

Arlington Heights Police Department

Internet Safety



The Internet is a **POWERFUL** tool. It is important that we understand the dangers so that each Internet use can be a safe and positive experience. If we let our guard down the Internet can do us **serious harm**.

Remember – If you don't want millions of people to see or know something about you then don't put it on the Internet!

Online Safety Tips

- Remember **never** to give out personal information on the Internet. Do not share your real name, phone number, address, where you live, where you go to school, anything about your family or personal photographs.
- Protect your password. Friends may type inappropriate messages under your name for fun or someone could steal your identity. This could lead to unwanted trouble for you and your family.
- It is best not to talk to strangers. Someone may pretend to be someone he or she is not.
- **Always** ask your parent's permission to visit a chat room.
- **Never** meet with someone you have met online unless your parents are with you.
- If you fill out a personal profile online, do not write anything that says too much about you. You may think only your friends can see it, but strangers will have access to the same information.
- **Never** send pictures over the Internet without your parent's permission.
- **Never** download files or pictures from an unknown source; they could be a virus, bad pictures or some other illegal material.
- **Never** respond to messages that are suggestive, obscene, threatening or harassing.
- Sending threatening or harassing messages is considered a criminal offense.
- Bullying someone on-line could be harmful to you and your target.
- High schools, colleges and potential employers will search the Web for negative information or pictures before enrolling or hiring you.

ALWAYS tell your parents if anything happens online that makes you feel uncomfortable or that you think might be dangerous.