

# Stacy Ridge Safety Newsletter Summer 2007

## Safety Committee Report by Tania Rippy

We hope that everyone is enjoying a fun and safe summer. The Stacy Ridge Safety Committee would like to remind everyone of several important summer safety tips.

According to Safe Kids Worldwide, during the summer months there are **five leading risks for children**:

- Drowning
- Biking and other wheeled sports
- Falls
- Pedestrian injuries
- Motor vehicle passenger injuries.

Drowning is a quick and silent killer. According to the US Consumer Product Safety Commission, 75% of the submersion victims studied were between 1 and 3 years old. At the time of the incidents, most victims were being supervised by one or both parents. 65% of the incidents happened in a pool owned by the child's family.

### SAFE POOL GUIDELINES

\* Children should be constantly supervised around the pool. (See additional article for more information on "Water Watcher" cards).

\*If a child is missing, check the pool first.

\* Do not use floatation devices as a substitute for supervision.

\*Remove toys from the pool area when it is not in use. Toys can attract young children to the pool.

\* Safety fences should be installed for pools where children live.

\* Also, consider installing a sliding lock at the top of any door that goes outside to the pool area and keep the doors locked with both locks.

\* Instruct babysitters about potential pool hazards and emphasize the need for constant supervision.

Information above was found on the following web sites:  
[www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov), [www.usa.safekids.org](http://www.usa.safekids.org)



**NEW TOOLS FOR WATER SAFETY**

by Tania Rippy

**WATER WATCHER CARDS -**

These cards were designed to be passed between adults in a group setting to take turns acting as the Designated Watcher of children in and around water.

The Stacy Ridge Safety Committee has prepared and laminated "Water Watcher Cards" for residents. If anyone is interested in having one for their home, please contact Tania Rippy.

- Parents who have been poolside know that if *everyone's* watching, then *no one* is watching. The card acts as the active communication link between responsible adults and helps them focus on children's safety.
- Active supervision requires that the adult responsible for children not be engaged in any other poolside activities, including talking to persons or on the phone or reading.
- In set intervals -- 15 minutes at a time is a good starting point -- the person holding the Water Watcher card becomes the Designated Watcher and must keep his/her eyes on the children.
- After 15 minutes, the card is passed to another adult, who then becomes the Designated Watcher.
- For more information on the Water Watcher Cards see [www.usa.safekids.org/water](http://www.usa.safekids.org/water).

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**TRAFFIC CONTROL**  
by Tania Rippy

As residents you may have noticed the changes recently made to Prescott. Stacy Ridge HOA has worked closely with the City of Allen to determine the best method for reducing speeding on Prescott. We hope that the street dividers completed in the spring along with the recent white markings will accomplish this goal.

Here is a reminder to residents of Traffic/Vehicle Safety Tips:

- Watch your speed (Although speed limit is 30, reduced visibility along curves warrants slower speeds).
- Parking- You can not park within 15 feet in either direction of a fire hydrant. Also, you can not park 30 feet on the approach of a stop sign.
- Streets may not be blocked in any way to allow children to play. Please use the Stacy Ridge Park on Country Brook to allow children to play safely.
- The Allen Police Department has reported that theft from vehicles is on the rise. Avoid parking cars in the streets over night and take valuable items out and lock the doors to your vehicles).

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**NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2007**  
by Tania Rippy

**National Night Out** is an organized event between neighborhoods and local police and fire departments. This night allows for neighbors to get to know each other in efforts to reduce crime and increase safety within neighborhoods.

According to Officer McGee from the Allen Police Department, "National Night Out has been moved to **October 2, 2007** from its normal August date. This change was made on behalf of the City of Allen and the Allen Police Department".

This year, Stacy Ridge and Country Brook Estates HOA Safety Committees will combine efforts to host a National Night out at the Stacy Ridge Park on October 2nd. Please keep posted for more information on plans for this event and mark your calendar for a Family Fun event. If you have any questions about National Night Out 2007, please contact Tania Rippy with the Neighborhood Safety Committee. Thank You.

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September is . . .

# National Preparedness Month

*“Preparing Makes Sense!”*

Make a Kit, Make a Plan, Be Informed

Join us the *Allen Citizens Corps Council* for ...

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual**

**“ Are You Ready? ”**

**Allen's Preparedness Event**

**Saturday, September 15, 2007**

*10:00 am – 2:00 pm*

**Allen Fire Department  
Central Station**

**310 Century Parkway**

**Allen, TX 75013**

Activities will include:

Building an Emergency Supply Kit

Making a Family Emergency Plan

Bring your family and emergency contact information, and we will walk you through making an emergency plan

Fire and Severe Weather Safety Trailer

Receive:

The “ARE YOU READY?” manual

“KnoWhat2Do Think. Prepare. Act” DVD

“KnoWhat2Do Think. Prepare. Act” Guide Book- while supplies last



**Homeland  
Security**



**citizen★corps**  
UNITING COMMUNITIES  
PREPARING THE NATION

**Ready** ✓  
Prepare. Plan. Stay Informed.



To learn more about how you and your family can prepare for emergencies or get involved visit: [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) or [www.citizencorps.gov](http://www.citizencorps.gov)