

Community Partnership Connection



Sheriff's Forensic Science Division Alerts Public to New Types of Dangerous Drugs

“Using these substances is essentially the chemical equivalent to Russian Roulette”

Criminalists with the Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division want to make the public aware that they are beginning to see new and different forms of uncontrolled manufactured chemical substances which are pushed as an alternative to illegal drugs.

The Division recently received a sample of 25I-NBOMe. This substance is packaged and used like LSD and can produce a similar and equally dangerous effect if consumed. The Forensic Science Division also recently tested a sample of 2C-P, another new manufactured synthetic drug that is available over the internet and produces a wide range of effects. A third substance received by the Forensic Science Division is 5-MeO-DALT. This synthetic psychedelic tryptamine is marketed much like bath salts or synthetic marijuana and can cause visual distortion along with feelings of paranoia and panic if ingested. At high dosages, it can cause retrograde amnesia.

Criminalist Diane Machen warns that all of these substances are extremely dangerous if consumed and expressed concern that children may be the likely target of pushers who mislead younger people into believing these substances are okay to use because they are not illegal, and are often packaged with cartoon like characters. “The fact that these drugs are not illegal doesn't make them safe,” Machen said. “Using these substances is essentially the chemical equivalent to Russian Roulette.”

Machen said that the recent samples received by the Sheriff's crime lab present a snapshot of an emerging manufactured substance problem faced by every community in northern Nevada. “The best way to protect ourselves and the ones we love is to stay informed about the latest trends in substance abuse, especially when it comes to substances that are not illegal,” Machen said.

Know what to look for and talk to your children. Make sure they are cautious about what they're consuming and where it's coming from. “For this type of product parents need to be proactive,” Machen said. “Our children are vulnerable if they don't understand the damage that can be caused and we can't help them if we aren't educated ourselves.”



Emergency Family Preparedness Part 7 of 9: Preserving Your Family Documents

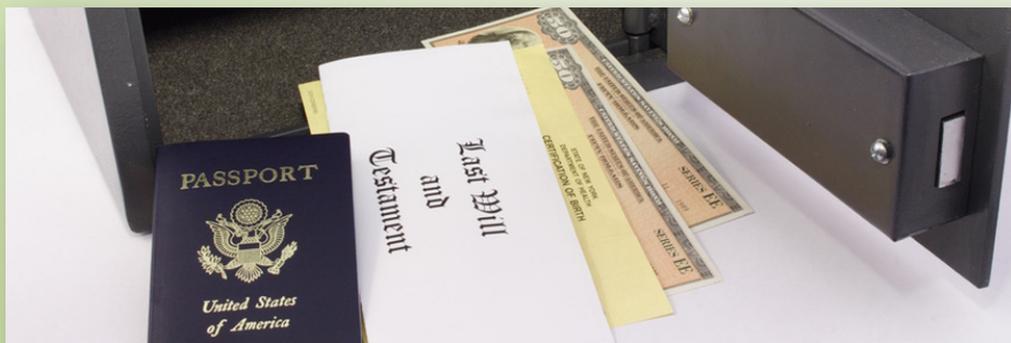
In a disaster, you might have to leave your home quickly. Important documents may be left behind and ultimately destroyed. Before the emergency occurs, decide which records are most essential to you and your family. One factor to consider is how readily a lost record could be replaced. Loss of some records could result in major financial damage (like tax records), or would be irreplaceable (like family photographs and historical documents). You may also need certain documents to provide to relief agencies and creditors after the emergency takes place.

The following is a list of documents you should safeguard and be able to retrieve quickly to take with you.

- Licenses and/or other identification
- Social Security cards
- Passports
- Medical history information and health insurance cards
- Immunization records
- Birth, marriage and death certificates
- Records of bank accounts
- Credit card information
- Insurance policies
- List of important or valuable belongings
- Wills, contracts and deeds
- Records of stocks, bonds or retirement accounts
- Backup of key computer files

In order to ensure that you can quickly retrieve these documents, it is suggested that you:

- Keep these documents (or copies of documents) in a water or fire proof container with your disaster kit
- Keep them in a safe place away from home, like a safe deposit box
- Be sure trusted family members know where these items can be found



Generous Community Partners Enhance Regional Animal Services

\$200,000 award from Maddie's Fund®



Maddie's Fund is named after the family's beloved Miniature Schnauzer who passed away in 1997.

Washoe County Regional Animal Services has received a \$200,000 Community Lifesaving Award to support efforts towards the humane care, treatment, adoption or rescue of animals in Regional Animal Services' care.

"The Maddie's Fund® award will provide much needed and welcome support for a variety of valuable programs that assist with the health and well-being of animals entrusted to our care," Washoe County Regional Animal Services Manager Barry Brode said.

Maddie's® Community Lifesaving Award acknowledges the outstanding contributions being made by communities that have implemented an adoption guarantee for all healthy shelter pets. Washoe County Regional Animal Services received the award in response to an application submitted to Maddie's Fund through the Nevada Humane Society.

Maddie's Fund is a family foundation which is funded by the founder of Workday and PeopleSoft, Dave Duffield and his wife, Cheryl. Maddie's Fund is helping to create an environment where all the healthy and treatable shelter dogs and cats are guaranteed a loving home.

Maddie's Fund is investing its resources in building community collaborations where animal welfare organizations come together to develop successful models of lifesaving; in veterinary colleges to help shelter medicine become part of the veterinary curriculum to train veterinarians to save the lives of sick and injured dogs and cats in animal shelters; and in the implementation of a national effort to promote accountability and transparency in animal shelter operations. Representatives from Maddie's Fund will be in Reno on August 14, to make a formal presentation of the donation at the shared Washoe Regional Animal Services/Nevada Humane Society facility on Longley Lane.

Clear Channel Outdoor Supports "Hot Dog" Campaign

Washoe County Regional Animal Services is getting a "big screen" boost in their efforts to remind pet owners about the dangers of leaving pets unattended in enclosed vehicles thanks to several billboards provided by Clear Channel Outdoor.

"Public awareness is possibly the most effective tool we have to help promote the health and safety of pets in Washoe County," Regional Animal Services Manager Barry Brode said. "Clear Channel Outdoor's willingness to increase outreach through their billboards is a valuable addition to our efforts to protect through prevention."

Messages from Regional Animal Services are now being displayed on three separate rotating billboards as part of a seven-week agreement between Clear Channel Outdoor and Regional Animal Services. Billboard locations are:

- West side of Vista Boulevard 0.2 miles north of I-80, facing south
- Eastbound side of I-80 near East McCarran Boulevard, facing east
- East McCarran Boulevard, just north of Mill Street, facing south

Animal Services' messages are expected to be shown over two million times between the three billboards during the seven week period.

An alarming increase in "Dog in Hot Vehicle" reports this summer compelled Washoe County Regional Animal Services to step up efforts to warn pet owners that temperatures inside a closed vehicle can easily rise to 20 degrees or warmer than outside temperatures. This could prove deadly to a pet. "Our goal is to prevent this from happening and we appreciate Clear Channel Outdoor's commitment to keeping this important message visible to the public," Brode said.

The public is encouraged to report distressed animals locked in hot cars immediately by contacting Washoe County Regional Animal Services dispatch at (775) 322-3647.



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Citizen Corps volunteer uses training to save a life during lunch

Washoe County Sheriff's Office Citizen Corps volunteer Norah Sliger put her emergency response team training to the ultimate test when she performed abdominal thrusts to save the life of a woman who was actively choking on a piece of food at a neighboring table while having lunch at a local restaurant earlier this month.

Sliger and Citizen Corps Program Coordinator Betsy Hambleton had spent the morning at the County's Regional Emergency Operations Center helping with the launch of the new Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and decided to go out for lunch afterwards. About midway through their meal, they observed a potential medical problem emerging with a fellow diner at a nearby table.

"At first we weren't sure what was going on with the woman," Hambleton said. "It almost looked like a mild seizure. Then Norah and I realized the woman was choking on a piece of food obstructing her airway." Sliger then noticed the woman's lips began turning blue and immediately began performing abdominal thrusts. "After the first two attempts to dislodge the obstruction yielded no results, Norah made a third attempt and it successfully dislodged the food," Hambleton said. "Norah remained absolutely calm throughout the entire event – and I believe she single-handedly saved this woman's life."

Hambleton says that if Sliger had not put her training into immediate action, the situation could very easily have ended in tragedy.

Approximately 500 volunteers currently serve in the Sheriff's Office Citizen Corps. In 2010, FEMA recognized the achievements of Washoe County's Citizen Corps by awarding them the National Citizen Corps Achievement Awards– Outstanding Citizen Corps Council Award for a council serving a population under 750,000.

For more information on Washoe County Sheriff's Office Citizen Corps volunteer programs, visit www.wcsovolunteer.org.



Norah with her cat Jack whose life she also saved using pet CPR training she received as a CERT volunteer.