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February 18 - 25 Safe Community Week 1996

Health and Safety Organisation, Victoria



All Victorians can take simple actions to help make their local communities safer.

The Minister for Industry Services, the Hon. Roger Pescott and the Health and Safety Organisation, Victoria invite you to take an active role in promoting safety in the community - at work, home, on the roads and during sport and leisure activities. Safe Community Week encourages all Victorians to benefit from the momentum generated by SafeComm 5 - the Fifth International Conference on Safe Communities, to be held in the City of Hume and the Shire of La Trobe, on 22 - 25 February 1996.

A highlight of Safe Community Week will be the induction of the City of Hume and the Shire of La Trobe into the prestigious WHO International Network of Safe Communities, in recognition of their ongoing commitment to systematic programs for injury prevention.

Join other Victorians and take simple steps to help make your local community safer -

- Report hazards
- Check your home and car for unsafe conditions
- Invest in a safety device
- Seek information from a safety agency
- Attend training sessions
- Set up a display

Here are some simple ideas for Community Safety:

Families - Can you make your home safer? Have you got smoke detectors, safety switches and a safe play area for the children? Visit the new Kidsafe display home at Roxburgh Park Home Expo. Check children's car restraints at an RACV authorised restraint checking station. Visit a safety display or Centre. Book into a children's first aid course. Give the gift of safety to someone you love - a night light, helmet, mouthguard or restraint harness.

Family and Children's Services - put on a safety display, arrange a children's safety training session for parents through the Safety Centre at the Royal Children's Hospital.

Farms and rural backyards - clear away fire fuel, secure hazardous machinery and chemicals, fence off the dam from toddlers, don't take passengers on tractors or ride-on mowers.



Hospitals and Community Health Centres - provide relevant safety information to patients, clients and visitors.

Local Government - launch a public safety program, inspect play equipment, conduct a safety audit of arterial roads and council properties, provide home safety information for seniors and families with young children, put on safety displays in shopping centres, maternal and child health centres or pre-schools, conduct a footpath safety audit.

Local Organisations - Carry out a simple safety audit of your facility or a public place, where there may be the risk of injury or violence and report any concerns to the responsible authority. Look out for low hanging trees, uneven footpaths or poorly lit spots in public pedestrian areas.

Retailers - Promote your safety goods and services with displays, discounts and special deals.

Safety Organisations - Launch a special campaign or promotion during Safe Community Week 1996.

Schools - Inspect your play equipment. Carry out a safety audit of all indoor areas at school. Arrange an Aussie Sports Expo to introduce children to modified sports which are safer and more fun for children. Teach safety in the classroom using ideas from VicRoads, Fire Brigade, Kidsafe or Hospitals.

Workplaces - Carry out a walk-through inspection, get everyone involved - your organisation will benefit. Purchase SafetyMAP from HSO and map out a comprehensive safety strategy to serve your needs. Run a manual handling safety training session for your workers. Offer a free set of safety glasses for your workers to use at home to help 'drive the safety message home'.

For further information and ideas contact:

Health and Safety Organisation, Victoria - Local Offices

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La Trobe Safe Communities (051) 348 783

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