

## **PLAY IT SAFE**

Texas A&M University is a great place to attend a camp or enrichment program and we think an even better place to go to college. The campus is one of the safest campuses of the major universities in the United States; however even the safest places can have potential for danger. Be aware of your surroundings when you are out and about on campus.

Always let your camp sponsor know when you are leaving main group activities even if it is just to go to the bathroom, back to your room, or to another camp activity. Stay in groups or, at the very least, stay with a “buddy” from your camp.

The Texas A&M University campus is filled with friendly people but since anyone can come onto the campus grounds, not everyone you meet may be someone you should trust.

### **Here are some general guidelines to follow for your own safety:**

- Stay with your camp group
- Let your counselor know if you ever need to leave your group
- Go only where you tell your counselor you are going and return immediately to your group
- Do not carry on conversations with strangers outside of your camp group
- Whenever possible, walk in groups and/or with your counselor
- If you can not walk with a group always go with a “buddy”
- Never go it alone
- Alert your counselor or some other camp adult staff member if you see anyone:
  - Hanging around your camp when that person is not a part of your camp
  - Hanging around the dorm your camp is staying in
  - If anyone approaches you
- Don't try to help anyone who looks lost even if you know how to get to the place they are looking for. It's best to have your counselor assist them
- Do not sneak out after dark (aside from the fact that you can be sent home for this offense- it can be a dangerous prank to play)

- If you become lost or separated from your camp group do not go to a stranger for help. Look for an emergency phone booth (these are call boxes with blue lights on the top)- dial 9-911 and a University Police Officer will find you. Do not under any circumstances get into a car with a stranger or allow a stranger to walk you back to your camp
- If your camp provides t-shirts wear them. Group t-shirts make it easier for members and counselors of your camp to keep up with the campers
- Never wear clothing that has your name shown in large letters, use only camp issued name tags
- Do not give your room access pass to anyone, not even another camper
- Let your parents know if you continue to correspond with any adult you meet at camp after your camp ends
- If anything happens that does not seem right let your counselor know immediately
- If you have problems with your counselor talk to another adult staff member in your camp
- If another camper asks you to do something that you don't feel comfortable about, speak to a counselor about it
- If you, or another camper, seem to be having a hard time dealing with being away from home or returning home after camp is over, let your counselor know
- If you have medicine that you brought from home let your counselor know so that they can be sure it is kept in a safe place
- Jewelry, CD collections, and other valuables are safest left at home. If your camp allows the use of personal CD players, consider making a single CD copy with several songs copied to that one CD. If you lose that CD you will still have your originals at home
- Make sure your name is written on your personal items such as the inner labels of clothing, grooming items, and personal valuables
- Keep meal cards, Aggie Buck cards, and cash in a safe place
- Never leave an outside door propped open

Never let someone you don't know into the building with your door key. If they belong in the building, they will have their own key. If they have lost their key, find your counselor and let your counselor decide what to do.

## Emergency Blue Light Telephones

There are 90 [Emergency Blue-Light phones](#) located throughout the A&M campus. These are distinguished by the 12-foot pole with the blue light on top. These phones have "Police Help" written on the front and sides.

**NON-EMERGENCIES:** Calls can be made at these Blue-Light emergency phones by pushing a desired local telephone number on the touch-tone pad. There is no charge, but you are only allowed a three minute call before the phone automatically shuts itself off. (Examples of non-emergency uses include vehicle repair help, calling for nighttime shuttle escort services, or calling a friend for assistance.)

In addition to the Blue-Light phones, each residence hall has the standard Ram-Tech emergency phone mounted to the exterior of the building.

**EMERGENCIES:** Simply open the door on the weatherproof box and press the red button. This will put you into the county 9-1-1 System. The University Police dispatcher will immediately know your exact location. Talk directly into the speaker in the center of the phone. (Examples of emergency use would be medical assistance, traffic accidents, fires, suspicious persons, crime reports, or other law violations.)

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### ***MISUSE IS PROSECUTABLE!!!***

The emergency telephones are provided for the safety and security of all students, faculty, staff, and visitors. Abuse or misuse through prank, false, or harassing calls is a crime by state statute and violators will be prosecuted. If you press the red button by mistake, please advise the emergency operator of your mistake. (*Taken from University Police Department website at: <http://www.tamu.edu/upd/>*)

**We think Aggieland is one of the best places in the USA. We want you to have a safe and fun time while you are here. Following these guidelines will help accomplish that.**