



## Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

*Phil Wentz*

“The proper *design* and effective *use* of the built environment can lead to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime and the improvement in the quality of life.”

*National Crime Prevention Institute (NCPI)*

CPTED emphasizes four specific areas to focus on for safety. They are 1) physical environment; 2) Behavior of people; 3) Productive use of space; and 4) Crime/loss prevention.

Reducing the CPTED concepts to a simple article is somewhat challenging, but this article is intended to give you some things to consider for your school campuses. By paying attention to some of the items listed in this article, you'll

## President's Message

*Vonnie Good*

Hello Fellow Safety Freaks! As you may know, I was drafted into the Presidency of OSSOA last summer.

We have a lot we want to do this year...as always, grow the membership, grow participation in our annual meeting, spread ourselves around the state, get involved with other school-based associations, all to generally improve safety in education by expanding the level of safety-related information sharing across the state. Sounds like a great idea, huh? We all think so, too. We hope you'll get involved. There are lots of ways. You can get involved in the association itself, recruit new blood and share information through our listserve and website.

So, happy year and let us know how OSSOA can help you and you can help OSSOA.

Thanks...  
Vonnie B. Good  
OSSOA President

be better tuned in to the entire concept and may begin to see your buildings in a new light.

Consider your buildings for a moment. Do bushes and trees block a reasonable view of windows and doors? Do they offer a hiding place for potential criminals? Are areas of playgrounds and playing fields obscured by low branches on trees? Are parking lots well lit?

Natural surveillance, natural access control and territorial reinforcement are key CPTED concepts. Natural surveillance means you have the ability to readily observe an area because it is clear and open well lit and structures don't create blind spots.

Natural access means that the area is controlled because entrances are visible and access to the site is clearly defined by roads, sidewalks, fences, etc.

Territorial behavior refers to the development of areas that allow people to feel a strong sense of ownership. This is an umbrella concept that embodies both natural surveillance and natural access. It means defining territory and the use of the territory.

Territory is further defined as having a *designated* purpose; a clear *definition* of the desired and acceptable behaviors while in the territory; and the space is *designed* to support and control the desired behaviors.

Public schools have an intrinsic issues regarding territory. The grounds are commonly viewed as “public” meaning they are available any time for any use by a member of the community. Public schools have the right and the responsibility to

*(CPTED continued on page 3)*

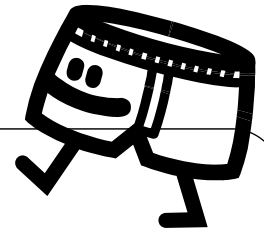
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## Top 10 of Stage Safety

By Stagecraft Industries

- Ensure there is adequate work light to work on the stage safely, without using the stage fixtures. Avoid the trips/falls: “because I couldn’t see it”.
- Ensure operators are trained on the safe and proper operator techniques for the rigging equipment and document the training sessions. Post signage indicating “Authorized Operators Only”.
- Inventory all hand and power tools and ensure they are in safe working order. Tagout or remove any tools not meeting manufacturer’s guidelines.
- Ensure fire suppression tools are current: Fire curtain operates correctly, extinguishers are charged, panic doors are not blocked, smoke vents function, and users are trained to know what to do in case of a fire.
- Ensure stage lighting fixtures are properly hung, with safety cables in use, and are properly wired and connected. Beware of asbestos electrical leads on older stage fixtures.
- Test and document all fabrics, curtains and scenic fabric used in the stage area are flame treated and pass NFPA 701 flame test.
- Annually vacuum all stage curtains to remove dust accumulation and retard the ability to sustain a flame. Failed tests are often the result of excessive dust.
- Never obstruct the fire curtain descent path or alter the fire curtain rigging. It should be tested and documented annually for proper operation and that it seals on the stage floor. The test also lubricates the grease in the sheave bearings.
- Ensure that user ‘flown’ scenery elements are properly constructed and rigged with approved hardware and attachment methods.
- Periodically conduct thorough rigging and electrical safety inspections by a qualified firm who provides a written report with findings.



## BOARD BRIEFS

By Vonnie Good

We have scheduled our 2008 Annual Workshop in conjunction with the Oregon Association of School Business Officials (OASBO). It will be July 22, at Eagle Crest Resort in Redmond. Mark your calendars now. Hotel rooms are going fast. See [www.oasbo.com/summerconf/](http://www.oasbo.com/summerconf/) for information on how to make your reservations. We will have a BBQ the evening of Monday, July 21 and our meeting will be all day on July 22.

OSSOA has decided to go tax exempt and we have submitted a 501(c)3 application. Hopefully, we’ll be approved for that.

We are looking for ways to reach out to education entities beyond the K-12 realm. Community colleges and universities face a lot of the same safety issues that K-12 facilities do.

Speaking of expanding our reach, do you have any ideas on groups we should be working to interface with? We have represented ourselves at OSBA and OSFMA. We’re thinking about exhibiting at PRIMA, COSA, ASSE, etc. Please give us your feedback.

Don’t forget to share your successes, concerns and questions via our listserv! Members can send message and questions directly to [ossoa@list.osba.org](mailto:ossoa@list.osba.org).



The OSSOA Newsletter is produced by the Oregon School Boards Association liaison to the association as a service for the Oregon School Safety Officers Association membership.

Any questions regarding this publication or OSSOA may be answered by calling the OSBA office at (503)588-2800 or by sending an e-mail to [apeterman@osba.org](mailto:apeterman@osba.org).



Check out our web site for important safety information and links.

- Safety topics
- Links to on-line resources
- Conference registration
- Past Newsletter issues

[www.ossoa.org](http://www.ossoa.org)

Plan to attend  
**July 22, 2008**

OSSOA's  
Annual Workshop  
**BUILDING  
SUCCESSFUL  
SAFETY  
PROGRAMS**

Eagle Crest Resort—  
Redmond

Check out the agenda and  
register online at

**WWW.OSSOA.ORG**

*(CPTED continued from page 1)*

control use of school grounds just as building use is controlled.

For instance, an elementary campus or a middle school with a track may be considered closed for public use during specified hours. This helps create a safe environment for kids and reduces the surveillance demands on staff who are watching the kid's art recess or during P.E.

Here are five CPTED strategies to consider: Relocate gathering areas to locations with natural surveillance and access control or to locations away from the view of would-be offenders;

- Place safe activities in unsafe locations to promote the natural surveillance of these activities to increase the perception of safety for normal users and risk for offenders;
- Place unsafe activities in safe spots to overcome the vulnerability of these activities with the natural surveillance and access control of the safe areas;
- Redesign or revamp space to increase the perception or reality of natural surveillance;
- Overcome distance and isolation through improved communication and design efficiencies.

CPTED surveys consist of a crime analysis of the area; a review of the demographics to define users and potential users; a clear definition of land use; observations of the area to consider natural surveillance and natural access issues; and interviews of users and residents.

Hopefully this very brief overview of CPTED will provide you with some ideas on improving safety and lowering risks at your facilities. For additional information on CPTED look at these sources:

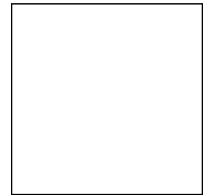
- National Institute of Justice - Crime Prevention through Environmental Design in Parking Facilities (#NJ157310) and
- The Expanding Role of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design in Premises Liability (#NJ157309), both from April 1996.

Here are a few additional resources:

[www.cpted.net](http://www.cpted.net)  
[www.darksky.org](http://www.darksky.org)  
[www.doca.org.uk](http://www.doca.org.uk)  
[www.iesna.org](http://www.iesna.org)  
[www.edoca.net](http://www.edoca.net)  
[www.ncpc.org](http://www.ncpc.org)  
[www.crime-free-association.org/multi-housing](http://www.crime-free-association.org/multi-housing)  
[www.nicp.net](http://www.nicp.net)  
[www.ncpc.org](http://www.ncpc.org)  
[www.flepted.org](http://www.flepted.org)  
[www.crime-free-association.org/multi-housing](http://www.crime-free-association.org/multi-housing)



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## Calendar of Events 2008

April 16-18	OSFMA Conference <i>Go to <a href="http://www.osfma.org">www.osfma.org</a> for more conference information.</i>	Albany
May	OSSOA Board Meeting	TBD
June	OSSOA Board Meeting	TBD
July 22	OSSOA Annual Workshop <i>More information to come. Check out our web site for registration and agenda information closer to the conference.</i>	Eagle Crest, Redmond

This calendar of events is also available on-line. Check the web site for the most updated information.