

THE INFORMER

A PUBLICATION OF DUBLIN POLICE SERVICES

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NATIONAL NIGHT OUT KICKOFF 2008 : IT'S GONNA BE A GREEN DAY!

Attention all Neighborhood Watch Captains: It's time to get ready for the 2008 National Night Out Kickoff! The purpose of the kickoff is to rally residents to participate in National Night Out, but unlike National Night Out, the Kickoff is a day when we make YOU our guests at a bar-b-cue event that we host. We only ask that you bring a dessert to share.

The theme for this year's event is "Living Green in Dublin." Not

only does the color green reflect our city's heritage and landscape, but it also conveys an earth-friendly message, which we hope our block captains and merchants will take to heart.



A few ways we can keep our planet green:

- Statistics from the U.S. Department of Energy indicate that 40 to 50 percent of greenhouse gas emissions are produced by transportation. We can help reduce this percentage by walking, biking, or tak-

ing BART to our destinations, and combining trips.

- Keep a set of silverware in your desk drawer so you don't need to use plastic utensils at the next potluck or ice cream social.

- Use a clothesline to dry your clothes naturally.

- Have your electronics repaired rather than tossing them away and adding to the lead content in our landfills.

- Forget paper or plastic; plastic doesn't decompose and paper uses more resources to reproduce. Re-

usable grocery totes are now the fashion, and they come in recycled nylon or organic cotton.

- Take short showers.

- Send your car to the carwash; the water is treated and recycled.

Invitations for the Kick-off (scheduled for Friday, July 11th, 2008) will be going out to all Neighborhood Watch block captains and co-captains within the next 14 days. For more information, call (925) 833-6686.

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REGISTER FOR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT!

2008 marks the 25th anniversary of National Night Out!

National Night Out — which is traditionally the first

Tuesday in August (August 5th this year) — began as a concept

for generating greater crime prevention involvement among residents, who would leave their porch lights on to demonstrate their anti-crime stance. Today, residents organize block parties, cookouts, parades, contests, neighborhood walks, festivals, rallies, and community service events such as a park clean-up. Here's your chance to tell crooks you stand up against crime!

Staff from the Crime Prevention Unit urge you to plan an activity in which your neighborhood can reconnect and show its support for the original meaning behind National Night Out. Register your event with us, and members of the police and fire departments will schedule a block of time to visit you and your fellow neighbors. McGruff might also be available that day! National Night Out is August 5th, and visits from the police and fire crews will take place from 6-9pm. Call (925) 833-6677 for more information or to register your National Night Out event.

Traffic Safety in Our Neighborhoods

As the City of Dublin continues to grow in size and population, driver and pedestrian safety is becoming more of a concern. Not only do many drivers treat Dublin Boulevard like a major freeway, but they also drive recklessly to avoid other vehicles "in their way."

In addition to the officers we have in our traffic unit, we also have other, reliable traffic enforcement resources: YOU!

If you notice poor driving patterns in your neighborhood (speeding, failure to yield for pedestrians, or failing to conduct a complete stop) additional signs or cross-walk markings may be something to consider. Sometimes, you have to think "defensively." If a large camper, trailer, or industrial vehicle is in your driveway, make sure that it doesn't jut out into the street, posing a traffic hazard to drivers on the road. If you are being following too closely by an impatient driver, move over a lane and let them pass. Don't let

your pride get in the way of smart, safe driving.

As for children, they should always wear a seatbelt, and if riding bicycles, they need to be taught to obey the traffic rules and wear their safety gear, especially hel-



Recent Crash on Regio Drive: Residents claim the driver was speeding prior to colliding with a tree chipper. Fortunately, no one was injured.

Photo Provided Courtesy of Tony Russo, Block Captain

mets — it's the law. Infants, toddlers, and small children should be secured in their appropriate car seats which must be properly installed for maximum safety.

To report reckless driving, speeding, or drunk driving, call 9-1-1 with as much information as possible about the vehicle and driver: direction of travel, license plate number, make/model of vehicle.

To schedule an appointment with a technician to ensure the proper installation of your child's safety seat, call: 925-833-6670.

To discuss the potential for installing signs or markings on your street, contact Public Works at: 925-833-6630.

ACCIDENT STATS	2006	2007
Non-Injury	228	209
Injury	74	69
Fatality	1	2
Total	303	280

CALIFORNIA LAW SB 168 (DEBRA BOWEN): IDENTITY THEFT PREVENTION BY FREEZING YOUR CREDIT

The "credit freeze" portion of this bill went into effect January 1, 2003. You will need to contact each credit bureau to completely freeze your credit (see back page for credit bureau contact numbers).

Q: How will a credit freeze protect me?

A: Placing a security freeze on your credit reports means an identity thief – even one who has your name, address, Social Security number, birth date and more – will not be able to get new loans and credit in your name. That's because lenders, retailers, utilities and other businesses need access to a credit report to review and approve new credit, loans and services.

Q: How much will it cost?

A:Victims of identity theft can access the service for free. You'll have to provide documentation, however, from a police report or DMV. For others, the cost is \$10.00. You can find specific information on the cost from each of the bureau's website.

Q: Will I need to freeze my report with each credit bureau?

A: Yes. When you go to buy a new car, open a charge account, or refinance house, you don't know which bureau the lender will use to request your report. In other words, for the best protection you'll need to freeze your credit at each bureau.

Q: How will I open new credit lines if my report is frozen?

A: People who've frozen their credit reports can still get new loans and credit for themselves. Credit bureaus have set up a PIN-based system to allow people with frozen credit reports to contact the credit bureau, provide a PIN number, and allow their credit report to be released to a specific lender or for a specific period of time. Credit bureaus are obligated to release the report within three business days of such a request.

To review the full report on California Law SB168 (Debra Bowen) Identity Theft Prevention, visit:
http://www.fightidentitytheft.com/legislation_california_sb168.html

City Crime Trends

An overview of the more common crimes

2008	January	February	March	Quarterly Total
Stolen Vehicles	3	7	5	15
Commercial Burglaries	4	0	3	7
Residential Burglaries	5	2	6	13
Auto Burglaries	26	25	7	58

Commercial Burglary category does not include shoplifting
Unlike Robberies, burglaries do not include the element of threat to personal safety

2007 –2008 Comparison	Jan-Mar 2007	Jan-Mar 2008
Stolen Vehicles	14	15
Commercial Burglaries	7	7
Residential Burglaries	12	13
Auto Burglaries	33	58

January—March 2008 Residential Burglaries

- **Most Common Method of Entry:**
Unlocked Door, Open Garage
- **Most Common Loss:**
Laptops, televisions

Locations:

Amarillo Road	Newfields Lane
Aspen Street (2)	Parkwood Circle
Dublin Green	Roundhill Drive
Hillrose Drive	Signal Hill Drive
Kilrush Avenue	Silvergate Drive
Madden Way	Vomac

How Does Dublin Measure Up with Other Tri-Valley Cities? Crime Rates per 100,000 Population (Raw data in parantheses)

2006	Dublin	Livermore	Pleasanton	San Ramon
Murder	0 (0)	1.3 (1)	0 (0)	2.0 (1)
Rape	10.1 (4)	20.2 (16)	9.0 (6)	2.0 (1)
Robberies	28.4 (27)	72.0 (57)	37.6 (25)	49.6 (25)
Assaults	136.1 (54)	92.3 (73)	55.6 (37)	73.3 (37)
Burglaries	420.8 (167)	499.3 (395)	321.6 (214)	335 (169)
Thefts	1078.6 (428)	1368.9 (1083)	1774.8 (1181)	1306.3 (659)
Stolen Vehicles	322.6 (128)	284.4 (225)	211.9 (141)	156.6 (79)
Arson	10.1 (4)	29.1 (23)	21.0 (14)	9.9 (5)

Data Source: www.city-data.com (Dublin's raw data is accurate)
2007 data not yet posted on the website

LOITERING ORDINANCE (excerpt)

Dublin Municipal Code 5.04.010 Purpose.

The city finds that when minors loiter in public places at night without adult supervision, they increase the risk of criminal activity, including drug and gang activity, thereby posing a threat to both themselves and other members of the community. This regulation is therefore necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare. (Ord. 6-06 § 1 (part))

5.04.020 Prohibited.

It is unlawful for any minor under the age of eighteen (18) years to be in any public place within the city during the curfew hours of ten p.m. (10:00 p.m.) to daylight, except as provided under Section [5.04.030](#). (Ord. 6-06 § 1 (part); Ord. 12-83 § 1. Formerly 5.04.010)

5.04.030 Exceptions.

A minor under the age of eighteen (18) years shall not violate Section [5.04.020](#) if, at the time the minor was stopped by a police officer, the minor was:

- A. Accompanied by the minor's parent, guardian or other adult person having the care and custody of the minor;
- B. On an errand at the direction of the minor's parent or guardian, without detour or stop;
- C. Driving or riding in a motor vehicle or riding on public transportation;
- D. Engaged in a lawful volunteer or paid employment activity, or going to or returning home from a lawful volunteer or paid employment activity, without detour or stop;
- E. Acting in response to an emergency;
- F. On the sidewalk abutting the minor's residence or abutting the residence which is immediately adjacent to the minor's residence;
- G. Attending or going to or returning home, without detour or stop, from a school, religious, cultural, sports, amusement, entertainment, or recreation activity; or any organized rally, demonstration, meeting or similar activity;
- H. Waiting at a train or bus station for transportation; or
- I. Emancipated in accordance with the California Family Code or other applicable state law. (Ord. 6-06 § 1 (part); Ord. 12-83 § 2. Formerly 5.04.020)

SMOKING ORDINANCE (excerpt)

5.56.050 Prohibition of smoking in public places and places of employment.

A. Smoking shall be prohibited in any enclosed public place, business, restaurant, or place of employment within the city of Dublin except in the enclosed places identified in California Labor Code Section 6404.5(d), or its successor.



B. Smoking shall be prohibited in the following enclosed places:

1. Common areas of multi-unit, multi-residence, or multi-family buildings including, but not limited to, apartments, condominiums, retirement facilities, and nursing homes; and
2. Areas that have a common or shared air space with other enclosed areas in which smoking is prohibited such as, without limitation, air conditioning systems, heating systems, ventilation systems, entries, doorways, hallways, and stairways.

C. Smoking shall be prohibited in the following unenclosed places:

1. Dining areas that are part of a restaurant, business, nonprofit entity, place of employment, or located in any public place;
2. Children's play areas;
3. Any place where people are using or waiting for a service, entry, or a transaction whether or not such service includes the exchange of money including, but not limited to, ATMs, bank teller windows, telephones, ticket lines, bus stops and cab stands.

Note: The City Council recently adopted an amendment to this ordinance, which expands the definition of "place of employment" to include "private residences licensed as family day care homes regardless of their hours of operation."

To Read These Ordinances In Their Entirety, Go To: WWW.CI.DUBLIN.CA.US, select the "Government" tab and scroll down to "Municipal Code"

DON'T LET GRAFFITI LEAVE YOU TAINTED

Graffiti costs communities more than \$8 billion dollars per year. It hurts property values, drives away business and sends the message that nobody cares about the community. Graffiti is everybody's problem.

Controlling graffiti demonstrates that you and your neighbors are concerned about the quality of life in your neighborhood. It may also give you the opportunity to prevent the situation from escalating into a more serious crime. Similar to a broken window or a broken park bench, graffiti is usually unwanted and may be a sign of drug dealing or other criminal activity in your neighborhood.



[Here are some signs that will help you identify a tagger or graffiti vandal:](#)



- Individual with cans of spray paint or broad tipped indelible markers
- Unidentifiable markings on book bags, sheets of paper, clothing, etc.
- Stains from paint or markers on hands

What to Do When You Notice Graffiti?

To report graffiti on public property, large or small, call Planning at 925-833-6610 and ask for Code Enforcement. Be prepared to leave a message with the location, street address, and nearest cross street and a brief description of the graffiti. Obscene or particularly offensive graffiti is normally removed within one business day.

If you see graffiti in progress, report it to the police by calling 925-462-1212; don't try to intervene. Please be prepared to describe the vandals, give a location and the nearest cross street.

If the graffiti can be identified as gang related, call the Crime Tip Hotline at 925-833-6638 to give the location and if possible, a picture of the graffiti.

Graffiti Prevention Tips:

- * Rapid removal is one of the best ways to prevent future graffiti. Removing graffiti tells the vandals that people care about the community and that their work has little chance of being seen.
- * Plain smooth surfaces invite graffiti. For walls, choose patterned and rough concrete surfaces or tiled or mosaic surfaces; for fences, use chain, lattice, or wooden picket fences.
- * Choose paints and coatings to deter graffiti. Dark colors make graffiti harder to see. Anti-graffiti coatings are available as well. A sacrificial coating is one that can be easily removed if graffiti artists strike. A protective coating can be easily cleaned.
- * Plant trees, shrubs, or climbing vines to restrict access to tempting walls. Plants with thorns or strong scents are good deterrents.
- * Use good lighting to deter vandals from popular graffiti sites.
- * Encourage community groups to adopt a wall or area to keep it clean, well maintained, and graffiti-free. "Make A Difference Day", in October, would be a good time to get groups together to do a cleaning.

- * Encourage local merchants who sell paint and painting supplies to become responsible retailers. Responsible retailers observe existing laws against selling spray paint and broad tipped markers to customers under the age of 18 and do not display these items where they might be vulnerable to shoplifting. They post warning signs about the penalties for graffiti vandalism.
- * Encourage anyone you think might be tempted to do graffiti to check out art schools instead or to get involved by doing posters, murals and other art projects at their school.

Excerpt from Dublin Municipal Code 5.68.050: Graffiti on private property— Removal required—Declaration of public nuisance.

- A. Where graffiti exists on private property, it is the owner's duty, as well as the duty of any tenant on the property, to remove the graffiti promptly from the property and to restore the property to the condition it was in prior to such vandalism.
- B. Graffiti is a public nuisance.



WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.CI.DUBLIN.CA.US

100 CIVIC PLAZA
DUBLIN, CA 94568

PRSRRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
DUBLIN, CA
PERMIT NO. 400

Return Service Requested

POLICE SERVICES

Emergency : 9-1-1
Non Emergency Dispatch : (925) 462-1212
Main Office: (925) 833-6670
Crime Prevention Unit: (925) 833-6677
Crime Tip Hotline: 925-833-6638
Fax: (925) 833-6678

ADDRESSED TO:

CITY SERVICES

City of Dublin: (925) 833-6600
Animal Control: 510-667-7763
Graffiti Hotline: 925-833-6638
Code Enforcement: 925-833-4559

Committed to Community Service

SERVICES PROVIDED BY DUBLIN POLICE:

In addition to the traditional services, Dublin Police also offers the following:

- **FINGERPRINTING (LIVESCAN OR INK CARDS):** By Appointment Only. Call (925) 833-6670 to schedule an appointment.
- **SECURITY ASSESSMENTS:** Police representatives will review your home or business's security level. Recommendations are provided. Please contact Crime Prevention at (925) 833-6677 or (925) 833-6686 to set up an appointment.
- **CITIZEN RIDE ALONG:** Residents 16 years of age and older can accompany a police officer on a 4- hour ride along. Please contact the Crime Prevention Officer at (925) 833-6690 for more information.
- **CHILD SAFETY SEAT INSPECTIONS:** A nationally certified technician is available to

educate and assist parents and/or caregivers on correct car seat installation. Please call (925) 833-6670 to schedule an

HELPFUL RESOURCES ON-LINE:

- **WWW.CI.DUBLIN.CA.US**
City services, Muni-Code, upcoming events, on-going programs, city council agendas and archives
- **WWW.ACGOV.ORG**
Superior Court dockets (criminal, civil, traffic), assessor's information, housing data/information, social services
- **WWW.MEGANSLAW.CA.GOV**
Sex Registrant information
- **WWW.LEGINFO.CA.**
Research California laws, bills, and publications
- **HTTP://AG.CA.GOV**
California Attorney General's Office: State crime statistics, state permits and registrations
- **WWW.USDOJ.GOV**
U.S. Crime Statistics, links to federal

justice offices and agencies

- **WWW.OES.CA.GOV**
California Office of Emergency Services, disaster preparedness information, free on-line certifications
- **WWW.NCPC.ORG**
National Crime Prevention Council, crime prevention tips for teens, seniors, and parents
- **WWW.ABAG.CA.GOV**
Association of Bay Area Governments, quick links to Bay Area city web-sites, earthquake maps & information

Credit Bureaus

Experian: 888-397-3742
Equifax: 800-525-6285
Trans Union: 800-680-7289