Safety Week
October 20-26, 2013

SCOUTS CANADA

It starts with Scouts.

Day 6
Internet and Mobile Phone Safety

As new technology comes along, new threats come along with it. While we communicate more and more in a virtual world, online activity has real world implications. It's not only important to teach our youth to think about how to be safe online, it's important for adults to think about internet and mobile phone safety, too. After all, it's hard to have the benefit of experience with new technology.

Beaver Scouts

BEAVER SCOUTS

Tips to share:
- Don't communicate with strangers online.
- Respect your parents' privacy. Log in as yourself on the computer, if you have your own login information.
- If your parents have set up the computer so that you only have access to certain sites, respect those boundaries. If there's a site you want to access but can't, ask your parents for help.

Scouters Tip:
At the beginning of an outing, take a picture of each member of the group with your mobile phone camera. If somebody gets lost, having a photo of what somebody's wearing might help that person be found faster.

Resources and Program Ideas:
- Do you have parental control software on your home computer? Consider software like Net Nanny.

CUB SCOUTS

Tips to share:
- If your computer seems to be running really slowly, or if pop-up windows keep appearing on your screen, tell your parents.
- If peers are harassing you online, remember that you can block or unfriend them.
- Don't respond or retaliate to mean or hurtful messages.

Scouters Tip:
Run regular scans on your computer for spyware, malware and viruses. What happens on your own computer might have implications for people in the Scouting community you correspond with.

Cub Scouts

Resources and Program Ideas:
- Visit The Door That's Not Locked, a website recommended by the RCMP with resources and information that's appropriate for the kids in your Pack and their parents.

Scouts

Scouts

Tips to share:

- Use hard-to-guess passwords. Include numbers and capital letters.
- Don't have conversations online with adults.
- Don't post pictures online that you wouldn't want just anybody to see—because just about anybody can!

Scouters Tip:
Always CC another adult in any messages sent to youth via email.

Resources and Program Ideas:

- A short, simple video with some good advice.

VENTURER SCOUTS

Venturer Scouts

Tips to share:

- Don't leave your mobile phone untended.
- Lock your computer when you're not using it.
- Carefully manage the privacy settings for online profiles.

Scouters Tip:
Don't text and drive.

Resources and Program Ideas:

- Set limits on your screen time.

ROVER SCOUTS

Rover Scouts

Tips to share:

- Always delete your browser history after online banking or shopping.
- Have a password on your mobile phone.
- Set reasonable limits for the amount of time you spend online. Internet addiction is a widely-recognized disorder with serious ramifications.

Resources and Program Ideas:

- Do you sometimes text and drive? It only takes a second for this to happen.