

Use Parental Controls

More Information

Here's a few things to consider:

- ◆ **Filtering and blocking:** These tools limit access to certain sites, words or images.
- ◆ **Kid-oriented search engines:** These perform limited filter searches or results for sites and material appropriate for kids.
- ◆ **Limiting Time Software:** This software allows you to limit your child's time online and set the time of day they can access the internet.
- ◆ **Browsers for kids:** These browsers filter words or images you do not want your kids to see.
- ◆ **Monitoring tools:** Software that alerts parents to online activity without blocking access. Monitoring tools can be used with or without the child's knowledge.
- ◆ **Blocking outgoing content:** This software prevents children from sharing personal information online or via email.

The Attorney General has developed a website just for you that provides valuable information about staying safe while surfing on the internet.

Please visit our site at:
www.safeflorida.net

If you would like your child's school to participate in our Cyber Safety Education Program, please ask the school Principal to register for a presentation through our website.

If you would like to schedule the Attorney General's Adult Cyber Safety Program at your local club or organization, please contact us at: CyberEdu@myfloridalegal.com.

Office of the Attorney General
Cyber Safety Education Program
Division of Victim Services and
Criminal Justice Programs
PL-01 The Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399
800.226.6667 or 850.414.3300
www.myfloridalegal.com

Resources:
www.bullyingstatistics.org/content/cyber-bullying-statistics.html
www.edgarsnyder.com/car-accident/cause-of-accident/cell-phone/cell-phone-statistics.html
www.netsmartz.org/teens
www.OnGuardOnline.gov

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PARENTING
IN THE
DIGITAL AGE

Keep Your Kids
Safe Online



ATTORNEY GENERAL
ASHLEY MOODY
FLORIDA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



The Risks

Teen Driver Cell Phone Statistics

- ◆ 11 teens die every day as a result of texting while driving.
- ◆ According to an AAA poll, 94% of teen drivers acknowledge the dangers of texting and driving.
- ◆ Teen drivers are 4x more likely than adults to get into crashes.
- ◆ A teen driver with only one additional passenger doubles the risk of getting into a fatal car accident. With two or more passengers they are 5x as likely.

Online Statistics

- ◆ 50% of teens will be victims of cyberbullying.
- ◆ Victims of cyberbullying are more likely to consider suicide.
- ◆ 20% of teens will be sexually solicited online.

Teenagers can be secretive with Cell Phones and Tablets. It is important to remind them of the following:

- ◆ Use caution when scrolling through purchasable items. Some Smartphones do not require a password to complete the purchase.
- ◆ Use caution regarding free public Wi-Fi; if a lock is visible in the URL window, the network is probably secure.



Things You Should Know

Online Games and Chat:

- ◆ Conversations while gaming are uncensored and can be inappropriate.
- ◆ Private information should not be shared with strangers.

Creating Accounts:

- ◆ Username should not contain personal information.
- ◆ Use strong passwords and change them regularly using a combination of letters (capital and lowercase), numbers and characters.
- ◆ Always sign out of account when finished to prevent a hacker from getting into your account.

Privacy and Social Media Settings:

- ◆ In "Settings" you can turn "locations off" to protect your child's location.
- ◆ You should check settings regularly. Some apps can change your privacy settings without your knowledge.

Keep Security Software Updated

- ◆ Downloaded viruses can make your computer vulnerable and compromise your identity.
- ◆ Be suspicious of Pop-Ups, Cheat Sites and File Sharing Sites.

Ask Yourself

- ◆ Has your child stopped socializing with friends after school or on weekends?
- ◆ Does your child talk more about online friends?
- ◆ Is your child receiving packages, gifts or money from an unknown source?
- ◆ Is your child secretive about their activities and replying with generalized responses?

Things You Can Do

- ◆ First "**Get Savvy**." Educate yourself in the basics of technology.
- ◆ Start communicating early with your child about internet usage.

Teach Your Child Digital Literacy & Ethics

- ◆ Everything they read online is not reliable. Check sources, look at who wrote the information, and ask is he/she an expert or just giving an opinion.
- ◆ Everything they see online is not theirs to take. Piracy, Plagiarism, Digital Cheating, and the use of Copyrighted Information can have legal consequences.
- ◆ Respect the creative work of others.
- ◆ Manners do matter, always be polite online.
- ◆ Information & images when shared can be seen far and wide.
- ◆ Once something is posted online, it's nearly impossible to "take it back".

Encourage Teens with Cell Phones to:

- ◆ Complete any call or text before starting the car.
- ◆ Get directions and try to visualize the destination before starting the car.
- ◆ Check in with friends or parents only after arrival.
- ◆ Pull over to a safe location to make or take urgent calls. Exceptions are made in life or death emergencies. (e.g., calling 911)
- ◆ Remember to set an example when you are driving.
- ◆ Consider having a cell phone contract with your tweens & teens.

<http://greeblehaus.com/2013/05/cell-phone-contract-for-tweens-and-teens.html>

