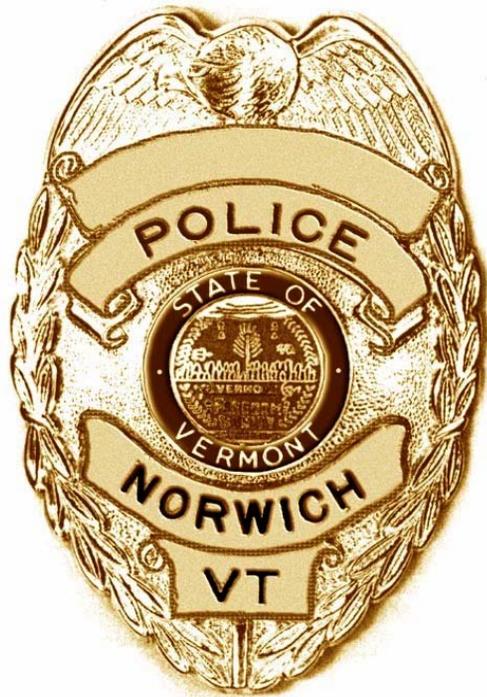


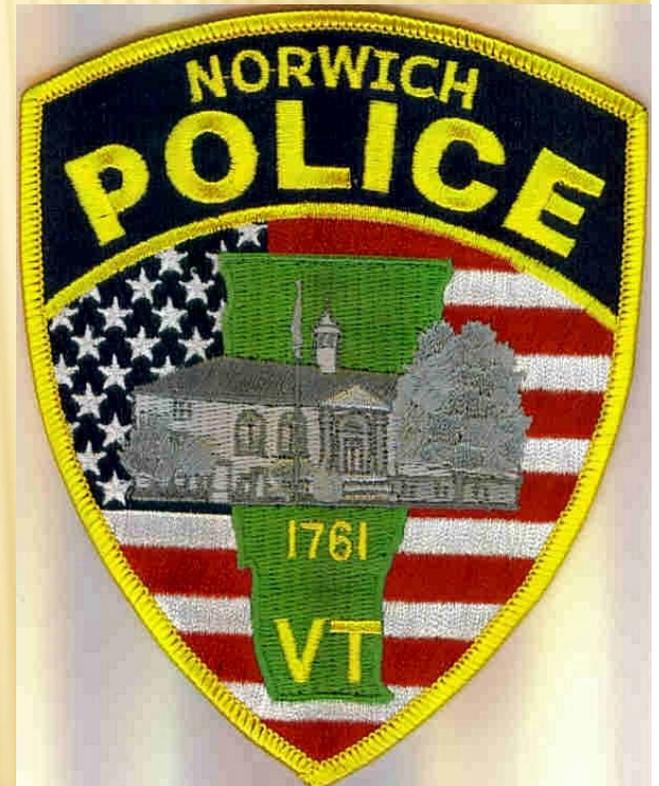
KIDS AND GUNS

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As a firearms owner, it is YOUR responsibility to know how to properly handle any firearm you own and also to know how to secure your firearm/s in a safe manner in your home.

If for any reason you feel uncomfortable with or are unable to accept these responsibilities, we strongly urge you not to own a firearm

HANDLING FIREARMS IN A SAFE MANNER

Firearms safety begins with understanding and carefully following all the rules of safe gun handling. Before any handling firearm, you should be familiar with the following safety procedures:

HANDLING FIREARMS IN A SAFE MANNER

- ✘ Be sure you know how the firearm operates. Not all firearms are the same. Know how to safely open and close the action of the firearm and know how to safely remove any ammunition from the gun or from the gun's magazine. The manufacturer's name and location are on every gun – write them for free safety and operating instructions.

HANDLING FIREARMS IN A SAFE MANNER

- ✘ Always keep a gun pointed in a safe direction, even when handling an unloaded gun. A “safe direction” means that the gun is pointed so that even if it were to fire it would not result in an injury.

HANDLING FIREARMS IN A SAFE MANNER

- ✘ Never assume that a firearm is unloaded. Whenever you pick up a gun, the first thing you should do is point it in a safe direction and make sure it is unloaded. Open the action and look into the chamber(s), which should be clear of ammunition. If the gun has a magazine, carefully remove it before opening the action. Then open the action to be sure the chamber is clear of ammunition.

HANDLING FIREARMS IN A SAFE MANNER

Always keep your finger **OFF** the trigger, even when handling an unloaded gun. When handling a gun, rest your finger outside the trigger guard or along the side of the gun. The only time you should touch the trigger is when you are at a shooting range or other safe shooting location and you are actually ready to fire.

HANDLING FIREARMS IN A SAFE MANNER

REMEMBER: Nearly all firearms accidents in the home can be prevented simply by making sure that guns are kept unloaded and locked up, with ammunition secured in a separate location

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**Children will die
today in the U.S.
from gunfire**

KEY GUIDELINES FOR SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS

- ✘ Unloaded firearms should be stored in a locked cabinet, safe, gun vault or storage case. Be sure to place a locked storage case in a location inaccessible to children
- ✘ Unloaded firearms can also be secured with a gun locking device that renders the firearm inoperable. A gun lock should be used as an additional safety precaution and not as a substitute for locked storage.

KEY GUIDELINES FOR SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS

- ✘ Store ammunition in a location separate from the firearms
- ✘ Always re-check firearms carefully and completely to confirm that they are “still” unloaded when you remove them from storage. Accidents could occur if a family member has loaned or borrowed a gun and then carelessly returned it to storage while it was still loaded.

LIFE SAVING TIPS FOR PARENTS

You have a right to know if your child is safe in another person's home.

Don't hesitate to ask these important questions before allowing your child into anyone's home:

LIFE SAVING TIPS FOR PARENTS

1. My child is very curious, I wonder if you have guns at your home?
2. If you have guns, do you store guns and bullets in separate places that are not accessible by children?
3. Do you have gun locks on your guns?

You already protect your children, you ask about allergies and adult supervision. Ask about firearms in the home as well

If you don't ask.

Do you really

care????

LIFE SAVING TIPS FOR PARENTS

- ✘ Don't be judgmental or confrontational, present your concerns in a respectful manner. You are simply trying to make sure your child is playing in a safe environment.
- ✘ If you have any doubts about safety, politely decline the invitation or make arrangements for the children to play in your home or at the park instead.
- ✘ Ease any awkwardness among friends or neighbors by starting a dialogue on gun violence and prevention and offering information on your home's safety precautions. Often they will share their household's information in return

QUICK FACTS

- ✘ From 1987 to 2006, a total of 101 Vermont children under the age of 19 years old died from a gun-related injury. This translates to one child dying from a gun-related injury every 2.4 months.
- ✘ It is 3-5 times more likely that children in homes with a loaded or unlocked guns will suffer gun related injuries or death. Safe gun storage can reduce gun related injuries or death in homes where children and teenagers reside
- ✘ Gun safety programs for kids and adults DO NOT guarantee gun safety practices at home. According to multiple studies, children who received training are not less likely to play with guns than those who didn't; and adult gun owners are twice as likely to load and unlock their guns at home after training than before

**Talking openly about
preventing gun violence
will only strengthen and
protect your community**

QUICK FACTS

3 of 7 Vermont Homes have guns

Unsafe gun storage at home increases the risk of injury and death for all children – your own and others. Don't let children know where guns and bullets are stored.

VERMONT GUN LAWS

- ✘ Title 13 VSA 4003: You can not carry a dangerous weapon on any state institution i.e. Court House, Correctional Center.
- ✘ State Government Buildings i.e. Capitol Building
- ✘ Title 13 VSA 4004: You can not possess a firearm while within a school building or on a school bus.
- ✘ You can not possess a firearm on any school property with the intent to injure another person

VERMONT GUN LAWS

- ✘ Title 13 VSA 4007: You can not furnish a firearm to any minor under the age of 16.
- ✘ Title 13 VSA 4008: A child under the age of 16 shall not (without the consent of his/her parent or guardian) have in his/her possession a pistol or revolver.

VERMONT GUN LAWS

- ✘ No permit is required to purchase a rifle, shotgun, or handgun.
- ✘ It is unlawful to sell or offer to sell a “Zip Gun”.
- ✘ No state permit is required to possess a rifle, shotgun, or handgun
- ✘ It is unlawful for a child under 16, without the consent of parent or guardian, to possess or control a handgun

VERMONT GUN LAWS

- ✘ It is **LAWFUL** to carry a firearm openly or concealed provided the firearm is not carried with the intent of injuring another person
- ✘ It is **UNLAWFUL** to carry a loaded rifle or shotgun in or on a motor vehicle within the right of way of a public highway.

