

Provided by
The Douglas County Sheriff's Office
Community Relations Unit
4000 Justice Way
Castle Rock, Co 80109
303-660-7544

Other important numbers:

Douglas County Sheriff's Office:

Non-emergency 303-660-7500
Traffic Hotline 303-660-7539
Officer Comments 303-663-7209
Records 303-660-7545
Victim's Assist. 303-660-7535

Juvenile Assessment Center
(Resource center for parents)
720-874-3381

Important Websites on Child Safety:

NCMEC: www.missingkids.com

Internet Safety: www.netsmartz.org

McGruff the Crime Dog: www.mcgruff-safe-kids.com

Douglas County Sheriff's Office Website:

www.dcsheriff.net



Douglas County Sheriff's Office
Colorado

Presents...

"For Kids Sake"



**A Guide to Youth
Community Safety**



Presented herein are some youth and community safety issues that may be unknown to kids as well as their parents. It is important that parents discuss this information with their children and learn what is appropriate and legal.

GO-PEDS

Many people become confused when it comes to the issues of “go-peds,” which are the motorized and electric scooters/skateboards being operated by teens. Go-peds are considered “toy vehicles,” and as such, their operation on public roadways is prohibited under section 42-4-109(9) of the Colorado Revised Statutes. They are also prohibited on sidewalks and most recreation paths.

These go-peds can only be operated on private property where the property owner’s permission has been granted.

RULES OF THE ROAD

While we encourage families to have fun outdoors, it is imperative that parents and children know that it is against the law to play in the street. By law, licensed vehicles and bicycles are the only things that are allowed to be in the roadway. This means that roller blades, skateboards, scooters, and if not following pedestrian regulations, even foot traffic is not allowed in the streets. Cul-de-sacs are no different than a regular through street.

We do not want to encourage children to feel comfortable playing in the street. Children should only cross the street at intersections and crosswalks when the traffic is clear. They should always walk on sidewalks when possible. Their safety is most important.

CURFEW

As our children get older they may have a tendency to be out and about later in the evening. As a result, parents and teens need to know about Douglas County’s curfew ordinance.

It is a violation of curfew for someone under the age of eighteen to be in a public place between 11:00 pm - 5:00 am on Sunday—Thursday, and between the hours of 12:00 midnight - 5:00 a.m. on any Friday or Saturday. This ordinance applies year round, even when kids are out of school on break. A summons may be issued to the minor for this violation.

There are certain exceptions to this ordinance; when accompanied by a parent or guardian, lawful employment, and when accompanied by anyone 18 years of age or older with a signed consent by parent or guardian.



NEW BOOSTER & CHILD SAFETY SEAT LAWS

Colorado has passed a new law requiring the use of a restraint device after your child has outgrown the required child safety car seat. This new law became effective August 1, 2003.

The new law states that after a child moves from a safety seat at 4 years of age and 40 pounds, they are then required to be in a child restraint (booster seat) until the age of 6 years and 4’7” (55 inches tall).

Children under the age of one year and 20 pounds are required to be in a rear-facing infant safety seat. If you would like more information about the law, booster and/or child safety seats, please go to www.carseatscolorado.com.



TOBACCO

Douglas County has an ordinance that prohibits anyone under the age of eighteen from possessing/using cigarette or tobacco products in a public place. If a deputy does observe this violation a summons can be issued to the minor.

STRANGER SAFETY

It is very important for parents to talk to their children, even teens, about stranger awareness. The average age of a child that is abducted is between the ages of 15 and 17 years old. Teach your children that they can be assertive in order to protect themselves against abduction and exploitation. If you would like more information or resources please go to www.missingkids.com. This is the website for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

The Douglas County Sheriff’s Office Community Relations Unit also provides a Stranger Safety presentation to any group that is interested.

Fireworks

Fireworks can be an ongoing community safety issue. In Colorado any fireworks that do not meet the definition of “permissible fireworks” as defined in C.R.S. 12-28-107(7) are considered to be illegal.

“Illegal fireworks” are typically considered any fireworks that explode, fly, or leave the ground in any way. These illegal fireworks include but are not limited to fire crackers, pop bottle rockets, and aerial display fireworks that are launched from the ground into the sky.

“Permissible fireworks” include non-exploding and non-flying items such as sparklers, stationary cones and torches, ground spinners, illuminating torches, and “snakes.”

Fireworks violations carry a fine of up to \$750. We encourage all persons to respect proper fire and fireworks safety and help keep our community safe and enjoyable.

