



A Community Partner,  
Helping People to Help Themselves

# People to People

September 2006

## IT'S BACK TO SCHOOL TIME

### Know the Rules...SCHOOL SAFETY TIPS

Article from the Nation Center for Missing & Exploited Children

Everyday millions of children take to the streets and roadways to get to and from school. They walk, ride their bikes or scooters, take the bus, and arrive in automobiles with one purpose -- getting to and from school safely. Children, especially young children, may not understand the safety rules, that is why it is important for parents and responsible adults to supervise young children and practice safety skills with older children. The following tips will help parents prepare children for a safer journey.

- Instruct children to always TAKE A FRIEND when walking or riding bikes to and from school. Walk and ride in well-lit areas and never take shortcuts. Always follow walking and riding rules.
- Walk the route to and from school with your children, pointing out landmarks and safe places to go if they are being followed or need help. Make a map with your children showing acceptable routes to school, using main roads, avoiding shortcuts and isolated areas. The map will be a good guide if your children ever need help finding their way.
- Even though there is safety in numbers, it is still NOT safe for young children to walk to and from school, especially if they must take an isolated route. Always provide supervision for young children, whether it is you as a parent or responsible adult, to help ensure their safe arrival to and from school.
- Children should stay in a group while waiting at the bus stop. If anyone bothers your child



while going to or from school, teach your child to GET AWAY from that person and to TELL a trusted adult. Remember to teach children that adults should ask other adults for help or directions, not children.

- Visit the bus stop with your children and help them learn their bus number, not just the driver. This will help to avoid confusion of which bus they are to ride.
- Teach children if someone ever tries to take them somewhere that they should quickly get away and YELL for HELP; *"This person is not my mother/father"*.
- Children should be taught to NEVER leave school with someone they don't know or feel comfortable with. They should always CHECK FIRST with you or another trusted adult. If someone they don't know or feel comfortable with tells that there is an emergency and they want your child to go with them, your child should always CHECK FIRST before doing anything. Make sure your children understand to TELL a trusted adult if they notice someone they don't know hanging around the school.
- Remember to regularly practice these safety rules with your children to make certain that they really understand them. Make the walk to and from school a teachable moment and a chance to put their skills to the test.

For more information about school safety and other child safety topics, visit the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) website at [www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com) or call toll-free at 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678).

### Walla Walla Housing Authority

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### Maintenance Work Order Requests are as Easy as 1 - 2 - 3

When repairs in your home are needed, report them immediately; waiting may cost you.

During normal business hours (Monday-Friday, 9:00 am-6:00 pm):

#### 1. Call our office at 527-4542, press 0 to reach the front desk

Be prepared to provide your name, address, telephone number, and list of repairs needed.

#### 2. A work order request is created and forwarded to the Maintenance Team

Routine work order requests are usually addressed within three (3) business days.

#### 3. If repairs are due to normal wear and tear, there will be no charge for service

You will be charged for tenant-caused damages.



Maintenance emergencies can be reported anytime...day or night.

#### For AFTER-HOURS EMERGENCIES:

Call our office, 527-4542 and dial extension 115

Be patient as your call is routed through our telephone system and connected to on-call Maintenance Technician.

Report needed repairs right away to avoid unnecessary charges to you!

- Are you concerned about:**
- Neighborhood safety?
  - Vehicle prowlers?
  - Burglars?
  - Personal safety?
  - When to call law enforcement?



Be a part of Area Block-Watch by attending the upcoming meeting in your neighborhood to discuss concerns and create solutions.

**Light Refreshments will be served**

**Creekside Cottages Picnic Area**  
**September 14th, 3:30 pm**

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Washington School Apartments**  
**2nd Floor**  
**September 28th, 3:30 pm**

## Office Hours

**Monday - Friday**  
**9:00 am to 6:00 pm**  
 we are **OPEN** during the **noon hour**

## PROPERTY MANAGEMENT TEAM

**Colleen Myers**  
 Property Manager  
 527-4610

**Tim Greeson**  
 Belmont Apartments  
 Resident Manager

**James Blake**  
 Galbraith Gardens  
 Resident Manager

**Steve Green**  
 Marjorie Terrace  
 Resident Manager

**David Story**  
 Housing Inspector  
 526-6277

**Denese Carron**  
 Eligibility Coordinator  
 Waiting List  
 527-4608

Information Coordinator  
 527-4542 extension 100

**AFTER-HOURS**  
**Maintenance Emergency**  
**527-4542 extension 115**  
**beginning at 5:00 pm**

Please be patient, as your call is routed through our telephone system to connect you directly with the on-call WWHA Maintenance Technician



Neighborhood Block Watch is one of the most effective and least costly ways to prevent crime and reduce fear. Neighborhood Block Watch fights the isolation that crime both creates and feeds upon. It forges bonds among area residents, helps reduce burglaries and robberies, and improves relations between police and the communities they serve.

For more information or if you have any questions, about Neighborhood Block Watch contact the local Area Crime Watch office at 527-9290 or Colleen Myers, WWHA Property Manager, 527-4610.

Together, residents can make their neighborhoods safe and enjoyable places where families choose to live, work, and play.

**September 4th**  
**WWHA Office Closed**



**Labor Day**

## Serving Families in the Cities of Walla Walla and College Place

The People to People newsletter is written, edited, and published by the staff of WWHA

For more information or questions about this newsletter, contact us at 509-527-4542 or [waha@wallawallaha.org](mailto:waha@wallawallaha.org)

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 Hearing-impaired, use statewide relay service number 1-800-833-6384  
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