

Mayor's Message: June 2011



Mayor Russ Wall

Summer is here and with it come problems associated with summer. Kids are out of school and many of them are home alone while their parents work to support the family.

Reminiscing about my own childhood, I recall that it is easier to get into a little bit of mischief when parents are not around. Kids have not changed much since my childhood days, but, unfortunately, some of the “mischief” that happens now is much more troublesome to the community. Summertime brings increases in vandalism, graffiti, home burglaries, and drug/alcohol offenses. This means that our already busy police officers are asked to do even more.

One way we can help as citizens is to be the eyes and the ears in our own neighborhoods. Nothing deters crime better than an active Neighborhood Watch program or even a few nosey neighbors. If you see something suspicious on your street, please be a good citizen and report it, no matter how trivial it may be at the time.

Last year I saw two young men walking northbound on 2700 West. I observed that one of them was crouching down at each power line pole along the roadway. I thought that they might be putting graffiti on the poles, so I called the police department and continued to watch them from a SAFE distance. It turns out that they had been cutting copper ground wires from the poles to sell for scrap. They had done this to many poles along the way, in broad daylight, with people coming and going in their front yards and not even noticing.

Not only was this a costly form of theft for Rocky Mountain Power (really us, because these costs are passed on to the retail users), but it was very dangerous as the ground wires are an extremely important safety item on the poles.

My point is, do not be afraid to call the police if you see something suspicious. You will not be in trouble if it turns out to be nothing for the police to worry about.

Have a safe, fun and watchful summer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Russ Wall". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and legible.

P.S. If you are interested in establishing or joining a Neighborhood Watch program, please call the Police Department at (801) 955-2000 for more information.