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# *The Belleville Beat*

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From the Desk of Sgt. Don Sax

This month, May 2005, *The Belleville Beat* offers information on Internet safety for children. This information is provided by Internet Keep Safe Coalition at iKeepSafe.org. The Internet Keep Safe Coalition group teaches basic rules of Internet safety to children and parents, reaching them online and in school. Governors and/or first spouses formed this coalition in partnership with a growing list of crime prevention organizations, law enforcement agencies, foundations and corporate sponsors.

Studies show that 1 in 5 youths using the Internet receives an online sexual solicitation in a one-year period, and 29% of children will freely give out their home address if asked.

Internet Safety Guidelines:

Keep. Don't Meet. Tell.

- ◆ Keep your personal information protected. Never give your name, address, phone number, the name of your school, or a picture of yourself to anyone you meet online.
- ◆ Don't meet in person with anyone you've found online.
- ◆ Tell a parent, teacher, or trusted adult if you feel uncomfortable about anything you see on a computer.

Here is a list of terms you may need to know when using the Internet:

- ◆ Attachment - A file added or ""attached" to e-mail.
- ◆ Blacklisting software - A filtering system blocking only sites identified as harmful.
- ◆ Blocking/Filtering software - A computer program that blocks access to Web sites or other Internet services.
- ◆ Blog - A Web log or journal. Remember to follow the rules for Internet safety and never post personal information.
- ◆ Bookmark - A way to quickly access a favorite Web site by saving the address in your browser.
- ◆ Browser - A service allowing users to view Web pages. Examples include Netscape ® Navigator and Microsoft ® Internet Explorer.

- ◆ Bulletin Board Service (BBS) – An Internet location where people can post messages on a particular topic.
- ◆ Chat room - An Internet location used to communicate back and forth with others in real-time. Many chat rooms have designated categories so people can talk with others that have common interests.
- ◆ Cookie - A tool used by some Web sites to download and store information on your hard drive. Information stored can include login identification, user preferences, and Internet history. This information is used to customize Web sites and advertisements for future use.
- ◆ Cyberspace - The virtual environment created by the Internet and all the services it provides.
- ◆ Domain name - The address name of a Web site. For example iKeepSafe.org is the domain name for this Web site.
- ◆ Download – Pulling information from another source to your computer. Information can be downloaded from the Internet, discs, CDs, and other computers.
- ◆ Emoticons - Animated faces and symbols used to express different emotions when communicating with others on the Internet.
- ◆ File Transfer Protocol (FTP) - A means for exchanging files between computers.
- ◆ Filtering software - Software used to screen unwanted Internet content. Several kinds are available. Find the best program for you.
- ◆ Firewall - A system that creates a virtual wall blocking unwanted information, viruses and hackers from entering your computer.
- ◆ Flaming - Sending a confrontational, rude, or critical message to others on the Internet through e-mail or postings on newsgroups.
- ◆ Gamer - A person who plays a lot of computer games, sometimes over the Internet.
- ◆ Hacker - Someone who uses advanced computer skills to gain access to other computer systems either legally or illegally.
- ◆ Hardware - The tangible computer components including the keyboard, monitor, and hard drive.
- ◆ Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) - The programming language used to create Web sites and documents on the Internet.
- ◆ Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) - The protocol that computers use to communicate via the World Wide Web.
- ◆ Icons - A small graphic used to represent the different programs, functions, and files on your computer.
- ◆ Instant Messaging (IM) - A service that allows people to send and receive messages back and forth almost instantly. Instant messaging varies from chat rooms in that the messages are usually privately exchanged between invited “buddies” only.
- ◆ Internet Service Provider (ISP) - A company providing Internet access to customers.
- ◆ Intranet - A private network inside a company or an organization for private use only.
- ◆ Listserv - A system allowing users to send e-mail to one address where it is then copied and sent to all other subscribers to the listserv.
- ◆ Message Board - A place on a website where visitors can post public messages for others to read.
- ◆ Modem - A hardware device allowing computers to communicate through telephone lines.
- ◆ Monitoring software - Software allowing parents to monitor the Web sites and E-mail messages a child visits or reads.
- ◆ MP3 - Digital music files that can be played on a computer or other digital music player. Files are often purchased and/or shared via the Internet.
- ◆ Network - Two or more computers that are connected to share information. The Internet is an example of a large network.

- ◆ Newsgroups - An Internet location to discuss specific topics by posting comments and/or responding to others messages.
- ◆ Offline - Refers to being not being connected to the Internet.
- ◆ Online - Term commonly used to indicate that a computer is connected to the Internet or a person is using the Internet.
- ◆ Plug-in - An add-on program that enhances the capabilities of another program. Common plug-ins enable your computer to play video and audio files. Most plug-ins attach to your Internet browser.
- ◆ PDF - A file format pioneered by Adobe Acrobat that most computers can easily view, download, and print. PDFs preserve the print formatting of the original document and prevent users from making modifications.
- ◆ Query - Using keywords or phrases to search for information on a specific topic on the Internet.
- ◆ Rip - To open, convert, and save an audio or video file to your computer.
- ◆ Search engine - An Internet service used to search for information on the World Wide Web. Search engines look for keywords typed by the user and return a list of information found on that topic. Google at [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) is an example of a search engine.
- ◆ Server - The computer that hosts a network and /or Web site.
- ◆ Soft copy - An electronic version of a computer file. For example, these definitions when viewed on the computer are considered a soft copy, but if printed are considered a hard copy.
- ◆ Software - Various computer programs that have specific functions. For example, an Internet filtering program is a type of software that blocks unwanted Internet content.
- ◆ Spam - Unwanted e-mail from someone you don't know, usually trying to sell you something.
- ◆ Streaming (Media) - To listen to or view media files as they download from the Internet. Streamed files do not get saved to your computer.
- ◆ Surf - To search for information on the Internet.
- ◆ Uniform Resource Locator (URL) - The specific location or address of material on the Internet. For example the URL for iKeepSafe is <http://www.iKeepSafe.org>.
- ◆ User - Refers to the individual using the computer.
- ◆ Virus - An unwanted computer program designed to intentionally cause annoyance or damage to computers and networks. Viruses can be transmitted over the Internet, through e-mail, or through other file-sharing programs. Anti-virus software is available and should be updated regularly.
- ◆ Ware / Pirated Software - Illegally distributed or purchased software.
- ◆ White-listing - Filtering programs that only allow users to connect to pre-approved sites considered appropriate for children.
- ◆ Zip file - Large files that have been compressed, allowing easy and quick transmission over the Internet. The receiver of a zip file must open it with a program that will unzip the file.

#### Websites's Guidelines for Parents:

- ◆ Keep the computer in a common room in the house and position the monitor so it's available for public viewing.
- ◆ Establish rules for using the Internet and teach your child important safety guidelines.
- ◆ Use blocking software or filtering programs, but don't rely on them as your only line of defense.
- ◆ Predators often use chat rooms to contact children. Teach children that people online are not always who they say they are.
- ◆ Frequently check the Internet history to see which sites your child is visiting.

- ◆ Monitor you child's e-mail account. Let him or her know you're checking it, why you're doing it, and talk about potential online dangers.
- ◆ Spend time with your children online. Have them show you their favorite sites.
- ◆ If you see anything suspicious or think your child may be a victim of Internet exploitation, contact your local law enforcement agency or local FBI office.

#### Protect Children with Internet Filters:

Internet filters block websites with inappropriate content from your computer. They can also disable or put time restrictions on chat rooms and instant messaging. Filtering can take place on your computer with Filtering software that you install, OR you can subscribe to a filtered Internet service provider (ISP)—they filter the Internet for you.

#### Understanding the Lingo of Instant Messaging:

121 = one to one	DL = dead link
AFAIK = as far as I know	DLTBBB = don't let the bed bugs bite
AFK = away from keyboard	DQMOT = don't quote me on this
AKA = also known as	EG = evil grin
ARE = acronym-rich environment	EMFBI = excuse me for butting in
ASAP = as soon as possible	EOM = end of message
A/S/L? = age, sex, location	EOT = end of thread
B4 = before	F2F = face to face
B4N = bye for now	FAQ = frequently asked question(s)
BAK = back at the keyboard	FC = fingers crossed
BBIAB = be back in a bit	FISH = first in, still here
BBL = be back later	FMTYEWTK = far more than you ever wanted to know
BBML = be back much later	FOMCL = falling off my chair laughing
BBN = bye bye now	FTBOMH = from the bottom of my heart
BBS = be back soon	FUD = fear, uncertainty, and doubt
BEG = big evil grin	FWIW = for what it's worth
BF = boyfriend	FYI = for your information
BFN = bye for now	GA = go ahead
BG = big grin	GAL = get a life
BL = belly laughing	GD&R = grinning, ducking, & running
BRB = be right back	GF = girlfriend
BTA = but then again	GFN = gone for now
BTW = by the way	GIWIST = gee, I wish I'd said that
BWL = bursting with laughter	GMBO = giggling my butt off
BWTHDIK = but what the heck do I know	GMTA = great minds think alike
C&G = chuckle & grin	GOL = giggling out loud
CID = crying in disgrace	GTRM = going to read mail
CNP = continued (in my) next post	GTSY = glad to see you
CP = chat post	H&K = hug and kiss
CRBT = crying real big tears	HAGN = have a good night
CSG = chuckle, snicker, grin	HHIS = hanging head in shame
CU = see you	HTH = hope this helps
CUL or CUL8ER = see you later	IAC = in any case
CUZ = because	IAE = in any event
CYO = see you online	IANAL = I am not a lawyer (but)
DIKU = do I know you?	

IC = I see  
IDK = I don't know  
IHA = I hate acronyms  
IIRC = if I remember correctly  
ILU = I love you  
IM = instant message  
IMHO = in my humble opinion  
IMing = chatting with someone online  
IMNSHO = in my not so humble opinion  
IMO = in my opinion  
IOW = in other words  
IPN = I'm posting naked  
IRL = in real life  
IWALU = I will always love you  
IYSWIM = if you see what I mean  
JBOD = just a bunch of disks  
JIC = just in case  
JK = just kidding  
JMO = just my opinion  
JTLYK = just to let you know  
JW = just wondering  
K = okay  
KIT = keep in touch  
KOC = kiss on cheek  
KOL = kiss on lips  
KWIM = know what I mean?  
L2M = listening to music  
L8R = later  
LD = later, dude  
LDR = long distance relationship  
LHM = lord help me  
LHU = lord help us  
LLTA = lots and lots of thunderous  
applause  
LMIRL = let's meet in real life  
LMSO = laughing my socks off  
LOL = laughing out loud  
LRF = little rubber feet  
LSHMBB = laughing so hard my belly is  
bouncing  
LSHMBH = laughing so hard my belly  
hurts  
LSHTTARDML = laughing so hard the  
tears are running down my leg  
LTM = laugh to myself  
LTNS = long time, no see  
LTR = long term relationship  
LTS = laughing to self  
LULAB = love you like a brother  
LULAS = love you like a sister  
LUWAMH = love you with all my heart

LY = love you  
M/F = male or female  
MOSS = member of same sex  
MOTOS = member of the opposite sex  
MSG = message  
MTF = more to follow  
MUSM = miss you so much  
NADT = not a darn thing  
NIFOC = naked in front of computer  
NP = nosy parents  
N/P = no problem  
NRN = no reply necessary  
OIC = oh I see  
OL = old lady  
OLL = online love  
OM = old man  
OMG = oh my god  
OTF = off the floor  
OTOH = on the other hand  
OTTOMH = off the top of my head  
P2P = peer to peer  
P911 = my parents are coming!  
PA = parent alert  
PAL = parents are listening  
PANB = parents are nearby  
PANS = pretty awesome new stuff  
PDA = public display of affection  
PDS = please don't shoot  
PLZ = please  
PM = private message  
PMFJIB = pardon me for jumping in but...  
PMP = peed my pants  
POAHF = put on a happy face  
POS = parent over shoulder  
POTS = plain old telephone service  
PU = that stinks  
QSL = reply  
QSO = conversation  
QT = cutie  
RL = real life  
ROL = raffing out loud  
ROTFL = rolling on the floor laughing  
RPG = role playing games  
RSN = real soon now  
RYO = roll your own  
S4L = spam for life  
SETE = smiling ear to ear  
SF = surfer friendly  
SHCOON = shoot hot coffee out of nose  
SHID = slaps head in disgust

SNERT = snot-nosed egotistical rude teenager  
SO = significant other  
SOMY = sick of me yet?  
SOT = short of time  
SOTMG = short of time, must go  
STW = search the web  
SUP or WU = what's up  
SWAK = sealed with a kiss  
SWL = screaming with laughter  
SYS = see you soon  
TA = thanks again  
TAFN = that's all for now  
TAW = teachers are watching  
TCOB = taking care of business  
TCOY = take care of yourself  
TFH = thread from hell  
TGIF = thank God it's Friday  
THX = thanks  
TIA = thanks in advance  
TILII = tell it like it is  
TLK2UL8R = talk to you later  
TMI = too much information

TNT = 'till next time  
TOPCA = 'til our paths cross again  
TOY = thinking of you  
TPTB = the powers that be  
TTFN = ta ta for now  
TTT = thought that too  
TTYL = talk to you later  
TU = thank you  
UW = you're welcome  
VBG = very big grin  
WB = welcome back  
WDALYIC = who died and left you in charge?  
W/E = whatever  
WFM = works for me  
WIBNI = wouldn't it be nice if  
WTG = way to go  
WTGP = want to go private?  
WTH = what/who the heck  
WUF = where are you from?  
WYSIWYG = what you see is what you get  
YBS = you'll be sorry  
YG = young gentleman  
YL = young lady  
YM = young man

[Yourbelleville.com](http://Yourbelleville.com)

This is a new web site devoted specifically for the City of Belleville. It lists neighborhood watches, current events, houses of worship, dining, government and much more information. Come, visit your city!