

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.....

Between 2000 and 2006, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has reports of 49 fireworks-related consumer deaths. More than half of these incidents involved illegal fireworks. "While many Americans will enjoy the safe and legal use of fireworks," said Acting CPSC Chairman Nancy Nord, "there will be those who will be treated in hospital emergency rooms as a result of using illegal fireworks, misusing fireworks, or due to a firework that has malfunctioned." On average there are about seven firework-related deaths each year. The CPSC is aware of 11 deaths associated with fireworks in 2006. CPSC's staff estimates that there were 9,200 emergency room-treated injuries associated with all fireworks in 2006. Most of these injuries, 6,400, occurred during the one month period surrounding the July 4th holiday. (CPSC 2008).



STAY INFORMED!

Fishers Alert allows you to sign up to receive email updates on the latest news happening in the Town of Fishers. Subscribe to topics that interest you including emergency notification, police and fire news, parks updates, and much more. Simply go to the Fishers Police Department website and click on the "law enforcement links" area. You will see the "Fishers Alert" insignia on which you can click to sign up.

- Fishers Focus
- Ritchie Woods Nature Preserve News
- Crime Watch
- Fishers Parks and Recreation News
- Road Notices
- Breaking News
- Emergency Notification
- Community Events and Program Notices
- Town News
- Fishers Fire Department News
- Job Openings
- Website Updates

Subscribers — all it takes is your name, a password of your choosing and a working email address — can choose from a menu of items for which they will receive immediate updates and/or information, including:



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
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Fishers Police Department
www.fishers.in.us

4 Municipal Drive
Fishers, Indiana 46038
317-595-3300

Fishers Town Council

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FISHERS POLICE
DEPARTMENT

Phone: 317-595-3300

Emergency: 911

Non-Emergency: 317-773-1282

THANK YOU!!!

A special thank you in this newsletter goes to our volunteer victim advocates who have done a fantastic job helping out the police department with our victim notification program, folder stuffing and supporting victim services. Thank you to Deta Lasley, Lisa Nicholson, Tim Stapleton and Amy Matthews for helping us launch this very important program at the police department. We welcome new volunteers so if you are interested don't hesitate to contact Sgt. Gerry Hepp or Lori Spillane at 595-3300.



RETENTION PONDS ARE NOT FOR SWIMMING!!!

What is a "Retention Pond"?

A retention pond is a body of water that is used to collect storm water runoff for the purpose of controlling the release of this runoff. Retention ponds have no outlets or streams, creek ditches, etc. Water collects and then is released through atmospheric phenomenon such as evaporation or infiltration.

Besides algae and mosquitoes, there is another risk to detention pools/retention ponds. They can be a drowning hazard for young children. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention underscores the general risks from drowning: In 2004, of all children 1-4 years old who died, 26% died from drowning (CDC 2006). Although drowning rates have slowly declined (Branche 1999), fatal drowning remains the second-leading cause of unintentional injury-related death for children ages 1 to 14 years (CDC 2005). For every child 14 years and younger who dies from drowning in 2004, five receive emergency department care for nonfatal submersion injuries. (CDC 2006).

Nonfatal drownings can cause brain damage that result in long-term disabilities ranging from memory problems and learning disabilities to the permanent loss of basic functioning (i.e., permanent vegetative state).

A quick scan of news accounts around the country suggests that, just as with swimming pools, children can and do drown in retention ponds:

"Anytime there is gathered water, people, especially children, will be attracted to it," said Bill Ramos, who oversees aquatic program development in the Department of Recreation and Park Administration in the Indiana University School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation. Retention ponds are designed for water drainage management, not for recreation. The water draining into them may contain a variety of chemicals used in lawn and property maintenance, Ramos said. Retention ponds are designed for maximum capacity, so they may be very deep and have a steep drop at the water's edge. In construction sites, a heavy rain can fill holes with water and cause water to rush through ditches. Parents need to know where water gathers and discuss these dangers with their children. Fishers retention ponds are clearly marked with signs prohibiting swimming. We need your help in keeping everyone safe!



REMINDERS FOR A SAFE FOURTH OF JULY

The Fishers Police Department encourages residents to enjoy fireworks in the safest possible manner.

The new State Law governing the use and sale of fireworks in Indiana is now in effect, and the following changes apply to Fishers residents:

- Only adults age 18 and older are allowed to purchase fireworks, for use in Indiana.
- Private fireworks may be set off ONLY on the user's property, the property of someone who has consented to the use of fireworks, or at a special discharge location designated by the State Fire Marshal. Fireworks may not be discharged on public property, such as in streets or parks, without special permits issued by the State Fire Marshal and local Fire Chief.
- Users are responsible for all debris resulting from the discharge of private fireworks. If a user sets off fireworks on their own private property, and debris or other material lands on a neighbor's property, who has not granted permission to discharge fireworks, the user is in violation of the law.
- Consumer fireworks may be used only between 9am and 11pm on

days other than holidays. Holidays include Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day and New Year's Eve.

IMPORTANT SAFETY PROCEDURES:

If you choose to set off private fireworks on your property, instead of or in addition to attending a professional fireworks event, please abide closely by the following Safety Procedures, for your safety, as well as that of your loved ones, neighbors and the community.

- Make sure to have a responsible adult supervise all fireworks activities. Do not let children play with or light any fireworks without an adult present.
- Use fireworks in an open area away from buildings or combustible materials. Keep your audience a safe distance away from the shooting site.
- Safety glasses should be used by those lighting the fireworks or anyone in close proximity to the fireworks.
- Do not wear loose-fitting

clothing, which is more prone to catch sparks that could catch on fire.

Have a hose, bucket of water or water supply, or a fire extinguisher nearby and pay attention to the wind direction.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the laws concerning homemade fireworks (i.e. What about homemade firecrackers? What is considered too "large"?)

Any firework that does not have a label with 1.4G or Consumer Protection Safety Council (CPSC) on it is illegal, including homemade firecrackers.

Is there a required age to possess/use sparklers?

Persons must be 18 years of age or older to possess/use sparklers, unless there is an adult present at all times.

Neighbor A shot off bottle rockets and they landed in Neighbor B's yard. Is Neighbor A violating the law?

Yes, if Neighbor B did not grant Neighbor A permission to discharge fireworks on their property (a Class C Infraction).