



Tarpon Springs Police Department

Building a Better Future Through Excellence in Policing



July 2017

Crime Watch Newsletter

TARPON SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT SAFE ZONE

Craigslist, eBay, Facebook, OfferUp, Letgo, and many other websites are great tools for finding good deals, but can also be dangerous if not handled wisely. Besides the possibility of scams and fraudulent transactions, there are also isolated incidents of buyers and sellers of internet transactions that end up being victims of crimes like robbery, theft, battery and assault when they meet in person to complete the transaction.

To help citizens complete these transactions safely, the Tarpon Springs Police Department (444 S. Huey Ave.) highly recommends meeting in a highly visible, public place and is offering up its lobby as a "safe zone" for buyers and sellers of internet transactions to meet to complete their deals. People do not need to ask permission or make an appointment to use the lobby for this purpose. Weapons are NOT allowed in the police department.



**SCHOOL OPENS
AUGUST 10TH
DRIVE SAFELY**

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PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS SCHEDULE

Aug. 10, 2017: All schools open. All Pre-k and postsecondary schools' classes begin.

Sept. 4, 2017: Labor Day holiday – No school for students.

Oct. 13, 2017: End of first quarter.

Oct. 16, 2017: No school for students.

Nov. 18 - Nov. 26, 2017: Thanksgiving holiday week – No school for students.

Dec. 22, 2017: End of first semester.

Dec. 23, 2017 - Jan. 7, 2018: Winter holidays - No school for students.

Jan. 8, 2018: No school for students.

Jan. 9, 2018: Second semester begins.

Jan. 15, 2018: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday - No school for students. Feb. 19, 2018: No school for students.

Mar. 9, 2018: End of third quarter

Mar. 12, 2018: No school for students.

Mar. 24 - Apr. 1, 2018: Spring holidays – No school for students.

Apr. 2, 2018: Schools reopen. Classes resume.

May 24, 2018: Last day for all students (with the exception of Adult students at the Postsecondary Centers).

SAFETY USING A GENERATOR IN CASE OF HURRICANE OR SEVERE STORM



The primary hazards to avoid when using a generator are carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning from the toxic engine exhaust, electric shock or electrocution, and fire. Follow the directions supplied with the generator.

To avoid electrocution, keep the generator dry and do not use in rain or wet conditions. Operate it on a dry surface under an open canopy-like structure, such as under a tarp held up on poles. Do not touch the generator with wet hands.

Be sure to turn the generator off and let it cool down before refueling. Gasoline spilled on hot engine parts could ignite.

Store fuel for the generator in an approved safety can. Use the type of fuel recommended in the instructions or on the label on the generator.

Local laws may restrict the amount of fuel you may store, or the storage location. Ask your local fire department.

Store the fuel outside of living areas in a locked shed or other protected area. To guard against accidental fire, do not store it near a fuel-burning appliance, such as a natural gas water heater in a garage.

Plug appliances directly into the generator, or use a heavy duty, outdoor-rated extension cord that is rated (in watts or amps) at least equal to the sum of the connected appliance loads.

Check that the entire cord is free of cuts or tears and that the plug has all three prongs, especially a grounding pin.

Never try to power the house wiring by plugging the generator into a wall outlet. Known as “backfeeding,” this practice puts utility workers, your neighbors and your household at risk of electrocution.

Remember, even a properly connected portable generator can become overloaded, resulting in overheating or generator failure. Be sure to read the instructions.

If necessary, stagger the operating times for various equipment to prevent overloads.