

SAINT LOUIS COUNTY POLICE

Neighborhood Watch Letter

July 2011



Wildwood Precinct

17014 D New College Ave
Wildwood, MO 63040
(636) 458-9194



What's Going on in Wildwood / Upcoming Events

City of Wildwood Events www.cityofwildwood.com

Aug 2 – National Night Out – Lake Chesterfield Club House – 7pm

Aug 12 – Back to School Party/Movie Night – Town Center – 6pm

Aug 26 – Wildwood Concert Night – Town Center – 6:45pm – 8:45pm

Aug 28 – Tour of Wildwood (Bike Ride) – Starts at Lafayette High -7am

Sept 3 – Founders Day Celebration – Town Center – 10am – 5pm

Crime Activity

Over the month of July the Wildwood Precinct has had 15 reported thefts from unlocked vehicles that were either parked on the street, driveway or in a garage where the garage door was left open. The majority of these incidents occurred during the middle of the night but we ask that you take precaution to not become a victim by locking your vehicle and closing your garage doors at any time you are not in view of them. The officers have made several arrests and recovered some property. Although we do not suffer from these types of numbers on any regular basis it is still the most common offense affecting our community. The offenders are most often locals who pawn the items for cash and or sell them over the internet for easy money. The offenders are opportunistic in nature, driving and or walking while looking for unlocked cars and open garage doors. Our officers patrol their assigned areas but as you know it only takes a matter of seconds to open an unlocked door and remove an item or two of value. As we continue to work these incidents and attempt to prevent any further activity we ask that you pass this information along to your neighbors and be vigilant in closing and locking the doors to your vehicles and garages. If you see persons on foot or in vehicle during night time hours in particular that seem overly curious or out of place, we ask that you call it in.

High Temperatures

The heat has been excessive and ongoing lately without any real breaks. When temperatures run this high and constant our calls for service go up. These kind of temperatures increase the risk of fires spreading, pavement buckling, vehicle breakdowns and heat related illnesses in both persons and animals. Check on your elderly neighbors to ensure they are using their air conditioners and or that they are properly working. Stay hydrated and protected from the sun through proper clothing, sunscreen or shade if you must be outside. Children think they are heat tolerant until they go down, so ensure they are drinking and not out during the hottest hours of

High Temperatures Continued

the day (1-5pm) without provisions. Vehicle maintenance of your batteries and radiators is a must with these temperatures. Use extra caution when driving as pavement is known to buckle in this heat. If you enjoy the use of a fire or BBQ pit, ensure it is away from other combustibles which may be dry grass or vegetation. Soaking the ground around fire pits is a good idea before use but having a hose or fire extinguisher on hand is a must. If you have animals that are kept outdoors, make sure you provide them shelter from the sun and plenty of water.

Observing the Speed Limit

Did you know that the most common concern we hear from our residents is drivers not observing the speed limit in subdivisions. These calls describe the cars as speeding, flying, racing and many other creative ways of letting us know that drivers are in excess of the 25 mph speed limit in subdivisions. I don't know of a home in Wildwood that doesn't have a driveway, meaning that cars are pulling in or backing out onto the roadway. Then we have vehicles parked on the roadway that can cause a visual obstruction of these driveways, cyclist, walkers, animals, and or **children at play**. It takes no time at all for someone or something to jut into the roadway as a set up for an accident when vehicles are driving too fast. The 25 mph speed limit allows for an attentive driver, in a congested area to observe their surroundings while allowing for quick stopping if a potential danger arises. Most of our violators reside in the area where they are stopped for speeding. While familiarity with subdivision streets tends to increase the comfort level, resulting in speed at which an operator drives it does not reduce the risk of a hazard presenting itself. It's the 25 mph speed limit that prepares the driver for the hazard by allowing a reaction time that keeps the accidents from occurring. As you drive we ask that you be mindful of the speed limit for the safety of all of our residents.

Reminder- St. Louis County, Wildwood Police Department offers vacation checks for your home when you're out of town. Call the Wildwood Precinct at 458-9194 or go to the City of Wildwoods website, cityofwildwood.com to fill out the form to have your resident checked.

Reminder- St. Louis County, Wildwood Precinct Neighborhood Policing Officers will assist you in properly installing your child safety seats. Call P.O. Jamie Reiter or P.O. Brad Wood at 636-458-9194 to schedule an appointment.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Wildwood Precinct	636-458-9194	Crime Stoppers	866-371-8477
Non-Emergency 911	314-889-2341	Safe Schools Hotline	314-889-7233
Wildwood City Hall	636-458-0440	Drug Hotline	314-863-3673
Animal Control	314-726-6655	Neighborhood Preservation	314-615-4151

Please feel free to contact the Neighborhood Policing Officers Jamie Reiter and Brad Wood at 636-458-9194 in reference to neighborhood concerns or initiating a Neighborhood Watch Group for your subdivision.