

THE CRIME WATCHER



The Fishers Crime Watch Program began in 1994 and easily reaches 3,000 homes in Fishers. I encourage you to become active in your neighborhood and support the Crime Watch Program. When neighbors look out for each other, everyone benefits.

Chief George G. Kehl

Did you know.....

The very first American 911 call was placed on February 16, 1968 in Haleyville, Alabama made by Alabama Speaker of the House, Rankin Fite and answered by Congressman Tom Bevill. The new emergency number had to be three numbers that were not in use in the United States or Canada as the first three numbers of any phone number or area code, and the numbers had to be easy to use.



WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW



"Dial 9-1-1" - A great way to get help when you are in an emergency. When your phone call reaches the 9-1-1 answering point (Public Safety Answering Point, or PSAP,) how does help get where it needs to go? One thing that many people believe concerning dialing 9-1-1 is that, when you call 9-1-1, the person answering your call knows who you are and where you are. Often that is true, but here are some things you need to be aware of . . .

First, not every place in the country has access to this technology. There are some PSAP's that do not receive this information when they receive a call.

Second, cell phones, now the most common phone used to call 9-1-1, do not always give very helpful information. Depending on the phone, the provider, the strength of the signal in the area, and other factors, dialing 9-1-1 on a cell phone may give the PSAP information concerning the tower your phone's signal is hitting rather than where you actually are. Or it may give your location, but only within, say 300 feet - great information if you're out in an open field, but if you're in the

middle of a large apartment complex, not nearly as helpful. Technology is rapidly becoming better, but these issues still exist.

Third, the most reliable 9-1-1 location information, that which is received from a "landline" phone, is still dependent on information gathered from the phone company or other organization that "owns" the information. Which means it is susceptible to human input and error.

Fourth, "voice over internet protocol" (VOIP) and "digital phone service" over cable or internet lines are fast becoming an established means of phone service, often because of the financial benefits. However, this type of service is by far the least reliable concerning information sent to the PSAP. As with cell phones, this technology is improving, but it is still far from reaching perfection.

So what should you do? First, realize that technology IS improving. Dialing 9-1-1 is constantly and consistently becoming more efficient, more effective, and more readily accessible all the time. But there are still some problems that can occur, and there are some things

that you can do to make sure help gets there when you need it.

The first, and most important, is to know where you are and to verify the information with the person answering your call. We can't help you if we can't find you. Clearly identifying your house can help in this aspect, too.

Second, be as calm as possible. Emergency situations can often create emotional and psychological distress. But the calmer you can remain, answering questions as clearly as possible, the more quickly the appropriate help can be sent. As clearly as possible, state what the problem is and what type of help you need.

And third, listen. It is very easy to try to give as much information as quickly as possible. As noted above, it is very easy and very common to become emotional, even hysterical, in an emergency, even for the calmest of people. But if you can listen to the person taking your call, respond to their questions, and comply with directions they give you, you will ensure the best possible response to your need.



4 Municipal Drive
Fishers, Indiana 46038



For more information on the Fishers Police Department Crime Watch Program— Please call or email Sergeant Gerry Hepp at 317-595-3300 or heppg@fishers.in.us



Lori A. Spillane
Fishers Community
Prosecutor
317-595-3300 or
spillanel@fishers.in.us



Fishers Police Department

4 Municipal Drive
Fishers, Indiana 46038
317-595-3300
FAX 317-595-3344

Fishers Town Council

Scott A. Faultless, President
David C. George, Vice
President

Stuart F. Easley

Eileen N. Pritchard

Daniel E. Henke

Charles P. White

Arthur J. Levine

Clerk-Treasurer

Linda Gaye Cordell

Town Manager

Gary A. Huff



FISHERS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Phone: 317-595-3300

Emergency: 911

Non-Emergency: 317-773-1282

The Fishers Police Department encourages residents to take steps to guard against motor vehicle theft. In many of the thefts, the vehicles were left running, unlocked and unattended. Vehicles left to warm up on cold mornings are common targets. The following tips could help you avoid being a victim:

- Always lock your vehicle
- Never leave your vehicle running and unattended. Convenience stores, gas stations, ATMs and your home are common targets for thieves
- Do not leave your keys in the vehicle
- Always park in well-lit areas

Crime Prevention Tips at the Gym

Lots of people will be going to the gym to fulfill those New Year's resolutions. You don't want to be a victim of a crime in 2009!

Theft is a crime of opportunity. Most thefts occur when valuables are left unattended. The thief normally seeks privacy to commit his/her act. Virtually any article left in plain view is subject to be stolen. Most property that is stolen is left unattended or unlocked.

- If you have personal items of value, leave them at home.
- If you have to bring personal items, get a fanny pack and keep them on you at all times. Do not leave your keys unattended anywhere.
- Use a lock on your gym locker.
- Never leave your bags, purses, wallets, or any other possessions unattended even for a moment. Know where your property is when you are working out.
- Be aware of your surroundings when you get to the parking lot and report any suspicious activity.
- Lock your vehicle and keep valuables out of view.
- Keep a written record of valuables, including descriptions and serial numbers. These are proof that the property is yours and will aid in the reporting process and recovery.

SAFETY TIPS FOR YOUNG PEDESTRIANS



As the weather improves, we will see an increase of children outside playing. Please keep in mind the following suggestions to keep children safe!

- Never allow children under age 10 to cross streets alone. Adult supervision is essential until the traffic skills and judgment thresholds are reached by each child.
- Always model and teach proper pedestrian behavior. Cross streets at a corner, using traffic signals and crosswalks whenever possible. Make eye contact with drivers prior to crossing in

front of them. Don't assume that because you can see the driver, the driver can see you.

- Instruct children to look left, right, and left again when crossing a street and to continue looking as they cross. Children should never run into the street.
- Require children to wear retro-reflective materials and carry a flashlight at dawn and dusk.
- Teach children to walk facing traffic, as far to the left as possible, when sidewalks are not available.
- Prohibit play in driveways, streets, parking lots and unfenced yards adjacent to streets.
- Teach children to cross the street at least 10 feet in front of a school bus and to

wait for adults on the same side of the street as the school bus loading/unloading zone.

- Advocate for the implementation of traffic calming measures, walkways that separate pedestrians from traffic, limited curbside parking, reduced traffic in residential neighborhoods and lower speed limits.

