



Wapato Police Department
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Dear Parents, Teens and Concerned Citizens:

In so many cases drug and alcohol abuse begins at a very young age. This often occurs when young teens think no one is around. They are out having fun with friends when someone at a party approaches them to try something new. The ball really starts to roll downhill when no immediate consequences happen. Soon all of the telltale signs are there. Parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles are left asking some very hard questions. Who got them started using alcohol and drugs? When did they start? Where was I? Why didn't I see the signs? These questions are asked only after a problem or tragedy has occurred.

As parents and concerned adults, we should be asking ourselves a different set of questions before something tragic happens. Do I know the facts about drug and alcohol abuse? Have I shared this information with my children? Do I listen to my kids and spend time with them? Do I tell them how much I love them and how much what they do matters?

Teens need to be asking themselves some questions too. Is it really worth the risk? Can I harm myself permanently? Could I die the first time I try this drug? Am I willing to sacrifice my college career to try an illegal drug? Am I willing to suffer the consequences of hurting or killing someone if I am driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs?

Reading this publication will help you answer some of these important questions. These facts will help all of us understand how to protect ourselves and our families from the devastating effects of substance abuse.

I appreciate our many sponsors for their generosity and outstanding commitment to drug and safety education. Please support our sponsors, for without them this information would not be available.

Please feel free to contact us if you need any additional information or assistance.

Respectfully,

Rick Needham
Chief of Police

Council meets on the first and third Monday of each month.
El concilio se junta cada primer y tercer lunes de cada mes