

Teen Loses Fingers After Homemade Bombs Explode



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A 14 year old boy loses three fingers after State Police say he and some friends detonated a homemade explosive device, one that they learned to make on the internet.

Videos of people making and exploding bombs are easily found on the internet. State Police say that's what four young teens were doing in the woods in Round Lake Sunday, when things went terribly wrong.

Capt. William Sprague said, "They videotaped the incident with the goal of posting a video of the detonation of these devices on an internet site."



It's here in a wooded area off this bike trail in round lake where State Police say the four teens were setting off improvised explosive devices created with items from around their homes. Two of the five bombs exploded, the second went off in 14 year old Branden Wolfe's hand. Three of his fingers were blown off.

Capt. Sprague said, "They don't understand the powers, the properties and different things that will affect the materials that they are using."

The scary part for parents; the information to create these types of crude but dangerous devices are easily found online.

Maureen Tuffey said, "The internet has brought a whole different world of technology and kids access technology sooner than adults do."

And that's the problem; State Police tell us the instructional web sites are not illegal so kids who want the information can get it.

Computer safety expert Jamie Richardson said, "There's a lot of information the parents may not be aware of."

Computer safety expert Jamie Richardson says there are things parents can do. Parents can buy blocking software; check on your kids and most importantly set up the computer in a public area in the house.

Richardson said, "I think that if parents are aware of their surroundings...I think they can definitely make a difference for their kids."

One of the teen's who admitted to making the devices was arrested today and faces a felony charge in family court. As for the injured teen, doctors were not able to re-attach his fingers and he continues to undergo surgery.

