun guns can be used to put a quick end to any confrontation. When used against an assailant, the weapons will temporarily incapacitate them so you will have an opportunity to get away and call the police. If you choose to use a weapon, know that it can be taken from you and used against you so it is imperative to train and practice.

What is Ransomware?

From Microsoft Security and Security Center

What is ransomware?

Ransomware is a kind of malware (malicious software) that criminals install on your computer so they can lock it from a remote location. Ransomware generates a pop-up window, webpage, or email warning from what looks like an official authority. It explains that your computer has been locked because of possible illegal activities on it and demands payment before you can access your files and programs again.

How do criminals install ransomware?

Ransomware is usually installed when you open a malicious email attachment or when you click a malicious link in an email message or instant message or on a social networking site or other website. Ransomware can even be installed when you visit a malicious website.

How do I avoid ransomware?

There are several free ways to help protect your computer against ransomware and other malware:

- Keep all of the software on your computer up to date. Make sure automatic updating is turned on to get all the latest Microsoft security updates.
- Keep your firewall turned on.
- Don't open spam email messages or click links on suspicious websites.
- Download Microsoft Security Essentials, which is free, or use another reputable antivirus and anti-malware program. If you run Windows 8 or Windows RT, you don't need Microsoft Security Essentials.
- Scan your computer with the Microsoft Safety Scanner.

What should I do if I have ransomware on my computer?

To detect and remove ransomware and other malicious software that might be installed on your computer, run a full-system scan with an appropriate, up-to-date, security solution.

YOUR COMPUTER HAS BEEN LOCKED!

This operating system is locked due to the violation of the federal laws of the United States of America! (Article 1, Section 8, Clause 8; Article 202; Article 210 of the Criminal Code of U.S.A. provides for a deprivation of liberty for four to twelve years.)

Following violations were detected:
Your IP address was used to visit websites containing pornography, child pornography, zoophilia and child abuse. Your computer also contains video files with pornographic content, elements of violence and child pornography! Spam-messages with terrorist motives were also sent from your computer.

This computer lock is aimed to stop your illegal activity.

To unlock the computer you are obliged to pay a fine of \$200.

You have **72 hours** to pay the fine, otherwise you will be arrested.

You must pay the fine through _____
To pay the fine, you should enter the digits resulting code, which is located on the back of your _____ in the payment form and press OK (if you have several codes, enter them one after the other and press OK).

If an error occurs, send the codes to address fine@fbi.gov.

Neighborhood Watch Rodeo Bike Event

Big THANKS to Mira Vista Neighborhood Watch for organizing this event for their community and for their neighboring NW groups.

Kids from all age groups got to ride their bikes on a course designed to teach them how operate their bikes on the rode, around vehicles and on sidewalks safely. Their helmets were checked for a proper fit and were given a free helmet if theirs was an improper fit or damaged.

Also, Special Thanks to Pima County Bicycle and Pedestrian Program and Ignacio Rivera de Rosales for running the event and providing free helmets. It was a success!

www.bikeped.pima.gov



Water Safety Tips

Knowing how to swim can be a lot of fun, but it's an essential skill, too.

Did you know that around the globe, 388,000 people drown every year? That's 44 preventable deaths every hour. Families living in the poorest communities are most at-risk. ~SafeKids International

Four Water Safety Tips

Drowning is the second leading injury-related killer of kids ages 1 to 14, but these tragedies can be prevented if parents practice four "Water Safety Wisdoms" highlighted by the National SAFE KIDS Campaign.

Recent research by SAFE KIDS and Johnson & Johnson, examining 2000 and 2001 data from Child Death Review teams in 17 states, found that 88 percent of children who drowned were actually under the supervision of another person, usually a family member. Supervision was defined as being in the care of another individual, not necessarily in their direct line of sight.

While better quality supervision is critical, the study also found that many adults were not properly fencing pools, requiring use of personal flotation devices (PFDs) or teaching their children how to swim.

Water Safety Tips Continued

“We want kids to be active and enjoy swimming, but we want them to do it safely,” says U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Richard Carmona, who joins SAFE KIDS in this important safety effort. “Drowning is a silent killer that can strike even older, more experienced child swimmers. The SAFE KIDS Water Safety Wisdoms will help keep children of all ages safe in the water this summer.”

4 to Follow

As the summer season starts and children are more likely to be in and around water, SAFE KIDS urges parents to follow these 4 Water Safety Wisdoms:

- **Supervision:** SAFE KIDS recommends adults take turns serving as the designated “water watcher,” whose sole responsibility is to actively supervise children in or near the water (and not allow themselves to be distracted by common practices such as eating, reading, talking to others, talking on cell phones or napping). Active supervision means that the adult can always see and hear the child and stays close enough to intervene in an emergency.
- **Environment:** Improve safety around residential pools and spas with installation and proper use of four-sided isolation fencing, which could prevent an estimated 50 to 90 percent of residential pool drownings. Isolation fencing means the fence completely separates the pool area from the house and the rest of the property, so a child cannot walk directly out a back door to the pool.
- **Gear:** Use properly fitting life vests in and around water, especially when boating, riding in personal watercraft and participating in water sports, to prevent an estimated 85 percent of boat-related drownings.
- **Education:** Enroll children in swimming lessons with a certified instructor by the age of 8. Nearly three-quarters of drowning victims researched did not know how to swim.

“Childhood drownings are not inevitable; they are preventable,” says Dr. Martin Eichelberger, director of Emergency Trauma Services at Children’s National Medical Center in Washington, D.C., and CEO of the National SAFE KIDS Campaign. “These four Water Safety Wisdoms are critically important to the safety equation that will keep kids out of harm’s way.”

Don’t Be a Statistic

The SAFE KIDS report, *Clear Danger: A National Study of Childhood Drowning and Related Attitudes and Behaviors*, supported by Johnson & Johnson, included nationally representative surveys of parents (of children 14 and under) and children ages 8 through 12 and revealed many startling statistics that contributed to the development of the 4 Wisdoms, such as the following:

- More than half (55 percent) of parents say there are some circumstances where it is acceptable for a child to swim unsupervised.
- Nearly two-thirds (61 percent) of pool- or spa-owning parents do not have isolation fencing around their pools or spas, and 43 percent have no self-closing and self-latching gate.
- Many tweens (kids ages 8 to 12) admit they never wear a life jacket when riding on a personal watercraft (50 percent), participating in water sports (37 percent) or on a boat (16 percent).
- Although the majority of parents agree that all children should have swimming instruction by the age of 8, 37 percent of parents of children ages 5 to 14 report their child has never taken lessons.



Oro Valley Police Department

Solicitor Permits

- Solicitors must have a permit and visibly display it at all times.
- Charitable/Religious/Educational Groups are not required to obtain a permit but are encouraged.
- Solicitors must obey visible posted signs (ex. “No Soliciting”, “No Trespassing”) including Charitable/Religious/Educational Groups. This includes leaving business cards, fliers, door hangers, etc.
- Business cards, fliers, door hangers etc. are allowed permitting the items are secured and do not fly away.
- Neighborhood signs indicating “No Solicitors”, “No Trespassing” etc. are not sufficient. Individual residents must post their own signs.

What does a solicitor permit look like?

There are two types of solicitor permits:

- 1) Solicitor’s License for Businesses
- 2) Charitable/Religious/Educational License



Both will have the Oro Valley Town seal, description, name of registered person and business name, date and signature of Oro Valley Town Clerk certifying the person/business is registered with the Town.

Businesses’ Solicitor’s License are approximately the size of a credit card/ID card and will have a picture of the individual. The license will be attached to a Town provided red cord lanyard. Charitable/Religious/Educational License will have a Town provided clip.

What are the Oro Valley Town Codes?

8-1-8 License Required; Prohibited Activities

8-1-11 Charitable, Religious and Educational Organizations; Exemption

For complete Town Codes:
<http://www.codepublishing.com/az/orovalley/>

If in doubt, call the Oro Vally Police Department: 911 or 229-4900.

Ask & Answer



As a police officer, I get asked law enforcement questions almost everywhere I go. So here is your chance to send in your questions and I will publish them with an answer either from me or a fellow officer who is an expert in that field.

Q: When should I (citizen) call the police?

A: Citizens often do not want to bother the police department with non-emergency situations. If something does not seem "quite right", "feels off", makes you think to yourself "should I call the police?", then the answer is YES, call the police. You can call 911 or 229-4900. Most of the time citizens do not have the OVPD non-emergency phone number so calling 911 is just fine. We would rather be called, respond and investigate something that turns out to

be nothing than it be something serious and never be called.

Q: What is the best way to deal with solicitation in the neighborhood?

A: In the Town of Oro Valley it is unlawful to solicit without a permit. If you are in doubt whether or not someone is soliciting without a permit and do not see a visible ID, call OVPD and an officer will verify they have a permit. Neighborhood signage stating "No Solicitation" is not sufficient. Individual residents should post their own signs. See the attached flyer indicating Solicitor Permits for further details.

Q: How are neighborhood parks patrolled?

A: There are four beats in Oro Valley and officers are assigned a beat to patrol each shift. Although, police officers drive around and conduct checks at neighborhood parks, businesses and public areas and drive through neighborhoods throughout their shift, it is not guaranteed what parks, business or areas are checked each shift.

Q: How successful have campaigns to decrease inattentive driving been for the OVPD?



A: Response by Lt. Chris Olson: Collisions caused by inattentive or distracted driving continues to challenge law enforcement agencies. It is being addressed at both state and national levels though legislation and committee. To combat poor driving behavior, OVPD has created a data driven initiative to improve traffic safety in Oro Valley: the program is called "HiVE" or High Visibility

Enforcement. It is designed to target intersections within the Town that demonstrate high collision rates. To reduce both collisions and increase awareness, OVPD:

- Publishes HiVE deployment dates and times to television, print and radio media outlets. This is designed to alert the community about the increased enforcement and improve transparency between the police and citizens.

Mark Your Calendar

Dispose-A-Med Oro Valley

June 21st 8 a.m. - noon
August 16th 8 a.m. - noon
December 6th 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Location: Target (First & Oracle)

National Dispose-A-Med

April 26th 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.



Ask & Answer Continued

- OVPD then places five to six motorcycle officers in and around the intersections during the scheduled deployment. Motorcycle officers actively enforce traffic violations during peak travel times.

This partnership between the media and police department works very well and keeps our citizens not only informed but constantly aware of the need to practice safe driving behaviors.

In just over 1 year, OVPD has conducted over 60 deployments and reduce collisions at Oracle and Suffolk by 36 percent. However, collisions at Oracle and Magee continue to rise, indicating that more work needs to be done.

This initiative continues to be of education and not ticket writing, with only 30 percent of drivers receiving citations for the moving violation they committed.

Also, OVPD recently partnered with the Golder Ranch Fire Department to create a Public Safety Announcement (PSA) on distracted driving and the harmful consequences. This PSA was aired locally and can be found on YouTube.

If you would like more information on HiVE or traffic safety within the Town, please contact Lt. Chris Olson at 229-4902.

Q: Is it possible to do a ride along with an officer?

A: Yes, but it depends on the availability of our resources. As part of the Citizen's Academy, ride a longs are part of the program and guarantees that you can get a ride along. A background check is required.



www.ovpd.org

Contact Information

OVPD Crime Prevention Unit

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