

Crime Prevention

June 2017



SCHOOL'S OUT! NOW WHAT?

✓ With increased pedestrian and bicycle activity, everyone needs to be more aware while driving, especially in residential areas. Children darting out of driveways, from behind parked cars and crossing intersections pose an increased risk when the attention is not on safety.



✓ Opportunities for crime can increase when there is down time with school out. Residents should be aware of additional traffic in their neighborhood during the day and report any and all suspicious activity. That includes anyone walking between homes who isn't normally in the area, vehicles driving through slowly for no apparent reason or someone walking around knocking on doors.

✓ For parents and guardians who are wondering what will keep their children busy, the City of Winter Haven has a host of activities through the Leisure Services Division that is just what you need. Check out the activities offered at www.mywinterhaven.com.

WINTER HAVEN
The Chain of Lakes City

Keep Your Outside Items Safe and Secure

- ⇒ Don't keep ladders and equipment accessible that can be used to gain access to your home
- ⇒ Keep shrubs, bushes and hedges at a 3ft height to maintain natural surveillance
- ⇒ Light up your home entry points with motion detection lights.
- ⇒ Keep your mower and lawn equipment locked in the garage
- ⇒ Lock up your bicycles - a hardened steel U-shaped lock is best
- ⇒ Record your bike serial number, make and model (picture too) and keep in a safe place

Don't Compete. Share The Street

PEDESTRIANS

- Always obey the pedestrian traffic laws. If no sidewalks are present, walk against the direction of traffic so you can see oncoming vehicles.
- Always use the marked crosswalk.
- Look then look again. Look left, right, then left again before crossing.
- Be visible. Wear bright colors and reflective accessories so you can be easily seen by drivers.

DRIVERS

- Stop or yield for pedestrians and those on bicycles in the crosswalks.
- Stop before making a right turn on red. Pedestrians and bicyclists using the crosswalks at intersections rely on this time to safely cross the road.
- Share the road. All users including pedestrians and bicyclists are allowed to use the roads safely. Respect and share the road.

Speeding In Your Neighborhood? You Can Help

- Set an example to your neighbors and drive slowly. Sometimes, it's the residents in the neighborhood who are the speeders.
- If you see street racing or aggressive drivers, report it immediately to help prevent anyone being injured.
- Drivers swerving, weaving or driving erratically should be reported immediately.

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