



Web Safety for Parents

Reduce the chances that your teens will fall victim to online crime by using the following information.

Hiding Material

- ✓ Keep track of what your teens are downloading to the computer.
- ✓ Find out more about your computer so you can look at history and other tell-tale signs of internet activity
- ✓ Keep track of disks or don't use disks at all. Create folders for each teen to save material if needed.
- ✓ Ask to see what is on a blocked screen. If children click off quickly whenever you enter the room then something is wrong.

Late Night Surfing

- ✓ Restrict the number of hours your teen can spend online.
- ✓ Turn the computer off at a certain time.

Family Computers

- ✓ Computers should be used in family rooms such as the kitchen, living room, or family room with the screen facing out towards the room.
- ✓ Do not allow teens to have access to a computer in their own room.
- ✓ Do not allow laptops with wireless access to be taken into a teen's room.

Providing Personal Information Online

- ✓ Explain to your teens what personal information is, including names, pictures, e-mail addresses, street addresses, school names, credit card numbers, and even hobbies or clubs.
- ✓ Teach your teens to never give out any personal information when using e-mail, chat rooms, instant messaging.
- ✓ Beware of filling out registrations for online contests, personal profiles, and registration forms of any kind.
- ✓ Encourage your child to use a chat room nickname.
- ✓ Teach your child about the possibility that people who appear to be children in a chat room can actually be adults.

- ✓ Teach your child to never promise to meet anyone in person whom they have met online.

Monitor Bills and Charges

- ✓ Monitor your phone and credit cards carefully.
- ✓ Take note of phone bill charges, charges to web sites or strange numbers.
- ✓ Create guidelines for shopping online, such as parent permission first.
- ✓ Check all sites which your teen may use for shopping to be sure that all transactions are safe.
- ✓ Monitor itunes and other online download services by asking for an e-mail to your family or work e-mail to double check all purchases.

This web site was put together by Mrs. Woods, Teacher-Librarian at Kecoughtan High School using information from Web Wise Kids and the Virginia Department of Education.

For more information check these sites.

Wired With Wisdom

www.wiredwithwisdom.org (previously known as Web Wise Kids)

Virginia Department of Education Guidelines for Parents and Educators

<http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Technology/OET/internet-safety-guidelines-resources.pdf>

Get Net Wise <http://kids.getnetwise.org/>

Wired Kids <http://wiredkids.org/resources/documents/pdf/parentingonline.pdf>

Wired Safety <http://www.wiredsafety.org/parent.html>

Microsoft Security at Home

<http://www.microsoft.com/protect/default.msp>

Parent's Guide to the Information Superhighway: Rules and Tools for Families Online created by Children's Partnership

<http://www.childrenpartnership.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home&CONTENTID=4687&TEMPLATE=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm>

Powerpoint “Parents Guide to Online Kids”

http://www.childrenspartnership.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Speeches_and_Presentations&CONTENTID=9071&TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm

Safe Kids www.safekids.com

Be Safe Online

http://www.besafeonline.org/English/safer_use_of_services_on_the_internet.htm

Net Smartz for Teens <http://www.netsmartz.org/netteens.htm>