



Hampton Police Division Neighborhood Watch Newsletter



Report all suspicious persons and activities to your Law Enforcement Agency

Fall 2011

POLICE EMERGENCY 911
NON-EMERGENCY (757) 727 6111
Other Inquiries (757) 727 8311
Website www.hampton.gov/police

Crime Line (888) 562 5887
Text an anonymous tip 847411 (tip411)
Type 757HPD and your tip to 847411
E-alert www.citizenobserver.com

Brought to you by: Hampton Police Division Community Relations Unit, (757) 727 6574

Chief's Message

The past few months have been very exciting for HPD. We recently launched our HPD Tips iPhone app that enables the public to send anonymous tips to us and at the same time, it allows us to respond back, creating a two way anonymous "chat". We're proud to make this technology available to our citizens free of charge. This tool, along with our existing tip411 program, will help you play an active role in keeping neighborhoods safer, engage younger generation in the process, and save our agency time and resources. HPD Tips iPhone app can be downloaded at the iTunes store. A comparative Droid app is forthcoming.

I would also like to thank the Neighborhood Watch groups that helped us make National Night Out a huge success. It is important to inform our community about crime prevention and encourage our friends and neighbors to join us in our fight against crime.

Thank you once again for participating in Neighborhood Watch and for partnering with us as we continue to make Hampton the best place to live. I appreciate your support.

Have a safe and joyful holiday!

C. R. Jordan, Jr.
Chief of Police

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Crime Prevention Begins At Home: Remember the Three D's of Burglary Prevention

DETER – Sound residential security practices and good locks are a deterrent since they eliminate the opportunity for an easy burglary.

DETECT – The possibility of detection is increased if you can force a burglar to work where he can be observed. A burglar also wants to avoid drawing attention to him self by making noise, such as breaking glass or smashing doors. Alarms on doors and windows are the surest way to detect a burglar, but watchful neighbors alert to unusual activity who will notify law enforcement authorities are also an effective means of detection.

DELAY – Delaying a burglar for four minutes is generally considered sufficient to prevent entry into a residential dwelling. A burglar wants to avoid being caught, so the longer it takes to force a door or window, the greater his risk. It is nearly impossible to make a house or apartment impregnable, but it is relatively easy and inexpensive to make forced entry difficult and to delay the burglar.



By keeping in mind the principles of deterrence, detection, and delay, you will be more likely to deny the burglar access to his target. Take time to put your own house in order. Then talk to your neighbors about how you can help each other keep your entire neighborhood safe. You don't have to be one of two million residential burglary victims and neither do your neighbors.

This information is provided by the National Sheriff's Association.

Want to leave an anonymous crime tip?

There's an app for that!
HPD Tips



This is a **FREE** service brought to you by the Hampton Police Division.

Have a Droid? No worries.
A Droid app is forthcoming.

Parents' Guide to Social Networking Sites



There are many social networking websites, that have become an online craze for teens and for many adults. You've probably also heard some stories about how pedophiles are surfing these pages for their next targets, or how teens are having their identities stolen after posting too much information online.

Social networking sites are not inherently dangerous, and if it's safely used it can be a great creative outlet for young people and a way to get them excited about technology. However, many young people are sharing too much information online and aren't aware that anyone with an Internet connection can view it - even pedophiles, employers, teachers, their school nemesis, and you.

As a parent, you can teach your children how to safely use social networking websites and make sure that they do. Below are some ways that you can protect your children and their personal information online.

Talk to your kids about the risks.

- Explain that online information and images can live forever. It can be very hard and sometimes impossible to take down information that is posted, and photos and information may already have been copied and posted elsewhere.
- Tell your children not to post any identifying information online. This includes their cell phone number, address, hometown, school name, and anything else that a stranger could use to locate them.
- Explain that anyone in the world can access what they post online. Tell your children that some college admissions boards and employers are checking social networking sites before they admit students or hire people.
- Remind your children never to give out their passwords to anyone but you – not even their friends. Explain that if someone has their password, they could post embarrassing and unsafe information about them on their personal pages and even pose as your children to talk to other people.
- Make sure that children understand that some people they meet online may not be who they say they are. Explain that on the Internet many people are not truthful about their identity and may even pretend to be someone else. It's important to stress that young people should never meet people face-to-face that they met online.
- Go online with your children and have them show you all of their personal profiles. Ask to see some of their friends' profiles too. If they have a blog or share photos online, ask to see them too.
- Treat your children's online activities like you do their offline ones. Ask questions about what they do, who their friends are, and if they have made any new friends.
- Set clear rules that you can all agree on regarding what your children are allowed to do online. Make sure you decide if your children are allowed to post photos of themselves and open accounts without your permission.
- Have your children tell you if they ever see anything online that makes them uncomfortable. Make sure they understand that you won't blame them.

This information is provided by the National Crime Prevention Council.



HOLIDAY SHOPPING TIPS

- After dark, shop with a friend if possible.
- Bring only cash and credit cards you will need while shopping.
- Always try to park in a well-lit area.
- Keep the doors and windows locked, while driving or when parked.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages.
- Make sure your visibility is clear and you have freedom of motion to help discourage purse-snatchers.
- Keep packages locked in the car trunk, even if this means making several trips to the car. Leave nothing of value visible.
- **BE ALERT!** Your purse or wallet may be a target for crime in crowded shopping areas, bus stops, and on buses.
- If someone demands your purse or wallet surrender it immediately - it is not worth your life. If your wallet is stolen, report it to the police: **727- 6111 or Emergency 911.**
- Keep a record of your credit card numbers so you will have your numbers available when reporting the crime.
- Have your keys in hand when walking to your car or home.
- Be aware of your surroundings and anyone approaching your vehicle.
- Never resist if a robber or carjacker threatens you.

Travel Safety

With a busy Holiday season fast approaching, many of us may be traveling and staying in hotels. Please follow these travel tips from the National Crime Prevention Council to help keep your families safer and help “take a bite out of crime.”

Traveling for Business or for Pleasure

- Pack the least possible amount and be sure your luggage stays under your control (or that of authorized personnel) at all times.
- Carry only the credit and ATM cards you absolutely need. Leave others at home, safely stored.
- Keep a record with you and with a family member or trusted friend of your itinerary, including lodgings, and of the credit cards you are taking.
- Be sure to check the locks at your lodging. Each door should have a sturdy key lock and a well-constructed deadbolt.
- Never open the door to someone you don't know or trust. If someone claims to be a hotel employee, call the front desk for verification.
- Never leave your room key out where it could be picked up.
- Never leave the room unlocked, even to go to the ice or vending machine.
- Don't invite strangers to your room. Don't give out your room number.
- Especially if you're traveling alone, insist on being given your room number discreetly by registration staff. If you are nervous about someone inappropriately overhearing your room number, insist that you be relocated.

This information is provided by the National Crime Prevention Council.

**The Hampton Police Division would like to thank you for all of your support and hard work!
We truly appreciate all that you do! Have a safe and wonderful holidays!**

