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www.blockwatch.com

Put safety first these long weekends

Long weekends can mean highway travel, boating trips, camping, swimming and fun at the cottage. While all these activities create lasting summer memories, they all share the potential for injury. Be prepared for a safe and fun season.

Source:

<http://www.redcross.ca/article.asp?id=9762&tid=024>

Anti-Graffiti Program – Surrey

Graffiti affects the morale of neighbourhoods. It can cause further mischievous acts to happen, as well as contribute to the general depletion of a neighbourhood's beauty. In recognition of these facts, the City of Surrey in its Crime Reduction Strategy has identified "zero tolerance for graffiti" as key to creating safe communities.

SCPS has operated its anti-graffiti program since 1996 and has provided sixteen years of committed service in Surrey and its communities. Working with Surrey Parks, Recreation and Culture, and Bylaws Enforcement, we support Surrey's efforts to eradicate graffiti through our cost-effective program.

Source: http://preventcrime.ca/?page_id=70

Block Watch News

June, July & August 2014

Make it a Safe Summer on the Water

According to the BC Coroners Service, between 2008- 2012:

- 58.7 per cent of drowning deaths occur between May and August
- 81.1 per cent of drowning victims were male
- Alcohol and/or drugs were contributing factors in 40.2 per cent of drowning deaths
- People between the ages of 20-29 were most likely to be victims of drowning

Safety tips

- Wear a personal flotation device. Tragedy can strike in an instant. Don't assume that you will have time to put on a lifejacket.
- Watch your speed. Don't race to the lake and don't race on the lake. Speed is a major contributor to incidents on the roadways and on the water.
- Do not put your feet in fast moving water that is deeper than the length of your arm.
- If you are going to a less-traveled area, let someone know where you are going and when you expect to return.

Source: [http://bc.cb.rcmp-](http://bc.cb.rcmp-gc.gc.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=87&languageId=1&contentId=14873)

[gc.gc.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=87&languageId=1&contentId=14873](http://bc.cb.rcmp-gc.gc.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=87&languageId=1&contentId=14873)

Fighting wildfires safety

The desire to get away from the pressures of heavily populated areas has resulted in an increase in subdivisions and developments in forested areas. Each year there are more than 2,000 forest fires in British Columbia. Although most are far from populated areas, many can threaten or burn homes, summer cottages and cabins.

Source:

<http://bcwildfire.ca/FightingWildfire/Safety/>

Personal Safety Tips

- When out, stay alert, stand tall and act confident; most would-be criminals will decide you're the wrong person to approach. If you feel uneasy walking alone, walk with someone or carry a whistle or other personal safety alarm.
- At night, use well-lit busy streets, and keep to the middle of the sidewalk.
- If you carry a purse, hold it close to your body with one hand over the opening. Better yet, use a waist/fanny pack. Your wallet is safer in a front or inside pocket than in a back pocket.
- Keep your house keys in your pocket, not in a backpack or purse.
- If carrying large amounts of cash. If you must carry cash, be discreet when you make purchases.
- If in trouble, watch for public phones or places where you can get help on your route. Free emergency assistance is always available by dialing "0".

Source:

<http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/crimeprevention/shreddocs/pubs/safe-community-besafe-guide.pdf>

Monitor Children's Online Activity

- Choose an Internet Service Provider that provides information and access to parental control features.
- Install filtering software. There are two basic types of monitoring software:
- Blocking software stops children from accessing sites with adult material.
- Filtering software prevents sites with chosen "keywords" from being accessed. Filtering can also stop children from sending personal information over the Internet.

Source:

<http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/crimeprevention/shreddocs/pubs/safe-community-besafe-guide.pdf>

Road Trip Safety Tips

Plan to keep your home safe

Ask a neighbour to check your home daily to pick up any mail/flyers and report any suspicious activity. Have mail and newspaper delivery suspended. Arrange home security, and if possible use timers for lights, TV and radio. For added peace-of-mind, leave a key with someone you trust.

Practice safe driving habits

Drive within the posted speed limits and for the road conditions. Only drive when you've had enough sleep and can remain well-focused on the task of driving.

Road trip child safety and health

Make sure your vehicle meets the safety standards for young children and ensure any child car seats or booster seats are properly installed. If you're travelling with passengers prone to carsickness, reading and video games can make them feel worse. Games or activities that encourage long distance viewing can reduce illness.

Source: <http://www.bcaa.com/learning-centre/travel/road-trips/preparation-key>

Swimming Safety Tips

Read the signs

When you are at a pool with signs, read them and follow them. Pool rules are there to protect you. The rules prevent accidents, and keep pools clean and germ-free.

Walk, do not run

Do not run around the edges of the pool. The area around the pool can be slippery, especially when kids have been splashing around.

Be careful getting in and out of the pool

Be careful when you get in and out of the pool. If there is a handrail, use it.

Look before you leap or dive in

Always check the area and then enter slowly and feet first.

Source:

<http://www.healthlinkbc.ca/healthfiles/hfile39.stm>