



**Green Lake County**

**Sheriff**

**486 Hill Street · PO Box 586 · Green Lake, WI 54941 · 920-294-4000**

To: Citizens/Department Staff

From: Chief Deputy Mark P. Putzke

Re: Disposal of Water Saturated Firearms Ammunition

Date: Wednesday, June 18, 2008

**Information:**

Firearms ammunition such as shotgun, rifle, and pistol casings which have become water soaked need to be properly disposed of. The critical point of instability comes when the explosive components of the shell, the powder and primer, dry out. The corrosive action of the components creates the instability and flammability.

**Procedure**

1. Become aware of the ammunition. Check on known ammunition locations and make certain of it's status (wet/damp or completely dry).
2. Once water damaged ammunition is found place it loosely in a five gallon pail. Keep the ammunition moist by placing it also in a plastic bag and sealing the top. Keep ammunition storage boxes and cases with you.
3. Transport the pail with ammunition to the Green Lake County Sheriff's Office. Leave the ammunition pail in your vehicle until a deputy takes it from you.
4. A case will be generated for tracking purposes and the ammunition will be turned over to a bomb squad who will be disposing of it safely.

Mark P. Putzke  
Chief Deputy Sheriff  
Green Lake County Sheriff's Office