

FIREARM SAFETY IS FOR EVERYONE.

Connecticut law requires **ALL** firearms to be stored securely any time they are not in an owner's immediate control.¹

THE IMPACT OF FIREARMS

Firearms are the **leading cause of traumatic death for U.S. children** under the age of 18 and the second leading cause of traumatic death in CT.³

Roughly a third of U.S. homes with children have firearms. **An estimated 4.6 million children live with a loaded, unlocked firearm.**³

Every year, nearly **360 children unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else** after gaining access to a firearm.³

Nearly half of all women murdered in the U.S. are killed by a current or former intimate partner, and **more than half of these intimate partner homicides are by firearms.**⁴

On average, **74 people die by firearm suicide every day.**⁵

Adults 75 and older have one of the highest rates of firearm suicide. For this age group, rates are highest for Non-Hispanic White men.⁵

Keep the “safe” in firearm safety

Hiding a gun is not enough! Kids are curious, and studies show they usually know where a family keeps a gun.

Gun safes can lower the risk a curious child will be hurt:



Safe or lockbox for handguns



Locked gun safe for rifles



Gun trigger locks—
inexpensive and effective



Lock box for ammo

Firearm injury prevention has been declared a public health priority.²

- Having firearms in the home increases the risk of unintentional shootings, suicides, and homicides.³
- Properly securing firearms can reduce these risks.³

THE SAFEST WAY TO STORE A FIREARM

- ☐ Unloaded
- ☐ Locked Up (firearm safe, lock box, trigger lock or cablelock)
- ☐ Ammunition securely stored separately
- ☐ Keys and combinations to firearm locking devices inaccessible to children or unauthorized users
- ☐ When firearms are taken outside the home they are safely stored (on your person or lock box inside vehicle)

OTHER TIPS

Ask family and friends if their firearms are safely stored before allowing your children to enter their home.

Know that in CT you are criminally liable if an unauthorized user gains access to an unlawfully stored firearm.

Avoid keeping firearms inside your vehicle.

Do NOT bring firearms to buildings, offices, or appointments where they are prohibited, like schools and medical facilities.

RESOURCES

988 | SUICIDE & CRISIS
LIFELINE

911: Concerned about the safety of a loved one who has a firearm?

Police can investigate and store firearms while they are in a crisis. (CT Risk Protection Order [RPO])⁷



Scan the QR
Code for more
information.

1. PA 23-53: An Act Addressing Gun Violence, <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2023/sum/pdf/2023SUM00053-R02HB-06667-SUM.pdf>
2. Firearm violence: A public health crisis in America. (n.d.-a). <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/firearm-violence-advisory.pdf>
3. Guns in the Home: How to Keep Kids Safe. (n.d.). HealthyChildren.org. <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/at-home/Pages/Handguns-in-the-Home.aspx#:~:text=The%20American%20Academy%20of%20Pediatrics,guns%20from%20homes%20and%20communities>
4. Petrosky, E., Blair, J. M., Betz, C. J., Fowler, K. A., Jack, S. P., & Lyons, B. H. (2017). Racial and ethnic differences in homicides of adult women and the role of intimate partner violence — United States, 2003–2014. MMWR Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, 66(28), 741–746. <https://doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6628a1>
5. Suicide data and statistics. (2024, July 18). Suicide Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/suicide/facts/data.html>
6. U.S Department of Justice. Safe Storage of Firearms. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/DOJ-Safe-Firearm-Storage-Guide.pdf>
7. Risk protection orders and risk protection order investigations. (n.d.). <https://www.jud.ct.gov/Publications/JDPCL140.pdf>