

2021 Fall/Winter Issue

October-December



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER

Bonney Lake Police Department

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The Bonney Lake Police Department is dedicated to enhancing community partnerships through the Neighborhood Watch Residential Crime Prevention Program. Our goal is to teach citizens target hardening techniques, the importance of recognizing and reporting crimes, observation skills and how to keep your loved ones safe.

Upcoming City Events

- Shop with a cop TBD

https://www.ci.bonney-lake.wa.us/government/departments/Executive/Special_Events



REPORTING A CRIME

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Emergency	911
Non-Emergency Dispatch	(253) 287-4455
WSP & WDFW	(253) 536-6210
PSE Emergency	(888) 225-5773
Metro Animal Services	(253) 299-PETS
PC Animal Control	(253) 798-PETS

When should I call 911?

- When there is a Police, Fire or Medical Emergency.
- There is a situation that could or does pose a danger to life, property or both.
- There is suspicious activity involving a person (people) or vehicle that appear to have criminal intent.
- Any situation that requires immediate dispatch of an officer , fire or medical personnel.

When should I call the non-emergency number?

- You want to report a nuisance, such as a noise or parking complaint.
- To report a non-emergency crime. One that did not just occur and the suspects are not in the immediate area.
- For records inquiries.

Misdialing 911

- Stay on the line and explain the error.
- If you do not stay on the line the dispatch center will attempt to call you back.
- If you do not answer upon callback, officers will be dispatched.

SCAM CALLS

“SCAM LIKELY” ...It’s great when your phone recognizes that the call you’re getting is most likely a scam call; it’s an easy decision for you, just don’t answer. But when the number is unknown or unrecognized, the decision whether to answer it or not is tough. What if the number is local and not just a 1-800 number, does that make your decision easier? It may be your doctor, it may be your kid’s school, it may be your bank, or they just want to scam you by “selling” you an extended warranty for your vehicle.

ROBOCALLS: According to the Federal Communications Commission, “Robocalls are calls made with an autodialer or that contain a message made with a prerecorded or artificial voice.” Robocalls are so popular for scammers because they are an inexpensive and easy way to scam someone from anywhere in the world.

SPOOFING: Some scammers will fake the name and phone number that appears on your caller ID so it looks like a local number or sometimes even a government agency’s phone number such as a police department or the IRS, this is called “spoofing”.

SCAM CALL EXAMPLES-

IMPOSTERS: Scammers claiming to be someone you trust such as a local police department, the IRS or the Social Security Administration. They may say that you have pending criminal charges and unless you pay them, an arrest warrant will be issued. Some will tell you that a family member is in jail and needs you to send money to bail them out. Others will pretend to be from the IRS and say that you owe money. People are also falling victim to scammers requesting remote access to your computer to perform “maintenance”.

PRIZE & LOTTERY SCAMS: What???? I just won a car and all I need to do is buy a pre-paid gift card and send you some money? Sounds way too good to be true huh? That’s because it is!

EXTENDED VEHICLE WARRANTY: It seems like these scammers will go to the end of the earth to find you. If you are interested in extending your vehicle’s warranty, contact the dealership you purchased it from.

SEXTING SCAMS: This scam includes blackmail. The victim will receive a text or instant message from someone who claims to have met the victim prior. The scammer will send flirtatious messages and will eventually start sending nude photos. Then they will request that the victim sends nude photos back to them. Once the victim sends the photos, the scammer will blackmail the victim and demand money or threaten to post the photos on social media.

HELPFULL TIPS-

- Don’t answer unknown calls, let them go to voicemail.
- By answering “yes” to a question the scammer is asking, you may be unknowingly authorizing charges if they have your information.
- If they claim to be from a legitimate organization, hang up and call back using a valid number you have found on that organization’s website.
- If your caller ID displays a local number, it does not always mean the caller is actually local.
- If you received the call but didn’t lose money, you can still report this to the Federal Trade Commission.