



Ramsey County Sheriff's Office

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Neighbors and Deputies working together for safer communities

Neighborhood Newsletter – March 2025

March

9th Day Light Savings (move forward an hour)

20th First Day of Spring

April

Distracted Driving Awareness Month

Stress Awareness Month

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

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Daylight Savings Spring Forward

Sunday morning March 9th, 2025, clocks move forward one hour.



Enhanced DWI Enforcement planned in month of March



The Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths Initiative will be supporting extra patrols and special enforcement efforts to take drunk and impaired drivers off our roads during March.

The best plan to stay safe is to not drink and drive. If you drink, plan a sober ride.

Ice Safety- The Spring Melt

Per the MN DNR they state the following regarding spring [Ice Safety](#). As the temperature starts to rise in the spring and the ice begins to melt, you may think you are safer if you stay near the shore. However, ice typically melts fastest near the shore in the spring. The shallow water and abundant plant life cause the water to warm faster near the shore than in the middle of the lake. Along the shoreline, there are often rocks, logs, docks, and other structures that absorb heat from the sun, causing the water to warm even faster near those objects.

This winter White Bear Lake was nationally recognized through social media for a Buick that had fallen through the ice. Luckily the driver was able to escape safely. The next challenging part is that per Minnesota state law the owner has 30 days to get the vehicle out of the water. If they don't, local law enforcement will intervene and bill the vehicle owner. The price by tow companies can be anywhere from \$5,000 to upwards of \$10,000 depending on location, time of the season, and gear needed to remove the vehicle.



So, with the drastic flux in temperatures that we have already seen in the last few weeks from highs in the 20's to 50's, the edges of the lakes and ponds are already become unsafe. Some of the Ramsey County Boat Loaches have already been barricaded due to unsafe ice conditions.

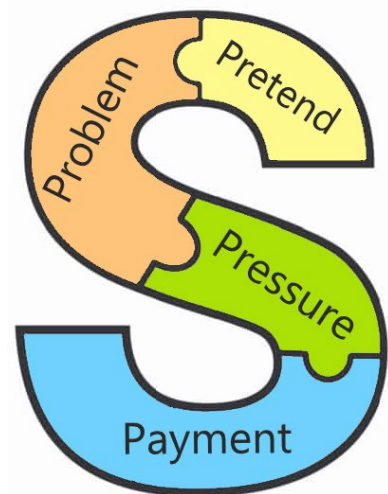
Ice is NEVER 100% safe. YOUR safety is YOUR responsibility.

Scam – the 4 P's

Scams are happening each second of the day and each of us have fallen victim to their sly sneaky trickery. It's not if, but when one of these scams will affect you and you will fall for one. There are so many different names given to scams it can become hard to keep up with all of them. So here are FOUR simple things to keep in mind when answering a phone call, reading a text, or an email that will help you recognize any scam.

Signs of a Scams:

1. **Pretend:** Scammers will pretend to be from an organization, government, charity, retail, or other company that you know and trust. They will sound very convincing with their lies impersonating real people or companies. The scammers will try use persuasion to gain your trust by telling you basic information about you or your family members. Many of these calls are being spoofed from real company phone numbers to make their story more believable.
2. **Problem or Prize:** The scammer will tell you something is wrong. Your bank has been hacked, you have a warrant for your arrest, you missed court, there is a family emergency, a package was not delivered, and more. They will create a fake story around something to get your attention. The lies can even be a prize, such as, you won a car, money, or trip.
3. **Pressure:** The scammers will next make you believe you have to act now or immediately. They will create fear and scare you into acting as soon as possible or MORE problems will happen (they will sue you, arrest you, threaten to kill your family, etc). They will often tell you not to talk to anyone and trying to isolate you so no one will stop you. Some will even keep you on the phone and tell you not to hang up while you're at the bank or in a store.
4. **Payment or Price:** The scammer ultimately will ask you to pay. The payment they ask for will be in a way that it is hard for law enforcement to track back to the scammer. Common



payments methods are cryptocurrency ATM, gift cards, cash in mail, gold, or payment applications. They will then continue to tell you the problem and pressure you into acting right now.

[How to Avoid a Scam](#)

If you do fall for a scam and give your personal information or money, please call 911 and report the theft by swindle. Then report it to [FTC.gov](https://www.ftc.gov) where they will give you a step-by-step recovery plan.

Sexual Assault Awareness

The month of April is Sexual Assault Awareness month which relates to sexual assault, abuse or harassment. This is not a topic normally talked about or that people feel comfortable talking about, however, it is important to bring the information to all the community members. If it's not you then someone you know has been assaulted at some point in their life. Approximately half of the people who are victims are sexual assaulted by an acquaintance or intimate partner. Victims range from all ages and all communities.



SOS is available 24/7:
Call: 651-266-1000
Email: asksos@co.ramsey.mn.us

Ramsey County start in 1998 the Sexual Assault Protocol Team that helps to improve the community response to sexual assault. Ramsey County has since pushed out “free and confidential services for victims of sexual violence, their partners, families, friends and other concerned persons” through [SOS Sexual Violence Services](#).

Locally the Northeast Youth and Family Services in Shoreview and White Bear Lake, MN provides [domestic violence and sexual assault service](#) for not only adults but also for children. There are few services for youth in the community so please reach out for additional resources and questions. (flyer attached)

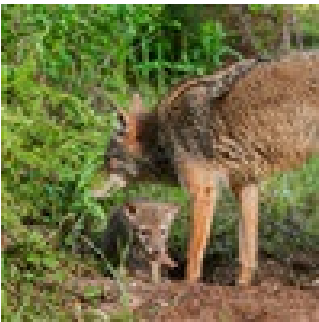
Additional Resources:

[Sexual Assault Awareness Month \(SAAM\)](#)

[Child Advocacy Center | Midwest Children's Resource Center](#)

[Sexual Abuse & Assault of Boys & Men | Confidential Support for Men](#)

Waterfowl, Coyotes & Bears Oh My – it must be Spring



Spring will soon be springing, and our urban wildlife encounters will be adapting. As the grass begins showing off its green the ducks and geese will be migrating through or settling in, the coyote kits will be born and beginning to learn to hunt, and on occasion solitary black bears (or mothers with cubs) pass through Ramsey County on their way to preferred foraging areas.

When you see the Urban Coyotes the DNR will not trap, shoot, or relocate them. Most while coyotes avoid people and are looking for food. Here are some dos and don't from the MN DNR.

DO:

- Secure all garbage containers, wildlife feeders, and other food sources to prevent coyote access
- Confine small dogs and cats in kennels, or supervise them when outside
- Vaccinate all pets for rabies, distemper, parvo, and other diseases, as recommended by a veterinarian
- Consider installing coyote-proof fencing
- Harass (by chasing, shouting, etc.) any coyotes that do not immediately run from people

DON'T:

- Do not feed coyotes
- Do not leave pet food outside
- Do not allow cats and small dogs outside, unattended

Bears usually avoid humans and will go away when they feel safe. The best way to avoid bear problems is to not attract them in the first place. Remove food sources such as bird feeders, compost piles and garbage cans. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) advises Black Bears that are outside of the metro 694/494 loop are to be left alone and not killed outside of hunting season. DNR will investigate probable nuisance bears that may pose a risk to public safety and will respond accordingly.



The Ramsey County Sheriff's Office generally will not respond to mere bear sightings nor if a bear happens to be on your property foraging or hunting prey. You do not need to call 911 but if you do, we will record your information to track and relay the bear sighting to the DNR.

More info on bears: https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/livingwith_wildlife/bears/homes.html

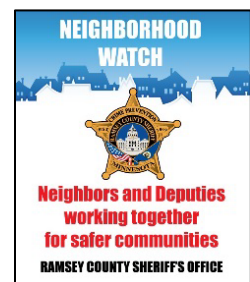
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Neighborhood Watch is about Neighbors and Deputies working together

Involved neighbors are more likely to have open communication lines with each other, deputies, and the whole community. When neighbors know each other's names, normal patterns, and look out for each other, it is likely that they will report any activity that doesn't fit with regular schedules. Involved neighbors look out for each other.

Neighborhood Watch program [information and forms](#) to help your block organization are available on the county [website](#). **Please complete and return the [Block Captain registration form](#)** to ensure the Sheriff's Office has your most current contact information.

Online information of activity in your neighborhood – CommunityCrimeMap.com



Thank you for working for safer neighborhoods!



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Remember – when you See Something, Say Something, Call 9-1-1