



CRIME PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

ELK GROVE POLICE DEPARTMENT

8400 Laguna Palms Way
Elk Grove, CA 95758
Business Office (916) 478-8000
24 Hour Dispatch (916) 714-5115



September 2016

Telephone Numbers

(All 916 area code unless noted)

EGPD 24 Hour Dispatch	714-5115
Emergency Fire/PD	714-5111 or 911
EGPD Business Office	478-8000
Tip Line	627-3333
Animal Services	687-3023
Business License	478-2211
Bus Service (e-tran)	683-8726
Chamber of Commerce	691-3760
City Clerk	478-3635
City Council	478-2201
City Hall	683-7111
City Manager	478-2201
Code Enforcement	687-3023
Crime Prevention	478-8122
CSD Fire Non-Emergency	405-7100
Garbage and Recycling	635-2500
Graffiti Hotline	478-8231
Mosquito Control	(800) 429-1022
Patrol Officer Voicemail	627-3700
Poison Control	(800) 876-4766
Public Works	683-7111
Street Lights	687-3005
Suicide Prevention	368-3111
Traffic concerns	627-3714
TTY / TDD	(888) 435-6092
WEAVE (Domestic Violence Agency)	
24 Hour Crisis Line	920-2952

Elk Grove Police Online:

<http://www.ElkGrovePD.org>



[www.facebook.com/
ElkGrovePoliceDepartment](http://www.facebook.com/ElkGrovePoliceDepartment)



[@ElkGrovePD](https://twitter.com/ElkGrovePD)



www.NextDoor.com



www.CrimeReports.com

Hello Elk Grove!

Welcome to September! This month we have tips for back to school safety, bicycle helmet fitting, an app for your phone that can help find lost children, an update on Crime Reports.com, and thank you for the success of Tip-a-Cop.

BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY TIPS

The Elk Grove Police Department would like to remind drivers and pedestrians to be extra careful as the school year starts. Our goal is to make sure your young scholars get to and from school safely, so here are some things to discuss with your children:

- All school children should know their address and phone number.
- Talk to them about stranger danger.
- Make them put away the cell phone and be aware of their surroundings.

If your child walks to school....

- Be sure to walk the route with them beforehand, or for the first few days. Know what route they will take, and how long it should take them.
- Only cross the street at crosswalks or at corners, preferably with crossing guards. Never cross between parked cars.
- When possible, children should walk with friends or in groups, not alone.

If your child rides a bike to school...

- Make sure they wear a helmet that fits and does not have any cracks or other damage (see the article in this newsletter).
- They should ride with traffic, and in a bike lane if there is one.
- Obey traffic laws, including stop signs and yielding to pedestrians.

If your child rides the bus...

- They need to listen to and obey the driver.
- Wait to board the bus until it has come to a complete stop and the driver has signaled to get on.
- Always stay in clear view of the bus driver and never walk behind the bus.
- Don't stand up or horseplay on the bus.
- Only ride your own bus, never an alternate one.

If you drop off or pick up your child...

- If a bus has the flashing red lights on and the stop sign out, that means traffic in both directions stops. Don't pass the bus if the lights are flashing or the stop sign is out.
- Obey crosswalks and crossing guards. Watch for excitable children who may run into the street.
- Schools often have very specific drop-off procedures, so be sure to check at your child's school for these. Be mindful of others. Schools become especially congested at drop off and pick up times. Arrive a little early and be patient.
- Don't double park. It blocks visibility for children and other vehicles.
- Leave at least a three foot cushion around bicyclists.
- Use caution around young pedestrians, no matter who has right of way.



BICYCLE HELMET FITTING

Helmets come in various sizes, just like hats. Size can vary between manufacturers. To select and properly fit a bicycle helmet, follow the helmet fitting instructions below. It may take some time to ensure a proper fit.

STEP 1: Size

Measure your head for approximate size. Try the helmet on to ensure it fits snugly. While it is sitting flat on top of your head, make sure the helmet doesn't rock side to side. Sizing pads come with new helmets; use the pads to securely fit to your head. Mix or match the sizing pads for the greatest comfort. In your child's helmet, remove the padding when your child's head grows. If the helmet has a universal fit ring instead of sizing pads, adjust the ring size to fit the head.

STEP 2: Position

The helmet should sit level on your head and low on your forehead—one or two finger-widths above your eyebrow.



STEP 3: Buckles

Center the left buckle under the chin. On most helmets, the straps can be pulled from the back of the helmet to lengthen or shorten the chin straps. This task is easier if you take the helmet off to make these adjustments.



STEP 4: Side Straps

Adjust the slider on both straps to form a "V" shape under, and slightly in front of, the ears. Lock the slider if possible.



STEP 5: Chin Strap

Buckle your chin strap. Tighten the strap until it is snug, so that no more than one or two fingers fit under the strap.



STEP 6: Final Fitting

1. **Does your helmet fit right?** Open your mouth wide...big yawn! The helmet should pull down on the head. If not, refer back to step 5 and tighten the chin strap.
2. **Does your helmet rock back more than two fingers above the eyebrows?** If so, unbuckle, shorten the front strap by moving the slider forward. Buckle, retighten the chin strap, and test again.
3. **Does your helmet rock forward into your eyes?** If so, unbuckle, tighten the back strap by moving the slider back toward the ear. Buckle, retighten the chin strap, and test again.
4. **Roll the rubber band down to the buckle.** All four straps must go through the rubber band and be close to the buckle to prevent the buckle from slipping.



Additional Tips:

- **When to replace a helmet:** Replace any helmet that has been involved in a crash or is damaged.

- **The helmet should fit now.** Buy a helmet that fits your head now, not a helmet to “grow into.” Replace any helmet that has been outgrown.
- **The helmet should be comfortable.** If it feels small, put in the thinner sizing pads or purchase a larger helmet. Ideally, select a helmet brand and size that fits well prior to any adjustments. If you buy a helmet that you find comfortable and attractive, you are more likely to wear it.
- **The helmet must cover your forehead.**
- **The chin strap must be tight and properly adjusted.**
- **The helmet should not rock forward or backward on your head.** If it does, see STEP 6.
- A bicycle helmet can protect your head and brain ONLY if you wear it each time you ride!

For more information on bicycle safety, visit the [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration](http://www.nhtsa.gov) (NHTSA).

“How to Properly Fit a Bicycle Helmet.” *Women’sDay*, 2 Apr. 2010. Web. 30 Aug. 2016.

ELK GROVE IS A CRIMEREPORTS.COM COMMUNITY

The Elk Grove Police Department uses CrimeReports.com (www.crimereports.com) and has been partnered with Crimereports.com since February of 2010. The website allows users to view a digital snapshot of criminal activity on a searchable map. The site has seen significant changes since its inception. Search functions have become more specific allowing users to narrow down searches to a wide variety of different of crimes ranging from thefts to shootings. More specific searches allow users to refine their searches to property crimes including thefts from vehicles, or motor vehicle thefts.

Crime reports taken within the cities jurisdiction are shared to the website and are displayed on the map in a basic sense. The site does not publish exact addresses, victim or suspect information and is updated on a daily basis. The website does not post information in regards to victim sensitive crimes (i.e. domestic violence or child abuse cases). The website shows the type of crime, the date, and the case number. With the click of a mouse, it allows citizens of Elk Grove to look up criminal activity in their neighborhoods. The website updates frequently and allows Elk Grove residents an opportunity to see what crime trends are occurring in their neighborhoods.

Crimereports.com is a free website and requires no user logins, registration or passwords for citizens to use. There are two functions on the site that allow users to assist the Police Department.

1. A camera registration function that allows citizens to register their outward facing surveillance cameras with the site. This function is extremely useful to investigators looking for potential leads in high profile cases or crime series.
2. A new function on the site is the “Submit a Tip” function that allows users to submit crime or narcotics tips anonymously to the Elk Grove PD. Obviously, if there is an emergency or a crime in progress always call 911 prior to utilizing any online or social media reporting.



FBI CHILD ID APP

Here's an app we're happy to talk about – the FBI Child ID app. This app provides a convenient place to electronically store photos and vital information about your children so that it's literally right at hand if you need it. You can show the pictures and provide physical identifiers such as height and weight to police officers on the spot. Using a special tab on the app, you can also quickly and easily e-mail the information to authorities with a few clicks.

The app also includes tips on keeping children safe as well as specific guidance on what to do in those first few crucial hours after a child goes missing. The app is completely free, and compatible on both iPhone and Android. It is password protected. Note that the FBI does not collect or store any information from this app.

We certainly hope you never need it, but it is better to be prepared in case you do.



TIP-A-COP SUCCESS

On Monday, August 22, the Texas Roadhouse hosted a "Tip-a-Cop" lunch event to raise funds for the Special Olympics of Northern California. Texas Roadhouse generously donated lunches of pulled pork sandwiches and French fries for every guest. Elk Grove Police staff worked alongside the real servers in delivering food, bussing tables, and talking with the guests. While the meal was free, tips were welcomed with all of the tips going directly to the Special Olympics. We are proud to report that in the three hours of lunch that day, we raised \$5,320 for Special Olympics. Thank you Elk Grove!



That's all for this month. Stay safe Elk Grove!