

## WHISPERING LAKE WEBSITE

### HOMEOWNER TIPS

SEPTEMBER, 2008

#### Back to School Safety Tips:

Children are returning to school, many for the first time, and parents and children will be a little nervous. Children should enjoy their years in school and return home safely everyday . One way to ensure their safety is for parents to review with their children a few safety rules:

#### Riding the Bus to School:

- Have a safe place to wait for your bus, away from traffic and the street.
- Stay away from the bus until it comes to a complete stop and the driver signals you to enter.
- When being dropped off, exit the bus and move immediately onto the sidewalk, out of traffic. Keep a safe distance between you and the bus. The bus driver can see you best when you are back and away from the bus.
- Never reach under a school bus to retrieve anything that has fallen underneath.
- Use a handrail to enter and exit the bus.
- Be aware of the street traffic around you.
- Do not play in the street while you are waiting.
- Never cross the street behind the school bus.

#### Riding in a Car:

- Most traffic crashes occur close to home. Do not let your guard down.
- Everyone in the vehicle should wear their own seatbelt. You are four times more likely to be seriously injured or killed if ejected from the vehicle in a crash.
- Everyone needs to be buckled up properly . That means older kids in seat belts, younger kids in booster seats and little kids in child safety seats.
- Keep your hands inside the vehicle while in motion
- Do not distract the driver.

#### Other Safety Tips:

- Be sure your child knows his/her home phone number, address, and a parent work phone number.
- Teach your child never to talk to strangers or accept rides or gifts from strangers.
- Remember, a stranger is anyone you or your children do not know well enough to trust.
- Be sure your child knows how to use 9-1-1.

- If your child is home alone after school, set up rules for locking doors, answering phones, having friends over and checking in with a parent or neighbor.

These safety tips were provided by the Naperville Police Department.