



Newsletter of the Layton City Neighborhood Watch Program / Summer 2007

Code Enforcement as an Integral Part of Crime Prevention

Do vandals create an ugly neighborhood? Or does an ugly neighborhood breed vandalism? Property damage is usually an outlet of youth anger, revenge, boredom, or territoriality. A neighborhood with excessive graffiti and damaged or run down buildings displays a “don’t care” attitude. This attracts littering, loitering, and more vandalism. It hurts local business, decreases property value, and fosters the deterioration of the neighborhood as a whole.

Community pride is an easy and effective way to prevent an area from becoming a target for graffiti, vandalism, and crime. Damage attracts more damage, so vandalized property should be repaired as quickly as possible and graffiti should be removed before it attracts imitators.¹

The Police Department plays a significant role in helping to keep our community clean and desirable to live in while helping to maintain property values. Though the efforts of our Code Enforcement Officers, properties that fall into disrepair, maintain junk or inoperable vehicles in the yard, allow weeds to grow to unreasonable heights or violate other municipal ordinances are inspected and given notice of the observed violations. Oftentimes these properties are brought to the attention of the Police Department by neighbors or are observed by officers on patrol.²

The Code Enforcement Division is staffed by three officers and a supervisor. The Layton City website lists the following as the top 10 violations.

1. All vehicles on the property must be licensed and operable. Any inoperable or unlicensed (when licenses and registration have been expired for a period of 4 months) vehicles must be removed from your property, or stored in a completely enclosed structure. This includes any and all vehicle parts. If vehicles are being restored, a Restoration Permit is required and can be obtained from the Community Development Department. *Layton City Code 6.24.170 and 6.24.175*
2. All vehicles and trailers must be parked on a hard surface. *Layton City Code 19.12.030, 19.12.100, 19.12.160-4, and 10.62.030*
3. All weeds on property must be maintained so they do not exceed 12” in height. *Layton City Code 6.24.070*
4. All solid waste, litter, and any items in disuse must be removed from your property. *Layton City Code 6.24.070*
5. Trees and bushes must be cut and maintained 7’ above the sidewalk and 13’6” above the street. *Layton City Code 19.16.080d*

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The Layton Community Action Council (L.C.A.C.) is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit, volunteer organization created in response to Utah's Promise.



TO REACH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

FOR EMERGENCIES CALL 911

FOR OTHER CALLS 497-8300



New Watch Groups

Welcome to the following area(s):

Several are in process at this time of receiving their training



Emergency Preparedness Fair

When: Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Time: 6:30 pm—9:30 pm

Where: Davis Conference Center

Vendors selling preparedness items

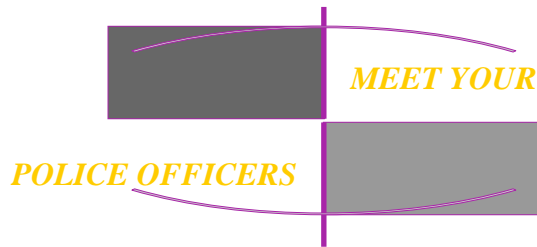
Demonstrations & free items

Activities for the kids

Free Be Ready Layton bag to first 1000 participants

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME

We encourage the Neighborhood Watch groups to recognize this national event which is to be held this year on August 7th. Empowering the neighborhoods to be responsible for their own area is a goal of NNO. For information on activities and ideas on how to hold an event, go to the National Night Out website at www.nno.org. NNO is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watches.



T.O. Poulson

T.O. is short for Tenney Otto. He was born and raised in San Diego, Calif. In 1971, he became a San Diego police officer, but his partner was killed and under advice from his wife he changed careers. He became a master plumber and plumbing contractor for many years. He spent 9 years in Lake Tahoe as the sewer and water supervisor before making his trek to Utah. They moved to Utah to be close to family.

T.O. became a Code Enforcement Officer in Layton City after his move to Utah. He states, “ I just couldn't get "might for right” out of my system!! Code enforcement is the nugget that sticks in the throats of the citizenry, "man I wish somebody would do something about that place around the corner" is a refrain often heard. Code Enforcement is about making the neighborhoods a clean and decent place to live, raise families and enjoy life. Our goal is to resolve those "burr under the saddle" issues that detract from those goals. It has been a true pleasure to be here and serve in this capacity”.

He is married to Gigi and they are the parents of 9 children and are the “perfect grandparents”.

Code Enforcement as an Integral...*(Continued from front page)*

- 6. Any recreation vehicle, trailer, boat or similar apparatus can only be parked upon a public street for the immediate loading or unloading and never longer than a twenty-four consecutive hour period. *Layton City Code 10.62.030.5*
- 7. To display a vehicle for sale unless the property is properly zoned for such use and without first getting permission from the owner of the property. *Layton City Code 10.64.050*
- 8. Every vehicle parked upon the roadway needs to have right hand wheels parallel to and within 12 inches of the right hand curb. *Utah Traffic Code 41-6a-1402*
- 9. To park a vehicle in any location that interferes with the delivery of essential services, such as utilities, postal services and garbage collection. *Layton City Code 10.62.030.8*
- 10. Park a vehicle over, above, on or across any sidewalk or to park in a way, which obstructs access to the sidewalk. *Layton City Code 10.62.030.2*

Fourteen day notices to take care of the problems are given to the property owners as a first step in solving the problem(s). In most cases this resolves the problem and helps to keep our community clean. These notices are not citations.

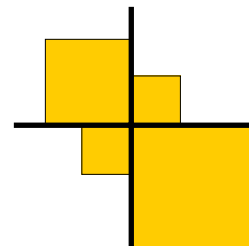
A notice of ordinance violation is issued after the 14-day period, if re-inspection shows no change. If the property is still not in compliance the matter is referred to the legal department of the city. Additional charges and inspections will be made every 4 days until property is brought into compliance. *(continued on back page)*

Rodney Tracy

Rodney was born and raised in Utah. He grew up in Layton and graduated from Layton High School. Rodney went to LDS Business College and Weber State University. He studied business, accounting, and physics and later returned to Weber State to attend the Police Academy while working full time.

Officer Tracy states, “I like working Code Enforcement in Layton City. Layton is a great city and I will do my best to help keep it safe and looking great by enforcing the city's codes”.

Rodney also teaches Astronomy to the Boy Scouts and helps them with merit badges. He enjoys camping and the scouting program.



National Resources on Crime Prevention

Preventing Senior Telemarketing Fraud



Many legitimate companies and charities solicit consumers by phone and consider it an effective way to raise money or increase company business. Unfortunately, others are simply up to no good. The National Crime Prevention Council believes seniors can prevent telemarketing fraud by being educated consumers.

[According to the FTC](#), nearly 25 million Americans are victims of consumer fraud each year. Senior citizens continue to be a rapidly increasing segment of the population, and that makes them a prime target for con artists and thieves. Americans who are 65 or older represent about 13 percent of our country's population, and their population will only continue to grow as the Baby Boomer generation begins to enter that age range.

Studies have shown that senior citizens are more at risk to be targeted by telemarketing scams than other age groups, and fraudulent telemarketers direct anywhere from 56 to 80 percent of their calls at older Americans. These con artists believe that senior citizens are vulnerable and more susceptible to their tricks. However, NCPC is helping many seniors to be shrewd and savvy citizens by keeping these tips in mind:

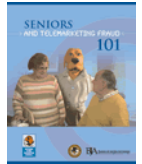
- Offers too good to be true usually are. Ask to receive the “unbelievable deal” or the “amazing prize offer” in writing so you can read it carefully before making a commitment.
- Never give out your personal information over the phone or Internet unless you have initiated the contact. Legitimate business callers will never ask you for this information over the phone.
- If a caller asks you to pay for an offer in advance or asks for your credit card number or Social Security number, tell the person *you don't give out personal information over the telephone.*
- Remember that legitimate telemarketers won't be turned off if you use these techniques. They will appreciate dealing with an educated consumer. *It's not rude – it's shrewd!*

NCPC has released a new public service advertising campaign for radio and television nationwide in order to reach senior citizen audiences. The PSA features McGruff the Crime Dog teaching senior citizens how to protect themselves

valuable tips for dealing with telemarketers, and provide a behind-the-scenes look at how scammers work to take advantage of the elderly.

Seniors and Telemarketing Fraud 101

As another part of this initiative, NCPC has published *Seniors and Telemarketing Fraud 101* to supplement the PSA. This booklet helps reinforce the message of the PSA, and helps senior citizens sort through telemarketing offers so they can tell the difference between those which are legitimate and those which are not. You can [download it for free](#) at www.ncpc.org. You can also order a copy of this free brochure by calling 1-800-WE-PREVENT.



(Excerpted from the National Council on Crime Prevention's webpage.)

Home Vacation Checks



As you leave on vacation do you ever think about the safety of your home? Do you leave indications that you are gone? Does a neighbor know how to reach you if something were to happen to your home in your absence?

Neighborhood Watch encourages you to let others know you are gone as well as establishing Vacation Checks for your neighbors.

- ▶ Either stop your mail and newspapers or have a neighbor pick them up for you.
- ▶ Have your lawn mowed.
- ▶ Make arrangements to have lights left on at night or put in a light timer. Change pattern of lights on if gone for an extended period.
- ▶ Give a trusted neighbor a key to your home to check on it during your absence.
- ▶ Give your contact information or itinerary to a neighbor.
- ▶ If concerned and your home will be vacant for an extended period contact the police department and let them know.
- ▶ Let your financial institution or credit cards know you will be out of town. They monitor unusual use of cards.

SUMMERTIME SAFETY CONCERNS



Times for sale and discharge of fireworks.

Class C common state approved explosives may be:(1) sold:(a) after June 19 and before July 26; (b) after December 19 and before January 3; and (c) 15 days before and on the Chinese New Year; (2) discharged three days before, on the day of, and three days following: (a) July 4; (b) July 24; (c) January 1; and (d) the Chinese New Year.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 234, 1993 General Session Utah Legislature



Nighttime Curfew Layton Municipal Code 9.24.010.

(1) Curfew for minors under eighteen. Except as provided in subsection (3) below, it shall be unlawful for any person under the age of eighteen 18 years to be in or upon any sidewalk, street, alley or public place between the hours of 12:00 midnight and 5:00 o'clock a.m. on any day.

(2) Parents and Guardians. It shall be unlawful for any parent, guardian or other person having legal care, and custody of any minor, to allow or permit or suffer any such minor to go or be in or upon any of the sidewalks, streets, alleys or public places in Layton City within the times provided in the above-mentioned sections.(3) Exceptions. The provisions of Section (1) shall not apply when any person regulated therein is: (a) Accompanied by an adult having the care and custody of such person. (b) Attending-or directly returning home from a function of any school or church. (c) Attending or directly returning home from a lawful entertainment, amusement or commercial activity. (d) On an emergency errand or specific business or activity directed by his parent,

guardian, or other adult having custody or care of him/her. (e) Engaged in legitimate employment which requires his/her presence at the public places during the prohibited hours.

Penalty. A violation of this ordinance shall be a Class C Misdemeanor

There is a daytime curfew as well.
This will be covered in the Fall Issue.



Coaster, roller skate & skateboard use restrictions Layton Municipal Code 10.16.040.

No person upon roller skates, in-line skates, or riding in or by means of any coaster, sled, toy wagon, scooter, skateboard, or similar device, shall go upon any roadway except while crossing such roadway on a crosswalk and when so crossing such person shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to pedestrians. This section shall not apply on any street while set aside as a play street as authorized by Section 10.32.070. (and our neighborhood roads ARE NOT designated as play streets.)

Ord. No.97-35, Recodified, 6/19/1997Ord. No. 04-11, Amended, 1/15/2004

LAYTON CITY HAS LOTS OF PARKS AND A SKATE PARK FOR ALL TO SAFELY PARTICIPATE IN THESE ACTIVITIES. ENCOURAGE YOUTH AND ADULTS TO WEAR THE APPROPRIATE SAFETY GEAR TO AVOID/LESSEN INJURY.



HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY SUMMER

The mission of the Layton Community Action Council Neighborhood Watch Program is to help create safer neighborhoods, thereby making Layton City a safer and desirable city in which to live.

Code Enforcement as Integral... (con't from page 3)

If compliance is not met within the allotted time, a judge can issue an order for the city to remove all or part of the violations. The property owner would then be responsible for all expenses occurred to bring property into compliance as well as administrative fees.

Additional information on this process is available on the city website at www.laytoncity.org.

Chief Keefe states, "Crime prevention through code enforcement is a tried and true program in use throughout the country. By having an aggressive but fair code enforcement program, property values remain stable and urban decay is not allowed to creep into our neighborhoods and commercial areas. The Police Department is fully committed to continue our Code Enforcement efforts and I encourage anyone with a complaint to bring it to our attention. Problems may be reported to our communications center at 497-8300".

¹ National Crime Prevention Website, Damage Begets Damage, July 5, 2007 (www.ncpc.org)

² Quote from Chief Terry Keefe



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