

## GENERAL INTERNET-SAFETY INFORMATION FOR TEENS

### **Learn about the Internet.**

- Recognize that predators can find very personal information on you strictly by tracking what websites you visit.
- Even by commenting on someone else's page or message board, a potential molester or identity thief can find out who you are, who you know, and where you live.

### **Regarding personal webpage services including MySpace, Facebook, Live Journal, Xanga, and blogspot:**

- Check your account settings so that only people you have added as friends can see your profile.
- Only add people to your friends list if you have established a friendship in real life before seeing them online.

### **Keep your identity private.**

- Be careful of how much personal information you list about yourself in the hobbies/interests/personality/location/school part of your profile.
- Online predators and identity thieves can easily determine who you are and where you live by utilizing readily available online services/programs to piece together bits of information about you.

### **Never get together with someone you "meet" online.**

- You can never know for sure if the people you talk to online are who they say they are.

### **Never respond to email, chat comments, instant messages, or newsgroup messages that are hostile, belligerent, inappropriate, or make you feel uncomfortable in any way.**

- It's not your fault that you received the message.
- Ignore the sender because responding will only encourage the person.
- If you feel threatened by any such message, you can call the tip line of the Pima County Attorney's Office at 88-CRIME or report it with

the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children website at [www.cybertipline.com](http://www.cybertipline.com).

- Other websites with valuable online safety information include [www.safekids.com](http://www.safekids.com), [www.getnetwise.org](http://www.getnetwise.org), and [www.wiredkids.com](http://www.wiredkids.com).

*Source: National Center for Missing and Exploited Children website, [www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com).*