

## Safety Information

August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019

We have received information that several overnight burglaries have occurred in nearby jurisdictions in which entry was gained to the homes while the residents were sleeping. Cooler evenings can lead to residents sleeping with windows and doors open to allow for ventilation. However, this can also provide an opportunity for someone to enter your home without you knowing. We want to provide some tips on how you can enjoy the cooler weather and still protect your home.

The most effective ways for residents to prevent burglaries is to lock your doors and report suspicious activity to the police department immediately. Here are a few additional tips:

**1 Call 911 immediately if you observe any of the following:**

- Unfamiliar subjects appearing from between homes
- Unfamiliar subjects knocking on doors and then going to the rear of the residence
- Unusual dog barking
- Suspicious, unfamiliar, occupied vehicles

**2. Develop a relationship with neighbors in which you watch each other's home while away.**

“Neighborhood Watch” is a proven method of crime prevention through reporting suspicious activity to the police department. Check your landscaping to keep your driveway and yard area open and visible to neighbors.

**3. Don't be an easy target.** Install motion activated floodlights and trim back bushes/shrubs. Well lit, highly visible areas are unappealing to burglars.

**4. Install window-blocking devices on bedroom windows.** Many people like to sleep with windows open. If possible, open windows that are inaccessible or that cannot be easily reached such as second story windows. If you cannot do that, install a window-blocking device that restricts how far a window can be opened.

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