

Dunn County

County Law Enforcement Professionals Of Wisconsin Safety Book

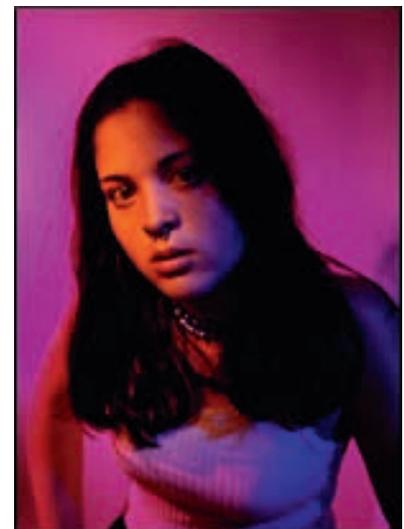


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Preventing Drug and Alcohol Abuse

Parents often underestimate the power they have to keep their kids off drugs and alcohol. In fact, there is no more powerful preventative than an involved parent. Following are a few tips for how you can keep an open relationship with your son or daughter, and keep them from doing serious, potentially deadly, harm to themselves.

- Keep an open line of communication. This means talk to your child—and listen. Make it clear to your child that drug and alcohol use is not allowed!
- Know the whereabouts of your teen. Make sure you always know where your teen is and what he/she is doing. If the information is not volunteered, ASK! Children and teens who do not have adult supervision are far more likely to be involved in drugs, alcohol, and other risky behavior.
- Get to know your teen's friends, and help your teen learn to choose friends wisely. Almost always, kids are introduced to drugs and alcohol use through their friends.
- Educate yourself. Get to know the dangers of drugs and the popular drugs out on the market today (i.e., Ecstasy, etc.) as well as the signs and paraphernalia associated with drug use. You can have a much more credible conversation with your child if you know the dangerous effects of these drugs.
- Learn the signs of drug use, and be vigilant. If you notice any of the following symptoms in your teen, it is time to have a talk. Although these items can be indicative of other conditions, often these are warning signs that a person is using/abusing drugs and/or alcohol:
 - **Change in friends**
 - **Sleeping more/less**
 - **Lack of interest in hobbies or other favorite activities**
 - **Hostility or otherwise negative attitude, even violent behavior**
 - **Declining grades**



Link Derived from:

<https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/childrens-hospital/safety/age-tips/teen-safety/drug-alcohol.aspx>

Gangs: How to stay safe

A gang is a group of people who operate with a shared identity and purpose. Often, a gang's purpose may include carrying out illegal activities like drug dealing, assault, prostitution, theft or breaking and entering. Gangs often use the lure of "belonging" to recruit new members. They may promise things like friendship, money, respect, drugs and change. They often control crime on the streets, carry weapons, break laws and are often on the run from the police and other gangs. Discrimination and racist beliefs can also fuel gangs and their behaviour.

How do I identify a gang?

Most gang members are proud of their affiliation and will freely admit their membership. Gang members sometimes share commonalities like clothing or tattoos and hang out in large groups, often at night and in the same area of the neighbourhood.

Are gangs dangerous?

Gangs can be very dangerous both to the people around them and to their own members. Gang leaders are usually involved in illegal behaviour. Junior gang members are often tested or forced into performing dangerous tasks because they lack a criminal record.

You may see a higher rate of gang activity in locations struggling with poverty — gangs are viewed as a way of "survival" in communities with limited options and high rates of violence.

If you find yourself thinking about joining a gang, here are some things to consider:

- When you first encounter a gang, you may be given tasks which seem "safe." Keep in mind that the situation may become more and more dangerous over time.
- Gang members often live in fear every day — fear of getting caught by the police, violence from other gangs or even members inside their own gang.
- Gangs are known to punish their own members.
- You may serve jail time if convicted of a crime.
- You may be forced into situations where you need to choose the gang over your friends or family.
- While they may appear to be your friend, gang leaders are known to prioritize themselves over everyone else.
- Violence is expected and encouraged in gangs — you may be pushed into hurting others.

What are the consequences of joining a gang?

While a gang can seem like a way out or a means to "belong," members usually pay the price for their decisions. Remember that:

- criminal records directly affect your ability to get a job or travel
- in Canada, the police have the right to take away anything that is stolen or purchased with money earned through criminal activity
- prisons can be violent, unsafe and lonely

How do I stay safe?

Whether you're a member or not, gangs are a reality for many young people.

It's important that you understand not only the dangers of joining, but also how to stay safe and away from gangs.

Even if you're not a gang member, you may still find yourself at risk of gang activity. Here are some things you can do to stay safe:

- Surround yourself with good people: avoid people who experiment with dangerous behaviour.
 - Team up: join a team/club or try new hobbies like drawing, music or photography.
 - Be yourself: you don't need to dress or act like others to make friends.
 - Stay in school: education is the best way to open other opportunities in life, like getting a good job.
 - Avoid drugs: they are a big part of gang culture. They are addictive, may distract you from the things that really matter in life and can do physical harm to your body.
 - Speak up: if you find yourself in a dangerous situation involving a gang, tell someone.
- If you're worried about gangs, you can call a Kids Help Phone counsellor at 1-800-668-6868 or chat with us online.

How do I get out of a gang?

Everyone makes mistakes. If you've found yourself in a gang situation, there's help available.

Leaving a gang can be very dangerous. Don't do it alone. There are professionals who specialize in gang exiting and they can help you make the transition as safe as possible.

Who can I talk to?

Don't tell anyone in the gang that you want to leave. This could put your safety at risk. You can call a Kids Help Phone counsellor at 1-800-668-6868. They can connect you with people who have experience in gang exiting and put you in touch with programs that can help you leave.

Helping a friend get out of a gang

It's not easy to see a friend or loved one risk their life in a gang. There are things you can do to help.

The best part about having friends and family is that they're there for you in times of need. If you find yourself worried about a loved one because of a situation they're in, often the most powerful thing you can do is talk to them.

Tell your friend how you feel. It's OK to say that you're worried or scared for them, but be careful not to get involved in gang activities yourself.

Link Derived from:

<https://kidshelpphone.ca/article/gangs-how-stay-safe>

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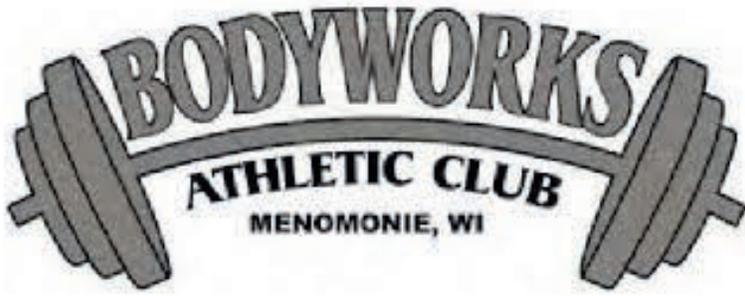
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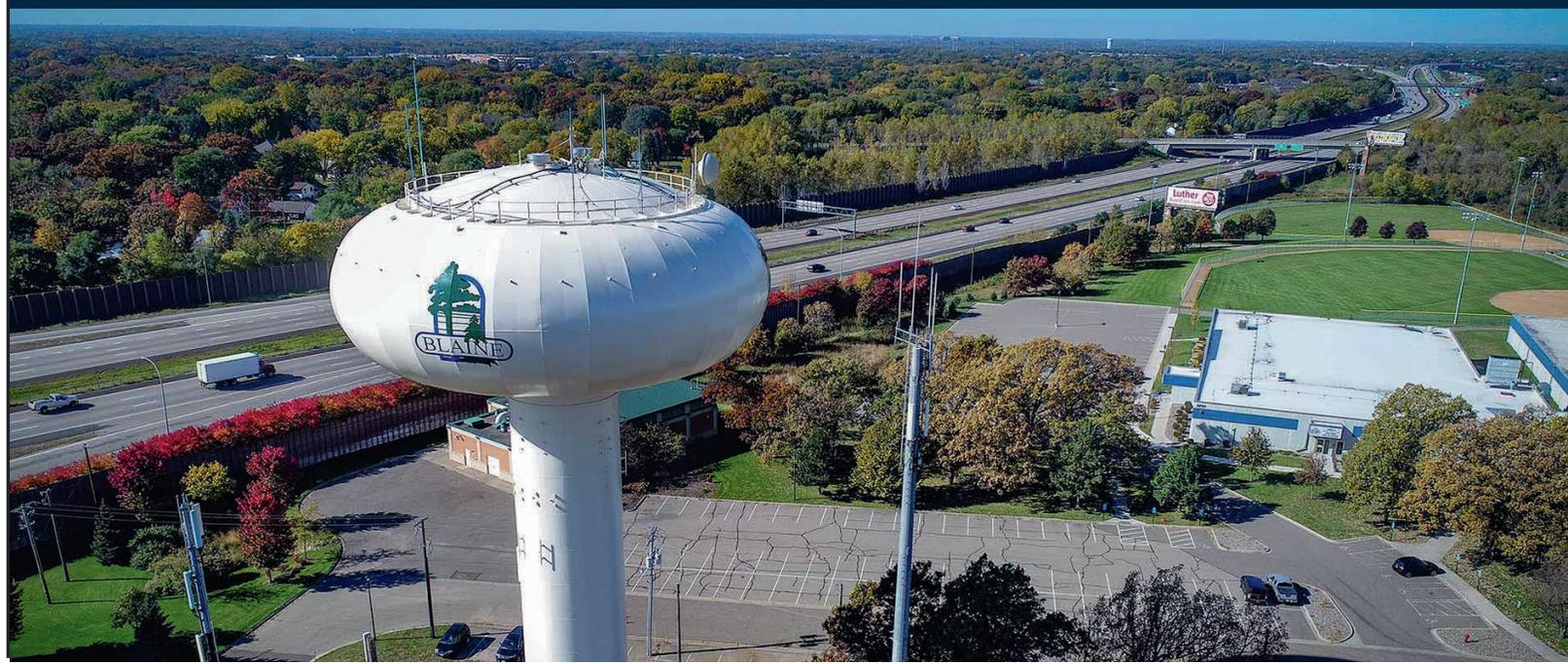
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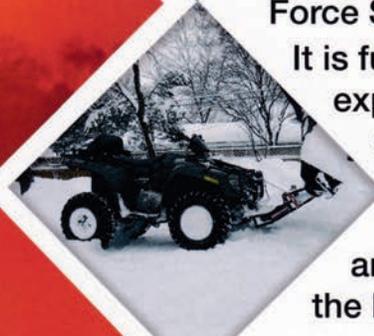
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History of Dunn County

Though originally home to Santee Dakota and Ojibwe native people, jurisdiction over the land that comprises Dunn County has been claimed by Spain, France, England and the United States. As smaller territories were formed from the Northwest Territory of the United States (Northwest Ordinance, 1787), that same land was a part of the Indiana Territory (1800-1805), the Michigan Territory (1805-1809), the Illinois Territory (1809-1836) and finally the Wisconsin Territory.

Dunn County was created from a portion of Chippewa County on February 19, 1854, and at the time included all of the present Dunn and Pepin Counties (formed in 1858). Its present-day boundaries encompass some 858 square miles. Prior to 1854, all or parts of the land in Dunn County had been part of Chippewa, St. Croix or Crawford Counties for various periods.

The county is named for Charles Dunn, first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Wisconsin Territory (1836-48), who was appointed by President Andrew Jackson.

Dunn County's "Seat of Justice" was at Amos Colburn's at or near the ferry across the Red Cedar River near its mouth at Dunnville. The courthouse in Dunnville burned to the ground in October 1858. After several months of moving from place to place, the county seat was moved to Menomonie on January 1, 1861.

Dunn County Wisconsin has a rich history and many historical sites to explore.

From the 1925 Curtiss-Wedge history of Dunn County

Welcome our New Director!



Historical Sites

The Russel J. Rassbach Museum

Located in Menomonie's Wakanda Park. Exhibits include The Golden Age of American Auto Design, Kraft State Bank Robbery, Caddie Woodlawn Children's Discovery Room, Victorian Rooms, James Huff Stout, Harry Miller – King of the Race Car Builders, plus so much more.

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Empire in the Pine Museum

Located in the heart of Downsville, Wisconsin, this museum has earned the Distinguished Service Award in 1982 from the States Historical Society. Currently this museum is closed and looking for new artifacts to display. If you have an artifact you would like to donate and have on display, please contact Don Heit at 715-664-8517.

Caddie Woodlawn Historical Park

This historical park is a popular destination to visit in Dunn County. Visitors who have read the award winning children's book Caddie Woodlawn are in for a treat. You can visit the house where Caroline Augusta Woodhouse — the young girl who inspired the book Caddie Woodlawn — lived.

This scenic park also has a covered picnic area, restrooms, and fresh water. This is a great location for school field trips or a weekend stop.

Open during daylight hours spring through fall.

Are you interested in planning an event or gathering at the park? Is your scout troop interested in earning a Caddie Woodlawn Participation Patch? Contact 715-232-8685 for more information.

The Caddie Woodlawn Historical Park and wayside is located nine miles south of Menomonie on Highway 25.

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