



PARTNERS IN CRIME PREVENTION

JULY-AUGUST 2016

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911— NEW NON-EMERGENCY NUMBERS

For decades, Snohomish County citizens have been told to call 911 for emergency and non-emergency calls. This included emergency life and death calls, calls about suspicious activity, and calls for animal control.

Both SNOPAC and SNOCOM, the two 911 agencies in Snohomish County, have instituted non-emergency phone numbers. The non-emergency numbers are intended for non-life threatening situations that have no immediate danger to life or property. The purpose of the non-emergency number is to reduce potential delays on the 911 line while continuing to provide service for non-emergency matters.

Some situations to call the non-emergency numbers include reporting found property, reporting suspicious activity that is not in progress, the discovery of a burglary or theft (not in progress or when you do not have suspect information), illegal fireworks, noise complaint, and reporting an abandoned vehicle.

Call 911 when you have an emergency situation such as a life threatening medical situation, robbery/burglary/car prowling in progress, and a suicide attempt in progress.

If you are not sure if your situation is an emergency call 911.

Non-Emergency Phone Numbers:

SNOPAC-
(425) 407-3999
SNOCOM-
(425) 775-3000

Use for:

- Fireworks
- Animal complaints
- Noise complaints
- Traffic complaints
- Requests for information

SNOPAC services police and fire agencies such as the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office and the Everett Police Department. For a complete list of the agencies that it services go to <http://www.snopac911.us/MemberAgencies.html>.

SNOCOM services police and fire agencies in the southwest portion of Snohomish County. For a list of agencies that it supports go to <http://www.snocom.org/>.

If you are confused on which number to use in a non-emergency situation, the county has created a "Non-emergency Contact Information Finder" at this link <http://snohomishcountywa.gov/181/Enhanced-911>.

To report a power outage, call the Snohomish County PUD at (425) 783-1001. Call 911 if power lines are down on a street or road or otherwise causing a danger.

For more information go to:

SNOPAC- <http://www.snopac911.us/>
SNOCOM- <http://snocom.org/>



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Snohomish County
Sheriff's Office

3000 Rockefeller
M/S 606
Everett, WA 98201
425-388-3393
<http://sheriff.snoco.org>

RISK ASSESSMENT

When a convicted sex offender is about to be released from a state correctional institution, an End-of-Sentence Review Committee consisting of representatives from the Department of Corrections, mental health divisions of the Department of Social and Health Services and local law enforcement, reviews the offender's records and categorizes the offender:

Level I- *Least likely to reoffend. Local law enforcement keeps information & disseminates to other appropriate law enforcement agencies.*

Level II- *Moderate risk to reoffend– In addition, schools & anyone having to do with kids maybe notified.*

Level III- *Most likely to reoffend. Adds media and community to notification*

For more information about Registered Sex Offenders go to:

<http://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/302/Registered-Sex-Offenders>

SEX OFFENDERS– NOTIFYING THE PUBLIC

The Community Protection Act of 1990 provides guidance to Washington State law enforcement agencies for notifying the public about the location of convicted sex offenders. Since the early 1990's, the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office has conducted numerous sex offender notification meetings. The Sheriff's Office conducts the meetings not to panic citizens, but to increase their awareness and improve their safety.

In 2001, the State of Washington instituted a law requiring local law enforcement agencies to publicize Level III offenders on internet web sites.

To be a sex offender, an individual must have been convicted of a sex offense that requires the individual to register with local law enforcement.

The Community Protection Act is often under attack in the courts by defense attorneys. The Sheriff's Office is careful to ensure that it's practices in notifying the community about sex offenders remains constitutional. Those practices include 1. Not providing the exact address of the offender. 2. It does not provide employment information of the offender. 3. It does not provide information about vehicles that are used by or registered to the offender.

Registration requirements and community notification are not meant to be punitive to the offender, but are intended for the safety of the community. Misuse of the information provided by the Sheriff's Office could endanger the notification program of the Sex Offender Unit. Known sex offenders are not as dangerous as the unknown sex offenders.

Getting information about sex offenders. You can obtain information about Level II & III sex offenders at the OffenderWatch® web site:

http://www.sheriffalerts.com/cap_main.php?office=54487

Three Parts to Protection. Three local entities must do their jobs to protect the public from sex offenders:

1. The Offender– Must meet his (or her) conditions set by the court, and must seek help when he (or she) thinks they will re-offend.
2. Law Enforcement– Must keep track of the offender.
3. The Community– Needs to educate it's family on how to protect itself and know how sex offenders operate.

SEX OFFENDERS– PREVENTING SEXUAL ASSAULT

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (<http://www.missingkids.org/>) makes the following common sense guidelines for you to keep your children safe:

1. Know where your children are at all times. Know their friends and be clear with them about the places and homes they may visit.
2. Never leave children unattended in an automobile, whether it is running or not.
3. Be involved in your children’s activities. As an active participant, you’ll have a better opportunity to observe how the adults in charge interact with your children. If you are concerned about anyone’s behavior, take it up with the sponsoring organization.
4. Listen to your children. Pay attention if they tell you that they don’t want to be with someone or go somewhere. This may be an indication of more than a personality conflict or lack of interest in the activity or event.
5. Notice when someone shows one or all of your children a great deal of attention or begins giving them gifts. Take the time to talk to your children about the person and find out why the person is acting in this way.
6. Teach your children that they have the right to say NO to any unwelcome, uncomfortable, or confusing touch or actions by others. Teach them to tell you immediately if this happens. Reassure them that you’re there to help and it is

okay to tell you anything.

7. Be sensitive to any changes in your children’s behavior or attitude. Encourage open communication and learn how to be an active listener. Look and listen to small cues and clues that something may be troubling your children, because children are not always comfortable disclosing disturbing events or feelings. Listen compassionately to their concern, and work with them to get the help they need to resolve the problem.
8. Be sure to screen babysitters and caregivers. Check out references with other families who have used the caregiver or babysitter. Once you have chosen the caregiver, drop in unexpectedly to see how your children are doing.
9. Practice basic safety skills with your children. Make an outing to a mall or park a “teachable” experience in which your children can practice checking with you, using pay telephones, going to the restroom with a friend, and locating the adults who can help if they need assistance.
10. Remember that there is no substitute for your attention and supervision. Being available and taking time to really know and listen to your children helps build feelings of safety and security.

WARN OF SITUATIONS, NOT OF STRANGERS

It is easy for parents to warn their children to stay away from strangers or the sex offender across the street. But, this can be false advice, since you need to beware of those who you know and who you don’t know.

It’s better to teach them to watch for certain situations or actions. That way your children will be better prepared to handle the situation no matter who initiates the action.

The following “Community Information Packet” gives a wealth of information about resources, understanding sex offenders and child sexual abuse and what you can do to protect your family:

<http://wa-snohomish-county.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/16252>

OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOODS– COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Since the first of the year there have been a few changes at the Office of Neighborhoods.

Last year, Sgt Ian Huri started with double duty doing community outreach and then homeless outreach. He now has a Law Enforcement Embedded Social Worker plus two deputies helping him. The work has proven to take up much of his time and resources.

Sgt Marty Zelaya has been assigned to the Office of Neighborhoods to concentrate on community outreach. This includes encouraging neighborhood watch groups, and organizing events such as National Night Out. He also supervises the You Are Not Alone (YANA) program which makes regular contact with the elderly and shut-ins. For more information about YANA go to <http://snohomishcountywa.gov/2993/You-Are-Not-Along>

If you would like him to speak to your neighborhood group or have questions, you can contact Sgt Zelaya at:

Phone: (425) 388-5250

Email: Luis.Zelaya@snoco.org

Other crime prevention resources.

The Sheriff's Office has online resources that can help you educate yourself about crime prevention and suggestions on how you can become involved to fight crime and make your community a better place.

At the "Get Involved" page (<http://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/244/Get-Involved>) you can find information about:

- The Office of Neighborhoods
- Citizen's Academy
- Drug and gang prevention
- National Night Out
- Volunteer opportunities
- Project Care Track
- You Are Not Alone

Under Crime Prevention (<http://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/289/Crime-Prevention>) you can find one page tip sheets for a variety of crime prevention topics.

And under "Partners in Crime Prevention" Newsletter (<http://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/Archive.aspx?AMID=43>) you can find past copies of this newsletter.

OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOODS

MAKING OUR NEIGHBORHOODS SAFER

Homeless Outreach-

Sgt. Ian Huri
Phone: (425) 508-8291
Email: neighborhoodwatch@snoco.org

Community Outreach-

Sgt. Marty Zelaya
Phone: (425) 388-5250
Email: Luis.Zelaya@snoco.org

SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRIME PREVENTION WEB PAGE:

<http://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/289/Crime-Prevention>

NEWSLETTER INFO

EDITOR

Steve Moller

If you have questions regarding this newsletter or any articles that appear in it, please contact the editor at neighborhoodwatch@snoco.org

TIP LINES



Snohomish County Sheriff's Office: 425-388-3845

Online Tips: <http://snohomishcountywa.gov/303/Anonymous-Tips>

Crime Stoppers of Puget Sound: 1-800-222-8477