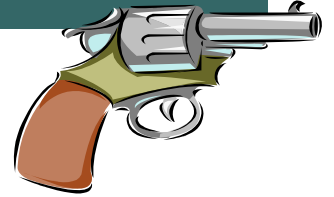


Crime Prevention Tips



GUN SAFETY

Keeping Children Safe From Guns and Other Weapons

Start the New Year out by making sure your family and friends practice gun safety. To help keep children safe from guns and other weapons, follow these guidelines.

If you would like further information on this topic or are interested in any other crime prevention programs, please contact Josephine County Crime Prevention Office at 541-474-5136.

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- Teach all children--from preschoolers to teenagers--that guns and other weapons can hurt and kill.
- Encourage children to report any weapons they know about at school or in the neighborhood to a trusted adult. Tell them not to touch the weapon for any reason.
- Explain to children that gun violence in the movies, on TV shows, and in video games is not real. It does not show the pain, suffering, and crippling that accompany violence. Stress that, in real life, guns hurt and kill people.
- Show children how to settle arguments without resorting to violence. Talk openly with children about their problems. Set a good example in how you handle your own anger, disagreements, and sadness.
- Support school staff in their efforts to keep guns, knives, and other weapons out of schools.
- If you choose to own firearms--handguns, rifles, or shotguns--make sure they are unloaded and securely stored in locked facilities. Invest in trigger locks, gun cabinets with locks, and pistol lock boxes, as needed. Lock up ammunition separately from weapons.
- Visit the Josephine County Sheriff's Office to receive free gun lock.