



Rainbow Springs Community Club, Inc., P.O. Box 388, Granite Falls, WA. 98252 | Phone: 360.691.2683

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Community Crime Prevention

By Kevin Hayes

A community's safety and security is not something that law enforcement can guarantee 24/7. It takes the individual contributions of the community members, to collectively make their neighborhood a better place to live by watching out for opportunities for crime, and putting measures in place to protect each other. I'm not talking about taking on a vigilante approach to dealing with crime, I'm talking about using the "ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" tactic - Stop it before it happens!

As a community member, as is with any neighborhood, you are solely responsible for your safety and security. You have the power to keep people from your home and yard that are not wanted, and to make it way too difficult for criminals to make you a victim. Someone bent on getting into your car or home to steal articles will be looking for quick and easy opportunities such as, unlocked doors and windows.

Valuables in plain sight to a criminal are like a steak sitting in front of a dog. They didn't realize they wanted it until they see it, then they decide they need to have it, and they will do whatever it takes to get it. Even a well-behaved and mannered dog that knows better, will take the opportunity if it's presented. Many first time criminals do so because of a similar situation they see, want and then get! Drapes, curtains at home hide what you own when away. Trunks and glove boxes hide what you have in your car. Don't leave valuables in plain sight.

Nighttime is a criminal's best friend. The cover of darkness keeps those that are intent on victimizing others from being seen and scrutinized. You don't have to light your yard up like a football field for a nighttime game, but well placed landscape lights and house lights on trimmers or dusk to dawn photocells. Motion activated lights are very effective for scaring away prowlers.

Tall landscaping around windows, doors and the sides of homes are great cover for prowlers and burglars. They can be obscured from neighbor's views or the view from

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the road by passerby's as well as law enforcement on patrol. Trim those plants back and shorten their height.

Simple home security measures include window locks or wooden dowels in the window and sliding door track that keep the window from being opened. Deadbolts with at least 1-1/2 throw and beefed up doorframe. Wireless security alarms on doors and windows that sound when open. Random light timers that turn on and off lights in the home while away, make those who may be casing your home to think twice.

More expensive measures to protect your home and family include alarm systems, closed circuit video recording, fencing and safes to secure valuables. The best measure is to band together as a community and to help each other. Get to know you're neighbors and let them get to know you. When you see someone in the community you don't recognize, find out who they are. If they don't live here and are not visiting anyone, they are trespassing and don't belong here.

Question anyone that looks suspicious and call 911 to report suspicious activity. If you don't do your part to help, you could be next in line to be a victim of crime.

Culvert Status

By RSCC Board of Directors

There has been a lot of misinformation circulating regarding the culvert replacement project. There is an incorrect perception that the RSCC Board is not moving forward with the culvert replacement for a variety of reasons. We have heard many erroneous reports, none of which are true.

The facts in the matter are, that Rainbow Springs is STILL waiting for Snohomish County to approve the final permit before we can move forward with the replacement. We have sought and received bids for the project, assessed funds to complete the replacement, hired an engineering firm (which was required by the state). Our engineer has completed all the necessary site plans, environmental studies, and reports required by the state department of ecology, and filed the required permits. Our engineers are continually tracking the progress of the permit process, and placing pressure on county officials to complete the process. The Board has continually updated the association through countless articles in our newsletters. More information is available online by reading the monthly meeting minutes. If you have more questions we suggest you attend the monthly meetings, the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Granite Falls Fire Station.

RSCC Payment Plan not working!

By Alicia Henson, Secretary/Treasurer

With the economy the way it is, Rainbow Springs has allowed a more lenient payment plan to be set up for individuals facing hardships. While the majority of homeowners pay their dues and assessments within the first 30 days, there are those who wish to set up a payment plan. Unfortunately, only a handful of individuals who have made such arrangements are actually making their agreed upon payments. For that reason, RSCC will be revisiting the payment options available. While we still plan to work with individuals who are struggling financially, we are a business and we will operate as such. Beginning May 1st, 2010, a set of financial policies and procedures will be adopted and implemented. The guidelines of this policy will coincide with the RSCC Bylaws.

Annual Business Meeting Scheduled for April 11th

By RSCC Board of Directors

Property owners, mark your calendars for the Annual Rainbow Springs Business Meeting. The meeting is scheduled to take place on **Sunday April 11th, at 1:30PM** at the Sanctuary Ministries Church on the corner of Hwy 92 and 75th.

The Annual Budget will be presented at this time, and a review of the revisions to the updated Bylaws will be outlined.

WARNING: Be careful to never leave your cars unattended while warming them up in the morning. A resident's car was stolen last month. They went inside momentarily, and returned to find their car missing.

Winter Preparation Check List

Take Winter by Storm - www.govlink.org/storm

Build a kit with these essentials

- Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask, to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)
- Local maps
- Cell phone with chargers (car charger recommended in the event of power outages)

Make a plan

- Identify an out-of town contact. It may be easier to make a long-distance phone call than to call across town, so an out-of-town contact may be in a better position to communicate among separated family members.
- Be sure every member of your family knows the phone number and has a cell phone, coins, or a prepaid phone card to call the emergency contact. If you have a cell phone, program that person(s) as "ICE" (In Case of Emergency) in your phone. If you are in an accident, emergency personnel will often check your ICE listings in order to get a hold of someone you know. Make sure to tell your family and friends that you've listed them as emergency contacts.
- Teach family members how to use text messaging (also known as SMS or Short Message Service). Text messages can often get around network disruptions when a phone call might not be able to get through.

Take Winter by Storm - www.govlink.org/storm

If your vehicle is not prepared adequately to safely maneuver roads in icy or snowy conditions, then don't take the chance... Park it, and stay off the roads. Better to stay safe, and stay home or make other arrangements. Don't endanger others or other's property. It is your responsibility to use sound judgment.

Money Saving Tips

By Alicia Henson, RSCC Secretary-Treasurer

Want to save money on lunches? Here are some things I like to do to stretch the dollar...

1. Pack a lunch! Don't buy one.. That's pretty obvious though
2. Don't buy refrigerated Jello or pudding! Make it yourself. It only takes a few minutes & you have a weeks supply. Buy Jello pudding on sale when it is no more than \$1.00 per pack. Make it & divide it up between 6-8 1/2 cup servings. Gladware makes "mini-rounds" reusable containers that are perfect for this! I like them because they are reusable & pretty good as far as quality goes. You can get these containers on sale for about \$2.50 for a set of 8. (cheaper if you have a coupon) It's worth it! If you buy premade Jello items from the store your going to pay up to three times more! I love doing this for lunches, quick snacks, desserts, whatever. Often it is a much healthier alternative & by re-using the containers you are helping out the environment in a small way. ALSO.. This goes for applesauce, fruit slices, canned fruits, carrot sticks, etc. I really like using these containers! They're also great for portion control!
3. Don't make something you, your partner, or your kid won't eat. I know we have the best intentions, but I don't know how many times my son has come home with a smashed sandwich in his backpack. It's the same as throwing money away except worse because you actually wasted time on making it! Stick to the things you enjoy. I will often throw a Capri sun, granola bar and Satsuma Mandarin Orange in my son's bag because I know he likes these things. Plus what did that cost me???... about .40 AND it took 2 seconds to put it together (I love saving time!)
4. Be creative. For some reason, my kids don't want to touch the cereal that is nearly gone. We can have 2 or 3 open boxes with a bowls worth of cereal in the cupboard for days. However, If I mix them together & throw a few marshmallows or chocolate chips in it, the kids love it!
5. Look out for good prices & plan meals accordingly.

It's pretty easy to assemble a good, healthy, filling lunch for under \$1.00. Good luck!

Don't have a coupon? ... Go to one of the 5 top rated coupon sites and print one out. Make sure your grocery store accepts printed coupons. Also check the Sunday Paper and Wednesday mailings.

Coupons.com
CouponCabin.com
CouponMom.com
RetailMeNot.com
SmartSource.com

Handy Keychain Gate Remote Controls Now Available

The new gate replacement parts have been ordered. The security gate will be up and running soon.



A new smaller version of the gate remote control is now available. These handy compact keychain remotes are available for residents to purchase at our monthly RSCC Board Meetings. The gate remote controls are priced at \$15 each.

Regular larger sized gate remotes are also still available for the same price.

Avoid having to roll down your window at the gate keypad during harsh weather by purchasing a gate remote control. To purchase by mail send your request to:

RSCC
P.O. Box 388
Granite Falls, WA 98252

Please include an additional \$5 for priority mailing for a total of \$20. At this postal rate you can purchase up to two remotes (at \$20 each the total w/ postage is \$35). Once your check clears, the remote(s) will be sent out. Please include your name and address, and the number, and size of the remote controls you are requesting.

Please do not drop by Board Members homes to try and purchase remote controls, or to conduct other RSCC business.



Changing to Daylight Savings

Time

New Security Posts Installed at Entrance

Posts to help protect the Gate mechanism have been installed by an all volunteer group of residents who have donated their time and talents. A big thank you goes out to our volunteer work party:

Brandon, Kevin, Floyd, Hal, Mike, Pete and Warren

Exceeding the Speed Limit in Rainbow Springs is a Continuing Problem

The highly visible 15 Miles Per Hour speed limit signs posted throughout Rainbow Springs are not just a suggestion. 15 Miles Per Hour is the speed limit!

Speeding remains the most common complaint in our community. It is noteworthy to add that the incidences of speeding appear to be higher among young teen drivers. Be considerate. SLOW DOWN!

PLEASE DON'T BE A LITTERBUG

If you have ever walked our roads and parks, one thing that is particularly discouraging is the sheer volume of garbage being tossed along our road ways. The garbage is especially high around the school bus stops. Please educate your children about not littering.

A work party to pick up trash was held recently. A heartfelt thank you to all that participated, the turnout was fantastic despite the rain. Please do not toss garbage along our roadways, save it until you reach your destination and dispose of properly. **AND PLEASE NO DUMPING!**

Check out our community
website

<http://www.rscconline.org>

Calendar of Upcoming Events**FEBRUARY 2010**

- Sun. Feb. 14th – Valentine's Day
- Mon. Feb. 15th – Presidents Day
- Wed. Feb. 17th @ 6:30 PM; Monthly BOD Meeting @ Granite Falls Fire Station #17

MARCH 2010

- Sun. Mar. 14th Daylight Savings Time Begins
- Wed. Mar. 17th @ 6:30 PM; Monthly BOD Meeting @ Granite Falls Fire Station #17

APRIL 2010

- Sun. Apr. 11th, 1:30 PM Annual Business Meeting @ Sanctuary Ministries Hwy 92 and 75th
- Thurs. April 15th – Tax Day
- Wed. Apr. 21st @ 6:30 PM; Monthly BOD Meeting @ Granite Falls Fire Station #17

URGENT: Important Information

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