Colonial Village Neighborhood Watch
Safety Tips – Spring/Summer 2008

TIPS FOR KIDS

Many neighborhood children will soon be out of school and enjoying summer vacation from school. This may also be a time when many children are home alone or with siblings while their parents are not home. Following are some helpful tips.

WHEN YOU ARE HOME ALONE:

1. Keep doors locked at all times (day or night).
2. Keep your garage door shut even when you are home…many things have been stolen from open garages while the residents were home.
3. Use your peephole in your door so you can see who is there before opening the door. NEVER OPEN THE DOOR TO A STRANGER!
4. If a serviceman comes to your door and you are not expecting him, ask for his identification and call the company to verify who he is.
5. If a stranger comes to your door and asks for your help or to use your phone, do not let him in (keep your door shut). You can offer to make a telephone call for him.
6. If someone asks if your Mom or Dad are home ALWAYS ANSWER YES, but he/she is asleep, or he/she can't come to the door right now.
7. If you come home and something doesn't look right, don't go in. Go to a trusted neighbor and call the police if necessary.
8. Never give your name, phone number, or address to a telephone caller. If someone calls and asks who you are don't tell them. Instead, ask who they are calling, then tell them they have the wrong number if appropriate, and hang up.
9. ALWAYS keep emergency phone numbers next to the telephone.

WHILE YOU ARE OUT:

1. If someone asks for directions, never get within an arm's reach of their vehicle. Instead, just tell them you can't help them. Adults should ask other adults for help.
2. If a stranger asks for help in finding a lost pet, don't help them. Remember, adults should ask other adults for help.
3. If someone ever tries to grab you, yell "HELP, YOU'RE NOT MY MOM/DAD!" Keep yelling and get away. This will alert other people that someone is trying to harm you.
4. If a stranger tries to pick you up claiming that there's been an emergency and you're supposed to go with them, don't believe them unless they know your code word. MAKE SURE THAT YOU AND YOUR PARENTS HAVE A CODE WORD THAT ONLY YOU AND YOUR PARENTS KNOW! If they send someone to pick you up, they will have told that code word to that person.