

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.....

Yellow school buses are a great American success story with a safety record that is unequalled in the transportation industry. Consider these comparisons per 100 million passenger miles:

Passenger cars 0.94 deaths
Airlines 0.06 deaths
Passenger trains 0.04 deaths
School buses 0.01 deaths

Modern school buses (manufactured after 4/1/77) are equipped with more safety equipment than any other vehicle on the road. This is because safety regulators and state pupil transportation officials always err on the side of providing an extra margin of safety. The size of the bus alone gives it an advantage in all but the most catastrophic circumstances.



Back to School

It's that time of year again! At the beginning of a new school year the Fishers Police Department reminds you to watch for children. When driving, **watch for young people who may be thinking about getting to school, but may not be thinking about their safety** walking.

We also remind you to be **alert and obey school bus stop procedures**. School buses are one of the safest modes of transportation in the nation, 8 times safer than the family car. Average annual statistics for the 450,000 school buses operated nationally demonstrate this fact. Of the national average of 20 children killed annually near or on school buses, 15 were killed off the bus. Watch for children as you approach school buses.

- **School zone yellow flashing lights** mean a **15 mile per hour speed limit**.
- **School bus yellow flashing lights** mean that

the school bus is preparing to stop. Motorists should **slow down and be ready to stop** their vehicle.

- **School bus red flashing lights** and extended stop arms indicate that the school bus has stopped and children are boarding or exiting.
- On a **two-lane road**, **all vehicles in both directions must stop**.
- On a **divided highway where no median** or barriers exist, **all vehicles** are mandated to **stop**.

School bus transportation is safe. In fact, buses are safer than cars. Even so approximately 20 students are killed annually across the nation in or around school buses. More often than not, these deaths and injuries didn't occur in a crash, but when students were off the bus. Remember these safety tips:

- Have a safe place to **wait for your bus**, away

from traffic and the street.

- **Stay 10 feet away from the bus** until it comes to a complete stop and the driver signals you to enter.
 - When being dropped off, **exit the bus and walk ten giant steps away** from the bus.
 - Keep a safe distance between you and the bus. Also, remember that **the bus driver can see you best when you are back away from the bus**.
 - **Be aware of the street traffic around you.** Drivers are required to follow certain rules of the road concerning school buses, however, not all do.
- Protect yourself and watch out.**

Please also read page 2 of this newsletter to find important information and tips for preventing child abductions. Keep your kids safe all of the time!



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



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Fishers Police Department

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Fishers Town Council

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**FISHERS POLICE
DEPARTMENT**

Phone: 317-595-3300
Emergency: 911
Non-Emergency: 317-773-1282

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Tips for Students

Always buckle up when you're riding in a car.

Always ride in the back seat. It's the safest place for young people.

Always wear a helmet and follow traffic safety rules when riding your bike

If you ride a school bus, learn and practice the safety rules for waiting at the bus stop, getting on and off the bus, and riding the bus.

If you walk to school, learn and practice the safety rules for pedestrians. Always cross at crosswalks and obey all traffic signs, stop lights and safety patrol instructions.

Be a good role model for your younger brothers and sisters and friends, and help them learn and practice the safety rules.

How Parents Can Protect Their Children From Abduction

- Know where your children are at all times and who they are with.
- Never leave your child alone in a public place, stroller or car.
- Always accompany younger children to a public restroom.
- Teach your children not to accept rides and gifts from strangers.
- Always accompany your child on door-to-door activities, i.e. Halloween, school fundraising campaigns, etc.
- Establish a routine for picking your children up from school or other events.
- Agree on a simple code word for emergency situations. A trusted adult who knows the code word can pick up your child if necessary.
- Make sure your child knows their full name, address and phone number.
- Teach your child how to reach you (home, office, mobile)
- Teach your child how to call the police.
- Have a plan in case your child gets separated from you in public.
- Teach your child to stay in groups of friends when going anywhere .
- Tell your children about child abductions in simple and easy to understand terms. Awareness can help them protect themselves.

**WHAT YOUR COMMUNITY CAN DO TO PREVENT
CHILD ABUCTIONS**

BE AWARE OF ALL STRANGERS IN THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD, ESPECIALLY IF THEY PAY UNDUE ATTENTION TO A CHILD.

- Write down information about strangers in your neighborhood.
- Write down information about strange vehicles in their neighborhood.

Call the police immediately if someone is screaming or being chased by anyone. When calling the police it is very important to give the call taker an accurate description of the suspect along with any vehicle used.

TRY TO NOTE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT A SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE:

- Make and Model
- Body style
- Color
- Number of Doors
- License Plate Number

- Any damage or anything unusual about the vehicle
- Where the vehicle is located or direction it was headed.

**WHEN DESCRIBING A SUSPECT, PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING DETAILS:
General Description**

- Sex and race
- Estimate age, height, and weight
- Build (fat; husky; medium; slim)
- Hair (color; texture; style; length)
- Eyes (color; shape; are the eyelashes and eyebrows heavy or light)
- Complexion (color; pores; pockmarks; acne; bumps)
- Facial Hair (clean-shaven; beard; mustache; goatee)
- Peculiarities (large or small nose; large or small ears; marks, scars, deformities,

voice, speech, how they walk or talk, etc.

Clothing Description

- Hat (color; style - e.g., cap, fedora, hood; any printing on the hat)
- Coats (color; style; length; any printing on the coat or jacket)
- Shirt/Blouse (color; design; sleeves; collar; any printing on it)
- Pants: (color; style; length)
- Socks: (color; pattern; length)
- Shoes: (color; style)
- Accessories: (sweater; scarf; gloves; tie)
- Jewelry: (watch; rings; bracelet, earrings)
- General Appearance: (neat; sloppy; clean or dirty)
- Oddities: (clothing too large or too small; patches)