

Child Safety

Mission Statement

The mission of Walla Walla Area Crime Watch is to assist local law enforcement, fire departments, and emergency management agencies in the area of crime prevention.

Walla Walla Area Crime Watch is an organization comprised of citizens with law enforcement, fire and prevention specialists as advisors.

All funds received will continue the work of Crime Watch in supporting crime prevention programs and activities which encourage community education with the purpose of reducing crime victimization and reduce the fear of crime.

Walla Walla Area Crime Watch also supports and recognizes volunteers involved in making the Walla Walla Valley a safer place to live and work and play.



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Child Safety



Twelve Steps to Safety

1. Have a family password.
2. An unattended child is a child at risk. Arrange with your child an alternative place to wait if you are delayed, especially in the darker winter evenings. Suggest a well-lit store or inside an area or school.
3. Have children walk in pairs or groups.
4. Children should always travel the same way home. No short cuts.
5. Don't allow your young child to go to a public washroom unattended.
6. Check your babysitters' credentials thoroughly. In your absence, they are guardians of a priceless treasure.
7. Tell your child it is not rude to ignore an adult who is asking for directions, looking for a lost pet, etc.
8. Tackle the subject of sexual abuse prevention with the same honest, matter-of-fact manner you would attach to road safety. Remember, the only time a child will ask you about sexual abuse is after it has happened. Open the subject and your child will remember that you are askable.
9. Discuss with your child the difference between fact and fiction so that they may understand the nature of taking an oath. (This may be necessary for a court appearance.)
10. If you suspect that an abuse has taken place:
 - a. **DO** encourage the child to talk about it, without using leading questions.
 - b. **DO** establish in the child's mind that he/she is not to blame.
 - c. **DO NOT** correct the child's story; listen to the original words, even those which are babyish or family words.
 - d. **DO NOT** suggest or modify what the child is trying to say. Your ideas might confuse the truth.
 - e. **DO NOT** show horror or anger; however if caught by surprise and unable to control your emotions, be clear that your anger is meant for the offender, not the child.
11. When you are aware of an incident of sexual abuse, call the police and the child welfare authorities immediately. Ensure that a social worker, a police officer and someone supportive to the child is present when the evidence is given.
12. Wise children should know:
 - a. Their own address & telephone number.
 - b. Where to go in an emergency.
 - c. Never to talk to people you don't know.
 - d. Never to get into a stranger's car.
 - e. Never accept candy and gifts from people you don't know.
 - f. Always play in safe places.

The Child Safety Check List

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Does your child know what to do if lost?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you ever discussed peer pressure with your child?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you ever discussed with your child what abnormal behavior is?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you discussed when your child should get out of a friend's car?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you discussed with your children what should be done if they find themselves at a questionable party?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you ever taken a walking tour of your neighborhood?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you physically checked out the facilities your child attends such as a day care or school, sports facilities or other play areas?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Does your child know when to reject adult authority?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you ever discussed emergency procedures with your child?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Does your child carry personal identification and medical information?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Are both you and your child prompt?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you know if your child is a follower?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you know if your child is a wanderer?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Can you account for your child's whereabouts hourly?

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Have you discussed with your child who might be the best people to approach if he or she needs help? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Have you ever done any public transportation training with your child? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do you know specifically how much money your child has to spend? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | In the presence of your child, do you display a positive attitude towards police and the law? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Is your home a gathering place for kids? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | A) Have you thought of why? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | B) Do you know whose house is a gathering place for kids? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do you know the telephone numbers and addresses of your child's friends? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Have you met the parents of your child's friends? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do you feel you: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | A) Listen to your child? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | B) Spend enough time with your child? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Does your child know how and where to reach you at any time? |

*If your answer is **NO** to any of these questions, consider behavior to increase your child's security.*