

June 2010

Yard Etiquette

A recent survey revealed these top neighbor annoyances:

Messy Mowers: It's not nice to leave grass clippings on your neighbor's driveway. Use a broom to sweep them off. Better yet: If you're using a side-shooting mower, aim the discharge away from the driveway.

Party Poopers: If the folks next door are having an outdoor party or cookout, don't run out and fire up the lawnmower.

Morning Roosters: Summer days can be oppressively hot, but mowing before 8 am on weekdays and 9 am on weekends is likely to disturb the neighbors far more than a shaggy lawn does.

Weed Wars: Some people like dandelions, but most don't. If dandelions are taking over your yard, your neighbors would probably appreciate your effort to eradicate them. And the best time is in the fall with pre-emergent herbicide.

Death Sprays: If you spray weed killers, don't do it on a windy day. Your neighbors may not like chemicals as much as you do. And you might destroy someone's wildflower patch.

Yours, Mine, Ours: Some neighbors appreciate it if you mow up their driveway instead of stopping right at the property line—it looks neater that way. Other neighbors, however, don't want anyone messing with their turf. Watch and see what rule is on your street.

Good Fence, Bad Fence: Trim away those little stray trees/bushes over the fence line before they get too big.

Blower Madness: Don't like leaves and other debris all over your lawn? Guess what? Your neighbors don't want your debris in their yard either.

SERVICE-PRIDE-INTEGRITY



GARDEN CITY POLICE
COMMUNITY SERVICES

CITY DEPARTMENT
PHONE NUMBERS

EMERGENCY- 911

POLICE 793-1700

DETECTIVE BUREAU 793-1710

CITY HALL 793-1600

21ST DIST. COURT 793-1680

BUILDING DEPT. 793-1650

CITY CLERK 793-1620

LIBRARY 793-1830

MAPLEWOOD CTR. 793-1850

PARKS & REC. 793-1880

POOL SAFETY TIPS

BARRIERS

* The following barrier recommendations are the result of identifying key parameters that typically contribute to child drowning in backyard pools. These recommendations are the minimum steps you can take to make your home a safe place for your child.

* Barriers are not childproof, but they provide layers of protection for a child who strays from supervision. Barriers give parents additional time to locate a child before the unexpected becomes a reality.

* Barriers include a fence or wall, door alarms for the house, and a power safety cover over the pool. Barriers also may be used to protect children from accessing hot tubs and spas. Use the following recommendations as a guide:

FENCES AND GATES

* Install a fence or other barrier, such as a wall, completely around the pool. If the house is part of the barrier, the doors leading from the house to the pool should be protected with an alarm or the pool should have a power safety cover. Alarm and cover details are below.

* The fence or other barrier should be at least 4 feet high. It should have no foot or handholds that could help a young child to climb it.

* Vertical fence slats should be less than 4 inches apart to prevent a child from squeezing through.

DOOR ALARMS

* If the house forms one side of the barrier, then doors leading from the house to the pool should be protected with alarms that produce an audible sound when a door is unexpectedly opened.

* Install an alarm that can be temporarily turned off by an adult for a single opening of the door by using a keypad or switch that is out of a child's reach.

POWER SAFETY COVER

A power safety cover is a motor powered barrier that can be placed over the water area. Motor-driven covers easily open and close over the pool. When the power safety cover is properly in place over the pool, it provides a high level of safety for children under 5 years old by inhibiting their access to the water.

ABOVE GROUND POOLS

Steps and ladders leading from the ground to the pool should be secured and locked, or removed when the pool is not in use.

RULES FOR POOLS

* Instruct babysitters about potential pool hazards to young children and about the use of protective devices, such as door alarms and latches. Emphasize the need for constant supervision.

* Never leave a child unsupervised near a pool. During social gatherings at or near a pool, appoint a "designated watcher" to protect young children from pool accidents. Adults may take turns being the "watcher." When adults become preoccupied, children are at risk.

* If a child is missing, check the pool first. Seconds count in preventing death or disability. Go to the edge of the pool and scan the entire pool, bottom and surface, as well as the pool area.

* Do not allow a young child in the pool without an adult.

* Do not consider young children to be drownproof because they have had swimming lessons. Children must be watched closely while swimming.

* Do not use flotation devices as a substitute for supervision.

* Learn CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation). Babysitters and other caretakers, such as grandparents and older siblings, should also know CPR.

* Keep rescue equipment by the pool. Be sure a telephone is pool-side with emergency numbers posted nearby.

* Remove toys from in and around the pool when it is not in use. Toys can attract young children to the pool.

* Never prop open the gate to a pool barrier.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

Remember Neighborhood Watch Meetings will continue. The dates will remain the same this year. Meeting are during the

the following months: March, May, October and December. Meetings normally are scheduled for 7pm at the Garden City Community Maplewood Center and are

usually in the IMC conference room. If you have any questions, please call myself or Nancy Minor in the Detective Bureau. Thank you, D/Sgt.

GARDEN CITY CRIME STATISTICS

May Crime Statistics

Arson 0

Breaking & Entering 13

Larceny 35

Stolen Vehicles 4

Assaults 31

Murder 0

Robbery 3

Fraud 9

Drugs 5

Property Damage 14

The crimes listed are **GENERAL** and the statistics of reported crimes reflect crimes that relate to **RESIDENCES** and **BUSINESSES**.