

PUBLIC SAFETY BULLETIN: Firearm Safety for You & Your Family

The purpose of firearm safety is to eliminate or minimize the risks of unintentional damage, injury or death caused by improper possession, storage or handling of a firearm. Firearm owners should handle their firearm safely and protect themselves and the public from theft, loss or misuse of their firearm.



FULTON
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THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY ARE RECOMMENDED:

- Always keep a firearm's muzzle pointed in a safe direction. A safe direction means that the gun is pointed so that even if an accidental discharge occurred, it would not result in injury.
- Always keep your finger off the trigger until you actually intend to shoot. When handling a gun, rest your finger outside of the trigger guard or along the side of the gun. Do not touch the trigger until you are actually ready to fire.
- A firearm should be unloaded when not in use. Whenever you pick up a gun, such as when removing it from or returning it to storage, remember to point it in a safe direction and make sure it is unloaded.
- Be sure you know how your firearm operates. Read the manual for your firearm, know how to safely open and close the action of the firearm, and know how to safely remove any ammunition from the firearm and its magazine.





Firearm Storage

Store your firearm in a locked cabinet, safe, gun vault or storage case when not in use, ensuring it is in a location inaccessible to children and cannot be handled by anyone without your permission. Always unload, clean and place your firearm in its secure storage location immediately after returning from a hunting trip or a day at the range. In addition, store your ammunition in a locked location separate from firearms. Use a gun-locking device that renders a firearm inoperable when not in use. Gun locks should be used as an additional safety precaution and not as a substitute for secure storage.



Project ChildSafe Pledge

Make sure young people in your home are aware of and understand the safety guidelines concerning firearms. Have them sign the Project ChildSafe Pledge which is a reminder that if they find an unattended firearm in their home or a neighbor's to not touch it and tell an adult. You can download the Project ChildSafe Pledge on the [Project ChildSafe](http://ProjectChildSafe.org) website.* The website is an excellent resource for firearm safety and education. You can also find out where to get a free firearm safety kit in your area.



Remember, being a responsible firearm owner starts with educating everyone in your family about firearm safety.

*You can also download the form on the [Fulton Industrial CID](http://FultonIndustrialCID.org) website's public safety page.

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