

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.....

2293 total reports were made to the Fishers Police Department during 2007.

Reports may be made at the Fishers Police Department or online (see page 2 of this newsletter for more information). Without your help by filing a report, we can't solve crimes in your neighborhoods. Reports provide the officers with critical information regarding identities of offenders as well as patterns of activities, allowing them to appropriately respond. When in doubt, call the police department to determine if a report should be made. A Fishers police officer will be more than willing to help you through the process and provide follow-up to your report. Thank you in advance for your help to make Fishers safe!

REPORTING CRIMES TO THE POLICE— WE ALWAYS NEED YOUR HELP!

One of the biggest obstacles police face in dealing with crime is the lack of reporting of crimes. If the police do not hear about a crime, there is little they can do. If people do not report crimes, offenders will get away with whatever they have done and will be encouraged to do it again. Often police will find incidences of petty crime in a particular area can present a pattern, and they then can develop a plan to deal with it.

Why People don't Report Crimes
There are many reasons why people do not report crimes, these are just a few:

1. Lack of Proof

It can be difficult to prove what, and how much has been stolen. You still need to report crimes. Even if you believe it will be impossible to prove, the police would prefer to know about the crime. Try to gather as much recent information as you can regarding whatever is missing.

2. Time Lag

Items can be stolen, transported, and disposed of long before the theft is discovered. A homeowner can be unaware of the losses until they return from a trip or any extended absence. Fearing nothing could be done due to the time lag, many don't report these crimes. You do need to report crimes. It is important to report the theft as soon as possible. However, even if

some time has passed, the police would still like to know about the theft in case there is a pattern of theft in your neighborhood.

3. Why bother?

Many citizens believe police are unable to catch offenders or recover stolen property and therefore it is waste of time reporting crimes. You need to report crimes. The police cannot solve crimes they do not know about. If people do not report crimes, the offenders will be rewarded by getting away with whatever they have done and will be encouraged to do it again.

Reporting a crime to the police

If you are a victim of a crime, your actions following the discovery of the crime can have considerable impact on the success of the subsequent investigation by the police.

Upon discovery:

- It is important you report the crime to the police as soon as possible. Put together as much information as you can to give to the police: descriptions of items; serial numbers; where the items were last located etc. Note any evidence at the scene, eg damage to doors, padlocks or fences.
- When reporting the crime to the police accurately answer any questions asked and

listen to instructions that are given.

- Do not disturb or allow anyone else to disturb anything in and around the area involved until after the police arrive on scene.
- Try to recall any information that might be of use to the officers in regard to suspicious people or vehicles.

When the officers arrive

- Cooperate fully by following their instructions
- Provide all information possible about items taken.
- Try to recall where items were purchased and provide descriptive information.
- If you recall additional information after the officers have gone, contact their office immediately.
- Review with the officers what could have been done to prevent the crime. Implement measures and suggestions from the officers to prevent it from happening again.



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

Fishers Town Council

Scott A. Faultless, President
Daniel E. Henke, Vice
President

Stuart F. Easley
Eileen N. Pritchard
Charles P. White
David C. George
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

WWW.FISHERS.IN.US

THINGS YOU CAN DO TO PREVENT THEFTS IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD...

Remember to keep your cars locked and alarms on. If you have a garage door opener, don't leave it in your vehicle at night. Be Aware. [Report what's going on in your area.](#)

Keep garage doors closed
Don't leave things in plain view
Use Anti theft devices: motion detectors, alarm systems, the club, etc. Use light timers for outside lights and interior light timers. Keep an eye on your neighbor's house and always be alert for suspicious activity.

When you go out for the evening, don't always do the same thing like leave a night light on at the front door when you're out, but off when at home. Change things!

[Report anything out of the ordinary!](#)

FISHERS POLICE DEPARTMENT ONLINE CASE REPORTING

Welcome to the Fishers Police Department Online Reporting System. **If this is an Emergency please call 911.** To use this system, please confirm that the following is true for your report:

- + This is not an Emergency?
- + This incident occurred within the Fishers town limits?
- + There are no known suspects?

If you answered yes to all of the above questions, you are ready to file your report online.

You may file an online case report for the following:

- + Lost Property (other than a lost license plate, for this you must speak with an officer)
- + Damage to Property (examples: rock flew up and broke your windshield or grocery cart struck your car in a parking lot)
- + Vandalism (damage total less than \$2500)
- + Theft from a vehicle (value of property stolen plus damage to vehicle less than \$2500)

Identity Theft (example: someone has used your name, SSN, DOB to get a credit card)

Upon completion of this process you will:

- + See the words: "Your report has been submitted", showing that your report is complete.

Be given a tracking number that can be referenced until your permanent case number is provided.

Within two business days of submitting your report, you will receive by email a copy of your finalized report and permanent case number.

Please Note:

- + All cases filed online will be reviewed.
- + Upon review, if further investigation of your case is needed, you may be contacted.

Making a false crime report is misdemeanor under IC 35-44-2-2 .

SPRING BREAK IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER... WHEN YOU TRAVEL, DON'T FORGET THESE COMMON SENSE TIPS!

- *Always lock doors and windows when you leave, even for a few minutes.
- *Stop all mail and suspend all deliveries, or arrange for a trusted neighbor to take in your mail, newspapers, and other deliveries.
- *Use timer lights to make your house look lived in.
- *Stay alert. Pay attention to people and activities around you.
- *Don't leave packages, luggage, cameras, or purses in the car where they can be seen.
- *Use credit cards or traveler's checks instead of cash. Put valuables in the hotel safe, or hide them in a secure place.
- *Always lock balcony doors.

Highway Travel Safety Tips

- *Keep your car in good operating condition and never let your gas tank drop below the quarter mark.
- *If you have car trouble,

- raise the hood, lock yourself in your vehicle, and wait for law enforcement. If you have a cellular phone, call the authorities or someone to assist you. If someone should offer to help, do not roll down the window. Tell them the authorities are on the way.
- *Do not stop to help a stranded motorist. Instead, stop at the nearest phone and call the authorities with the description/location of the vehicle you observed.
- *Keep your doors locked and windows up at all times. If windows are open, they should be only partially opened so that there is insufficient room for an intruder to enter.

- *When leaving your car, always park in an area that will be well-lighted if you should have to return after dark. Be sure and roll up all of the windows and lock

all of doors. If there is a security guard present, ask them to escort you.

*When ready to leave, have your keys in your hand and walk confidently to your car. Be aware of your surroundings at all times. When approaching your vehicle, look for persons hiding in between or under nearby cars. Check your backseat area before getting into the car and locking the doors

*If you are followed, never go directly home. Go to the nearest well-lighted, well-populated area or flag down a law enforcement officer for help.

*Never pick up hitchhikers!

**Plan ahead
to be safe!!**