

Please consider these tips for your protection:

- 1) Be diligent about locking doors/windows.
- 2) If you have an alarm system, use it whenever possible.
- 3) Your house should appear occupied at all times. Use timers to switch lights and radios on and off when you're not at home.
- 4) If you go out of town tell a neighbor so they can watch your property.
- 5) Install motion lighting around your property.
- 6) A spring-latch lock is easy prey for burglars who are "loiding" experts. Loiding is the method of slipping a plastic credit card against the latch tongue to depress it and unlock the door. A deadbolt defies any such attack. It is only vulnerable when there is enough space between the door and its frame to allow an intruder to use power tools or a hacksaw.
- 7) Don't leave notes for service people or family members on the door. These act as a welcome mat for a burglar.
- 8) Trees located near windows or shrubbery that might shield a burglar from view can be major flaws in your home-protection plan. Consider your landscaping plan in light of your protection needs.
- 9) Dogs are good deterrents to burglars. Even a small, noisy dog can be effective -- burglars do not like to have attention drawn to their presence.
- 10) Be aware of suspicious activity such as: people walking through yards (not their own), looking in cars or houses, people sitting in vehicles that you haven't seen before, call 765-1212 - police non-emergency #
- 11) If you are away on a trash collection day, ask a neighbor/family member to take out your trash so that it looks like you are home.