KNOW THE LAWS IN YOUR STATE

Safe firearm storage and child access prevention laws are intended to increase safe storage behavior, prevent gun deaths and injuries among our nation’s youth, and prevent firearm thefts. Safe storage laws create clear mandates for how firearms must be stored. These laws vary by state so be sure to learn about laws in your area to ensure you are in compliance with firearm storage requirements.

Extreme Risk Laws provide family, intimate partners, household members, and law enforcement officials, and in some states, healthcare professionals, with a safe and effective way of temporarily removing access to firearms from individuals at risk of harming themselves or others. Extreme risk laws provide a tool to hit pause and buy time when it matters most. Through a civil court order, extreme risk laws empower law enforcement and families to prevent firearm violence, including suicide.

SAFE STORAGE OPTIONS

Securely storing all of your guns can prevent firearm misuse, while still providing you with quick access when you need it. Gun storage may look different for everyone. Explore gun storage options to determine which are the right fit for your household.

Cable & Trigger Locks
Cable locks run a cable through the chamber of the gun and out the magwell to prevent the gun from being fired. A trigger lock is a small two-piece lock that fits over or through the trigger guard to prevent the trigger from being pulled.

Lock Boxes & Carrying Cases
Lock boxes and carrying cases are small, lightweight storage options commonly used for transporting guns.

Gun Safes & Cabinets
Home gun safes and cabinets are available in a variety of sizes and require a key, combination, or biometric data to unlock.

Off-Site Storage
Firearm retailers, shooting ranges, and/or law enforcement facilities in your area may offer off-site gun storage.

Learn more at EndFamilyFire.org
WHAT IS FAMILY FIRE?

Family fire refers to a shooting caused by someone having access to a gun from the home when they shouldn’t have it.

This includes children as well as those who display behavior that indicates they could harm themselves or others. Unintentional shootings, suicide, and intentional shootings are all forms of family fire.

Family fire is preventable by storing your guns safely.

WHY IS FAMILY FIRE AN ISSUE?

- Every day, 8 children and teens are unintentionally injured or killed due to family fire
- 4.6 million children live in homes with access to an unlocked or unsupervised gun
- 1 in 5 kids has handled a gun when an adult wasn’t around
- 75% of kids know where a gun is stored in their home
- 51% of all suicides are by firearm and 60% of all gun deaths are by suicide
- Access to a gun increases the risk of death by suicide by 300%
- 76% of school shootings are facilitated by kids having access to unsecured and unsupervised guns at home

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

1. **Store guns safely.**

   Family fire incidents can be prevented through responsible gun ownership, including safe storage practices.
   - Always store guns locked and out of children’s reach.
   - If your guns are already locked, take the next step and store them unloaded and away from ammunition.
   - Always transport your gun inside of a cool and clean dry carrying case or storage box with a lock.
   - If someone in your home is experiencing a crisis or suicidal ideation, consider off-site gun storage options.

2. **Have Ongoing Conversations About Firearm Safety:**

   Having regular conversations about firearm safety with those close to you reduces the chance of family fire incidents. Gun owners should have ongoing discussions about what storage method works best as your household changes. Gun owners and non-gun owners can help end family fire incidents by educating friends, family, and members of their community about responsible gun ownership.
   - Approach the conversation casually and from a point of understanding.
   - Remain calm. Emotions can escalate the conversation, making it more difficult for your message to be heard.
   - Explain how storing guns safely will help protect them and their loved ones.
   - Listen to the other person’s response, without interruption.
   - Focus on what safe gun storage looks like in everyday life.
   - Be prepared to share a few safe gun storage options.
   - Give examples of gun owners in your life who practice safe storage, or see if they would be willing to join the conversation.

3. **ASK About Unlocked Guns in the Home:**

   Parents and guardians ask all sorts of questions before they allow their children to visit other homes. They ask about pets, discuss allergies and internet access, and ask questions about supervision. The ASK (Asking Saves Kids) campaign is a core component of Brady’s End Family Fire program which advocates for safe firearm storage. ASK encourages parents and guardians to ask: “Is there an unlocked gun in your house?” It’s a simple question, but it has the power to save a child’s life.

TIPS FOR TALKING ABOUT FIREARM SAFETY

Having regular conversations about gun safety with those close to you can help promote safe storage and reduce the chance of family fire incidents. Gun owners should have ongoing discussions about what storage method works best as your household changes. Gun owners and non-gun owners can help end family fire incidents by educating friends, family, and members of their community about responsible gun ownership.

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If the first conversation doesn’t go the way you want, consider what you might change and try again at a later time.