

Tips for Reporting Suspicious Activity

Obtain the following information and report immediately:

Suspicious Vehicle

- Plate Number and State
- Color of Vehicle
- Body Style (2-door, 4-door, etc.)
- Location and Direction of Travel
- Description of Occupants

Suspicious Person

- Race
- Sex
- Clothing (Hat, Jacket, Shirt, etc.)
- Facial Features (Hair Color, Glasses, etc.)
- Height
- Weight
- Location and Direction of Travel

Police Services

Resources

Emergency	911
Non-Emergency	636-529-8210
TTY Hearing Impaired	636-529-8220 or 911

Precincts

North County	314-615-4297
Central County	314-615-0111
Affton-Southwest	314-638-5550
South County	314-615-0162
City of Fenton	636-349-8120
City of Wildwood	636-458-9194
West County	636-225-0425
City of Jennings	314-385-4672

Important Phone Numbers

Safe Schools Hotline	314-889-SAFE
Child Abuse Hotline	1-800-392-3738

Parent's Guide to Preventing Child Abduction



Immediately Report Suspicious Activity

Call 911



The St. Louis County Police Department is interested in citizen's opinions about our agency and its employees. Please visit the website below and take our survey.

www.stlouiscountypolice.com/citizen-resources/citizen-satisfaction-survey/



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St. Louis County Police Department
7900 Forsyth Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

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Strangers are not Always Evil Looking

Child molesters and abductors usually look like everyday people. Tell your kids not to talk to adults they do not know. Anytime they are approached by an adult they should check with a parent or trusted adult immediately.

How Child Molesters and Abductors Gain a Child's Confidence

Oftentimes they will befriend a child by asking for help. Some examples are: asking to help find a lost pet; asking directions to someone's house; offering reward money for assistance; saying Mom or Dad have been hurt or need their help; acting like an undercover police officer (children should only approach uniformed police officers and/or marked police cars).

They may also gain your child's trust by very minor contacts over several days, such as saying hello to them repeatedly. Make sure your children know to tell you if a stranger is trying to make friends with them.

From our Chief

"One of the primary concerns of the St. Louis County Police Department is the continued safety of our children. It is important to have a safety plan in place before an incident may occur. This brochure provides valuable information for children and their parents, both at home and at school. Working together, we can significantly enhance our children's safety while greatly adding to their physical and mental well-being."

Children are Most Vulnerable When Alone

Individuals who prey on children wait for an opportunity when the child is alone. Children should not be outside their home by themselves, even for short periods of time. They should walk to and from school and bus stops in groups.

Working together with other families in your neighborhood to develop a formal plan for kids to walk together is a good idea. Parents are encouraged to join the Neighborhood Watch Program sponsored by the St. Louis County Police Department.

Tell Children to Stay Away from Cars

A car or other vehicle is often the means by which the abductor removes the child from the neighborhood. Children should never approach a vehicle unless they are **ABSOLUTELY SURE** they know the occupants. Abductors will entice children to walk near their vehicles and then pull them inside.

If children routinely see the same car parked (or following them) on their normal walking routes (to and from school, etc.), they should report it to authorities immediately.

Role Play with Your Kids

Act like a stranger and see how your children react. Teach them the proper way to respond.

Kids should:

- Yell loudly.
- Say exactly what is happening.

Examples:

- "Help, this is not my Dad!"
- "Help, this is not my Mom!"
- "Help, I'm being kidnapped!"
- "Help, call the Police!"

If children just scream, people may think they are only throwing a temper tantrum.

The more you practice, the better your children will be at responding to difficult situations.

Report Any Suspicious Activity Immediately

Talk to your children about safety practices on a daily basis. Children do not put the same emphasis on suspicious activity as adults. Asking them direct questions such as, "did you talk to anyone new today?" may bring unusual acts to light. If they describe anything which makes you feel uncomfortable, call 911 immediately.