

# important numbers

**EMERGENCY: 9-1-1**

Police Non-emergency: 614-277-1710

Crime Prevention: 614-277-1765

Anonymous Tipline: 614-277-1808

Detective Bureau: 614-277-1750

crime map



Find your neighborhood's criminal activity on the Crime Mapping tool at [Police.GroveCityOhio.gov](http://Police.GroveCityOhio.gov).

*The mission of the Grove City Division of Police is to serve and protect all, by providing professional law enforcement services in partnership with the community.*

find us online



[Police.GroveCityOhio.gov](http://Police.GroveCityOhio.gov)



[bit.ly/GCPDNextdoor](http://bit.ly/GCPDNextdoor)



[facebook.com/GroveCityOhioPolice](https://facebook.com/GroveCityOhioPolice)



[twitter.com/GroveCityPolice](https://twitter.com/GroveCityPolice)



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Rev. 1/2017

# Internet SAFETY

*A Parents Guide to Reducing Online Risks*



# Grove City

*Division of*

# POLICE

614-277-1710  
3360 Park Street  
Grove City, OH 43123  
[Police.GroveCityOhio.gov](http://Police.GroveCityOhio.gov)





## Be Prepared

Most online services and internet providers allow parents to block their children's access to certain services and features such as adult-oriented "chat" rooms and bulletin boards. Check for these when you first subscribe. In addition, there are programs designed specifically to enable parents to prevent children from accessing inappropriate internet materials. Software is useful, but it does not take the place of parental involvement and supervision.

The best way to assure your children are having a positive online experience is to stay in touch with what they are doing. Plan to spend time with your children while they are online. Have them show you what they do and ask them to teach you how to access the services they frequently use.

If you have cause for concern about your children's online activities, talk to them. Also seek advice of computer users you know and become familiar with online use.

Be sure to make internet use a family activity. Consider keeping the computer in a family room rather than a child's bedroom. Get to know their "online" friends just as you get to know all of their other friends.

## Report Concerns

Should you become aware of the transmission, use or viewing of child pornography while online, immediately report this to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at 1-800-843-5678, [missingkids.com/cybertip](http://missingkids.com/cybertip), and the Grove City Division of Police at 614-277-1710. You should also notify your online provider.

## Initiate Family Rules

- Set reasonable rules and guidelines for computer use by your children. Discuss these rules and post them near the computer as a reminder. Remember to monitor their compliance with these rules, especially when it comes to the amount of time your children spend on the computer. A child or teenager's excessive use of online services, especially late at night, may be a clue that there is a potential problem.
- Educate your children to never give out identifying information such as home address, school name or telephone number in a public message. Be sure they are communicating with someone that both you and your child know and trust before providing information via email.
- Never allow a child to arrange a face-to-face meeting with another computer user without parental permission. If a meeting is arranged, make the first one in public and be sure to accompany your child.
- Have children alert you to bulletin board items that are suggestive, obscene, belligerent, threatening or makes your child feel uncomfortable. Encourage your children to tell you if they encounter such messages. If your child receives a message that is harassing, of sexual nature or threatening, forward a copy of the message to your online provider and ask for assistance to report the message and block the sender.
- Remind your child, people online may not be who they seem and everything they read online may not be true.