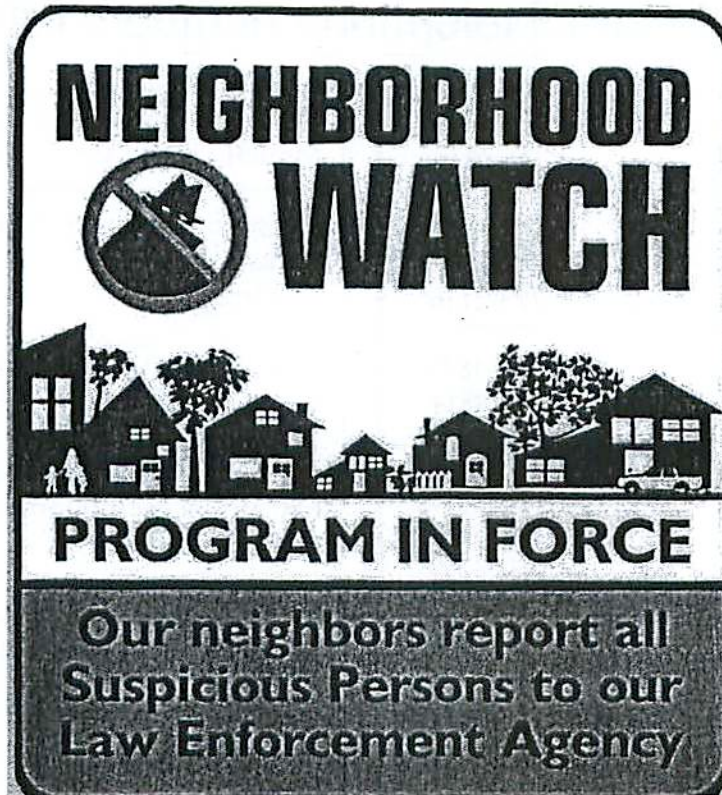


Neighborhood Watch



Home Security & Personal Safety Booklet

Washington County
Sheriff's Office
Crime Prevention Unit



Lorenzo Rubio (503)846-2793
Julie McCloud (503)846-2585
Doreen Rivera (503)846-5930
Doreen_rivera@co.washington.or.us
215 S.W. Adams Avenue, MS-32
Hillsboro, OR 97123



www.co.washington.or.us/sheriff

County Commissioners

(503) 846-8681

Chair: Tom Brian
District 1: Dick Schouten
District 2: John Leeper
District 3: Roy Rogers
District 4: Andrew Duvck

Area Code for all telephone numbers listed: 503

Abandoned Vehicles846-2524
 Aging & Veteran Services.....648-3489
 Building Inspection/Permits846-3470

Child Support.....846-8759
 Children's Services648-8951
 Citizen Involvement/CPO725-2116

Code Enforcement.....846-4875
 Community Development.....846-8814
 Community Dispute Resolution Ctr. ...526-2523

County Administration846-8685
 Courts846-8888
 District Attorney.....846-8671

Dog Control.....846-7041
 Domestic Violence Resource Ctr.640-1171
 Family Violence Intervention846-2886
 Elections846-8670

Emergency Management
 (Preparedness)649-8577
 Emergency Shelter648-0829
 Extension Service725-2300

Fairgrounds648-1416
 Food Handler's Permit846-3460
 Health & Human Services846-8881

Housing Rehabilitation846-8897
 Housing Services846-4794
 Human Resources846-8606
 Job Hotline Recording846-8607

Information (general)846-8611
 Jail846-2600
 Juvenile Department.....846-8861
 Land Use Planning.....846-3519

Library Services642-1544
 Marriage Licenses846-8786
 Mental Health Crisis Services.....291-9111

Noise (immediate response).....629-0111
 Parks
 Metzger246-0998
 Henry Hagg Lake359-5732
 THP&R District645-6433

Passports846-8741
 Parole & Probation846-3400
 Placement Neighborhood
 Watch Signs846-7959

Property Values846-8826
 Recycling & Solid Waste846-8609
 Right-of-Way Permits846-7623

Road Conditions (State).....800-977-6368
 Road Construction.....846-7840
 Road Maintenance846-7623

Septic Tanks Permits846-8722
 Sewers/Surface Drainage846-8621
 Sheriff's Office.....846-2700

Street Lights846-7626
 Storm Drains, plugged.....846-7662
 Surveyor.....846-8723 or 648-8723

Traffic Signals/Signs846-7623
 Tri-Met.....962-7433
 T.V. Fire & Rescue649-8577

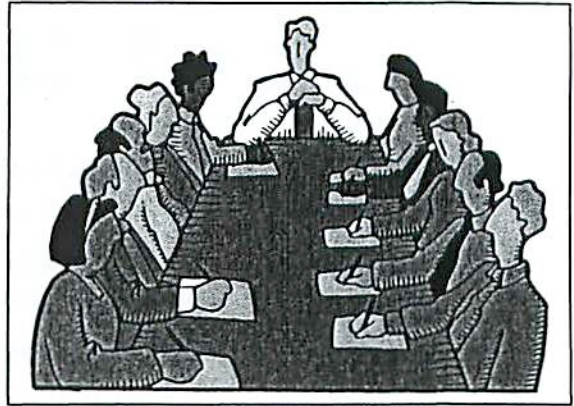
Watermaster
 Water Rights & Wells846-4881
 WIC.....846-3555
 Zoning/Setbacks846-8761

EMERGENCY 9-1-1 Non-Emergency (503) 629-0111

What Is Neighborhood Watch?

Neighborhood Watch is:

- ◆ Learning about the people and activity patterns on your block, and how to recognize suspicious individuals, vehicles, and out-of-place behavior.
- ◆ Making the commitment with your neighbors to report suspicious activities to the police.
- ◆ Making your home as secure as possible against intruders.
- ◆ Marking and photographing all your valuables to reduce the likelihood of theft and to increase the chances of having stolen property returned to you.
- ◆ Establishing an ongoing communication network to discuss ways of mutually working together for the betterment of your block, your neighborhood, and Washington County.



These components form the basis of the Neighborhood Watch Program. Individually, each aspect will help to make your block safer. By implementing all five will you achieve maximum protection and security against neighborhood crime.

Share this information with your neighbors. Remember, the more familiar you are with each other and crime prevention techniques, the safer your block will be.

Know Your Neighbor

One of the most important aspects of Neighborhood Watch is getting to know your neighbors. Whether it is better to do so at a block meeting or one-one-one is up to you, but it is important that you share information about the composition of your households and activities. By doing so you make it easier for your block members to recognize and respond to any suspicious activities in your area. To "profile" your block, share with each other the following information:



- Names of household members
- Address
- Phone numbers (include work numbers)
- Makes
- Models
- Colors
- License numbers of family cars
- Pets (Does a barking dog indicate an intruder?)
- Medical problems (note so the most appropriate response may be made in an emergency)

Make a block map of your network and distribute to your block participants. Discuss "weaknesses" of your area (for example, visibility of houses by neighbors, areas of high daytime vacancy, residences with vacancy due to vacations, etc.)

Keep your block map in a safe but accessible place (example, in phone book or desk).

Remember, the more information you share with each other, the better protected you will be. The more you know about the activities on your block, the better your chances of preventing a crime in your neighborhood.

A Parents Guide to Teenage Parties

Know Your Parental Responsibilities

- ✓ Be aware that it is illegal to serve alcohol to anyone under 21 years old
- ✓ Criminal charges may be brought for serving alcohol to minors with penalties of up to one year in prison, fines up to \$5,000. or both. There is a mandatory minimum sentence of \$350.00.
- ✓ Your teenager is considered in violation of the law by either possessing or consuming alcoholic beverages.
- ✓ The law provides that no person under 18 years of age shall possess tobacco products at any time.
- ✓ Provide adequate adult supervision.
- ✓ Provide a safe environment for minors.
- ✓ Set limits, including zero tolerance for you child and his/her friends.
- ✓ Call 9-1-1 if necessary.



In Your Home

- ◆ No drugs or alcohol. ◆ No smoking or tobacco products. ◆ No gate crashers allowed.
- ◆ Agree who & how many will attend. ◆ Lights will be left on. ◆ Some rooms off limits.
- ◆ There will always be an adult in attendance ◆ Set a definite start and ending; not too long.
- ◆ Guests may not leave and return later to the party. This may enable them to bring uninvited teenagers and alcohol back to your home.

In Someone Else's Home

- ◆ Call the host to confirm plans for zero tolerance and adequate parental supervision.
- ◆ If there is drinking or drug use occurring, make it easy for your teenager to leave—always have a back-up driver who your teenager can call.
- ◆ Insist that your teenager **NEVER** take a ride with someone who has been drinking or taking drugs.
- ◆ Insist that your teenager **NEVER** tolerate party activities that include vandalism, theft, sexual intimidation or assault, drinking or drug use.
- ◆ Encourage your teenager to call 9-1-1 if necessary.
- ◆ Have a prior agreement between you and your teenager concerning these party rules.

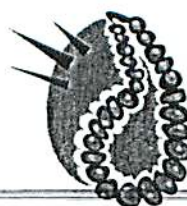
"The Washington County Sheriff's Office supports a zero tolerance policy regarding drug and alcohol use among minors."

—Rob Gordon, Sheriff

**WORKING
TOGETHER
TO KEEP OUR
TEENS SAFE**

Crime Prevention Tips

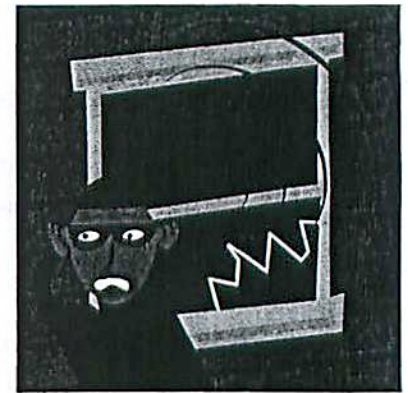
- ♦ Most burglaries occur during daylight hours between 8 AM to 5 PM, while people are at work, shopping or taking kids to and from school.
- ♦ It only takes 3 minutes or less for a burglar to break in, steal your property and leave.
 1. Lock your doors and windows, including the garage door, even if you'll only be gone a short time.
- ♦ If a burglar can not gain entry into your home in less than 30 seconds, he (she) will move on to the next opportunity.
- ♦ Statistically, in the US 50% of all burglaries occur using NO FORCE, the burglar just walked in through an unlocked door or window. In Washington County, it's between 40 – 55%.
- ♦ Burglars may case an area posing as: joggers, someone looking for an address or a friend, etc.
 1. Be observant and report suspicious people, vehicles, and activities.
 2. Keep license plate numbers of suspicious vehicles in case a crime is committed later; police usually question neighbors to see if they noticed anything unusual.
- ♦ Burglars may use pillow cases, duffel or gym bags to carry the goods they steal.
 1. If you are burglarized, check to see if any of your luggage or pillowcases are missing.
- ♦ Burglars take things that are easily fenced such as: jewelry, weapons, cameras, etc. VCR's are a big item.
 1. They stay away from marked property because fences won't take them.
 2. They usually only get 10 cents on the dollar from fences.
 3. Less than 1% of stolen property is returned to owners due to lack of positive identification.
 4. Mark property in two places. One that's obvious and another that is not. Use your driver's license number as an identification number.
 5. Keep serial numbers and description in a safe place.



Tips (con't.)

♦ Burglars target homes that look deserted.

1. Make your house look like someone may be home.
2. Leave a radio or TV on when you leave.
3. Leave lights on if you won't be home before dark, or have lights on timers to turn on at dark.
4. Open drapes.
 - A. Have a trusted neighbor (relative) take in your daily mail and newspapers.
 - B. If you leave for a weekend or a few days, leave your 2nd car in the driveway, or ask a neighbor to park theirs in your driveway while you are gone.



♦ Don't feel that you have to open the door to anyone who knocks. If you didn't invite them, you don't have to open the door.

1. Ask who it is before you answer the door.

♦ If someone wants to use your phone, make the call for them, don't let them in.

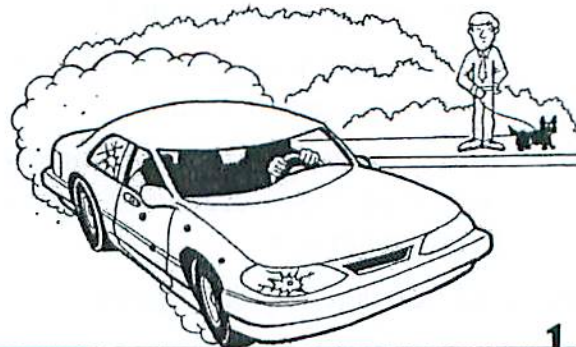
♦ Install window glazing for vulnerable areas like glass next to doors or glass doors.

♦ Call right away when you see suspicious people, vehicles or activity...don't wait an hour to do so.

♦ Report any telephonic harassment.



Report suspicious persons . . .



activities . . .

. . . or vehicles.

What Is Suspicious?

When To Call The Sheriff's Office

Help the Sheriff's Office Help You

The Washington county Sheriff's Office and your neighbors are depending on you to call and tell us whenever you observe suspicious persons, vehicles or activity.

This information is designed to help you determine activity that should be reported. Please make a commitment to your neighbors to call whenever you see suspicious activity. We'd rather be "called and not needed, than needed and not called."

But What Is Suspicious?



A Vehicle, People, Activities?

Basically, anything that seems even slightly "out of place". Some of the most obvious things to watch for and report include:

- ◆ A stranger entering your neighbor's house when it is unoccupied may be a burglar.
- ◆ A scream hear anywhere might mean robbery or rape.
- ◆ Offers of merchandise at ridiculously low prices could mean stolen property.
- ◆ Anyone removing accessories, license plates, or gasoline from a car should be reported.
- ◆ Anyone peering into parked cars may be looking for a car to steal or for valuables left displayed in the car.
- ◆ A person entering or leaving a business after hours could mean burglars.
- ◆ The sound of breaking glass or other loud explosive noise could mean an accident, burglary, or vandalism.
- ◆ Persons loitering around schools, parks, secluded areas, or in the neighborhood could be sex offenders.
- ◆ People around the neighborhood that do not live there could be burglars.

REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY, PERSONS OR VEHICLES

EMERGENCY 9-1-1 NON-EMERGENCY DISPATCH 629-0111

Operation Identification

What Is Operation ID

Operation Identification is a nationwide program designed to discourage burglary and the theft of valuables from your home or business. This program provides a way for you and law enforcement officials to easily identify ownership of stolen property.

You permanently engrave your state and driver's license number (or, if you do not drive, an identification number which can be obtained from DMV) on two permanent parts of your property. Make sure these are not easily removable parts.

OR123456DL

Why use the driver's license number instead of your social security number?

Law enforcement agencies can easily access DMV records to determine the name that corresponds with the driver's license number. This number is only issued once; is not recycled or re-issued to another person. Law enforcement agencies do not have access to Social Security system.

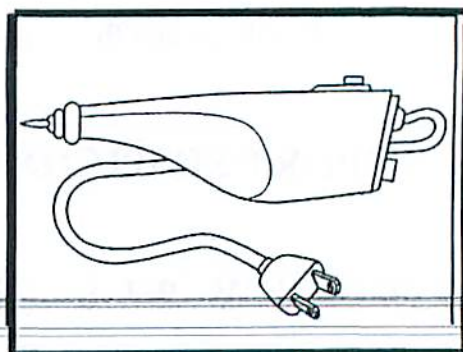
Why put the identification number on?

Property is stolen so it can be resold for cash. If you engrave your items the burglar will have difficulty selling them to his middleman or fence. He can't take them to a swap meet or pawnshop.

As a stolen item its market value is low to start with, but engraving it with an ID number makes it worth only 10% of even that. Marking property with an identifying number will discourage burglary and theft because thieves are far more likely to be convicted if caught with engraved property in their possession. If a burglar knows all the valuables in your home are marked, he is likely to look for an easier and more profitable victim. **Another good point to consider:** When unmarked stolen property is taken into custody, it cannot be traced and returned to you.

If you move out of your Oregon and your driver's license number is no longer valid: All states motor vehicle registration departments will cooperate with law enforcement giving them your forwarding address *if you advise the department of your new address.* If you have not permanently marked your possessions, it is highly advisable to do that.

Electric Engraver



Crime Prevention Tips

Rental Communities

Apartment and other multi-unit residents have most of the same security concerns as residential dwellers. Here are a few tips that could be especially useful to those who live in a rental community:

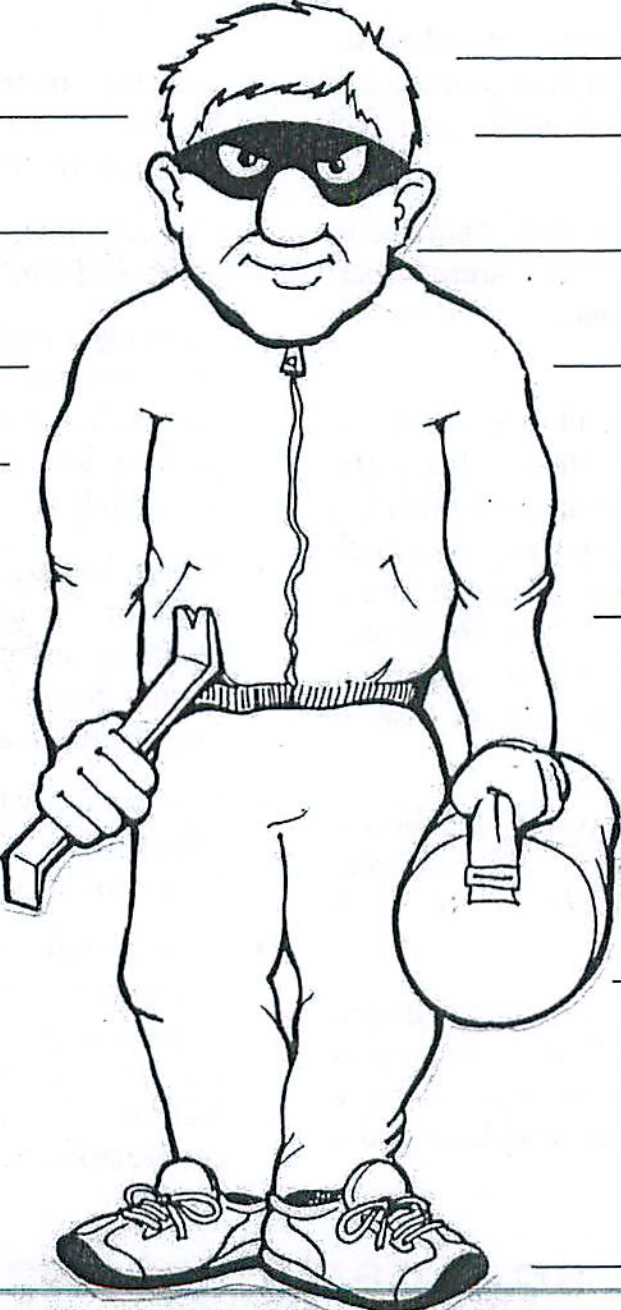
- ♦ Select your apartment dwelling outside of a high crime or risk area whenever possible
- ♦ Make sure the apartment has adequate locks, parking facilities, lighting and other security features that will make you feel comfortable living there.
- ♦ When you move into a new apartment, make sure to re-key the locks-remember, you never know who had access to the key(s) before you.
- ♦ Install deadbolt locks on all exterior doors. Tenants usually pay for these. Have the deadbolt lock be a different make than the door lock and don't master-key your lock to the management locks. You can give a friend a key stamped "Do Not Duplicate" in a sealed envelope. Let your apartment manager know who to contact in case of an emergency.
- ♦ Communicate with your neighbors, especially those living on each side and across from you, to "watch" out for each other.
- ♦ Join forces with your other neighbors, organize an Apartment Watch and report suspicious activity. You can make a difference and make your neighborhood a safer place to live.
- ♦ Know your neighbor's routines, when they come and go, etc. Report anything suspicious, out of place.
- ♦ Develop methods of communication between you and your fellow tenants in the event of any emergency.
- ♦ Use secondary locking devices on your doors and windows for added security.
- ♦ Lighting is probably the most important consideration in apartment security. Are halls, laundry rooms, stairwells, parking lots and the building exterior adequately lit?
- ♦ When leaving your apartment have a radio or TV playing loud enough to be heard by anyone standing close to your front door. This will give the impression that someone is home.
- ♦ Use caution when using laundry rooms, self-service elevators, stairways and basement area.
- ♦ Immediately report to the police or apartment security/management any suspicious person or situation, especially around laundry rooms, mailbox area, hallways, basement, elevators or other concealable locations.

"Organize an Apartment Watch Group

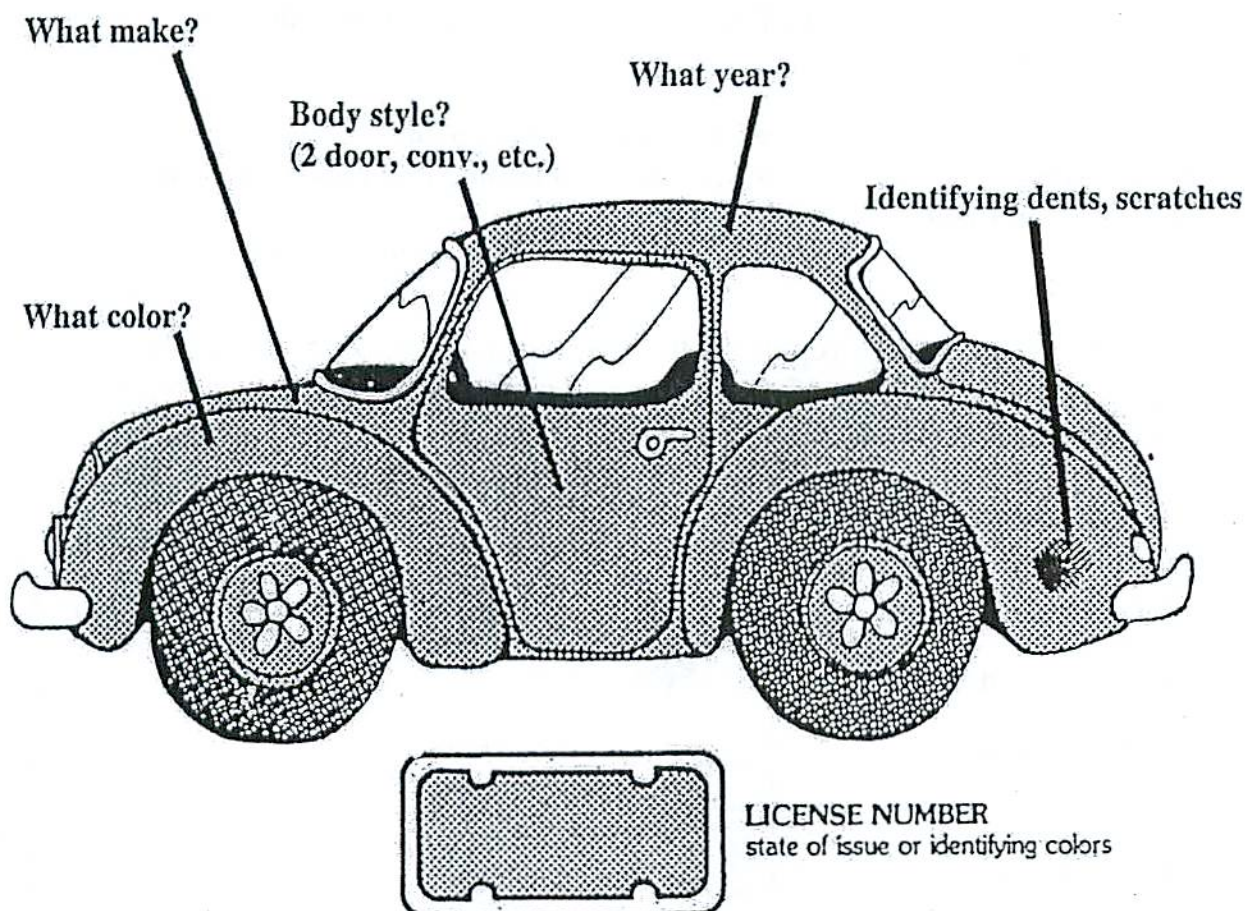
... and help reduce crime and the fear of crime in your rental community."

Describe The Suspect

Sex _____ Race _____ Age _____ Height _____ Weight _____

Color of eyes _____		_____ Hair
Complexion _____		_____ Hat
Shirt _____		_____ Moustache, Beard Sideburns
Coat _____		_____ Tie
Tattoos, Scars or Marks _____		_____ Distinguishable gait or limp
Weapon _____		_____ Pants
		_____ Shoes

Vehicle Description



The police can use answers to as many of these questions as possible. Please remember that wrong information is *worse* than no information at all. Answer only those questions that you're sure of.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. How many suspects were there? _____ | 6. Were there any other witnesses? _____ |
| 2. What did they do? _____ | _____ |
| 3. What did they say? _____ | _____ |
| 4. What did they take? _____ | 7. Any other information you feel is important? |
| 5. Which way did they go? _____ | _____ |
| 8. Phone numbers? _____ | _____ |

Fellow Motorist Letter

Fellow Motorists Letters are mailed to registered owners of a vehicle, which have been reported by a witness to the Sheriff's Office, of having violated one or more, but not limited to, of the following infractions:

- ♦ Speeding
- ♦ Reckless Driving
- ♦ Disobeying a Red Light
- ♦ Disobeying a Stop Sign
- ♦ Disobeying Flashing Red Lights on School Buses
- ♦ Violation Speed Zones near Schools

These are just a few examples. To report such violations, call the Sheriff's Office at (503) 846-2700 any time, 24 hours. (Can be reported anonymously) Be prepared to provide the following information:

- ♦ Vehicle License Number
- ♦ Date Occurred
- ♦ Location
- ♦ Infraction
- ♦ Vehicle Description
- ♦ Time Occurred
- ♦ Nearest Cross Street

The intent of this letter is safety awareness. Sometimes while driving, people are preoccupied with personal matters and not attentive to safe driving habits. Receiving a letter from the sheriff serves as a "wake-up call." In some instances, the driver might not even remember committing an infraction, until it is brought to his or her attention via the Fellow Motorist Letter.

This is a sample of the actual letter sent:



WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

September 17, 1998

Name
Address
City, State, Zip

Dear Name:

As Sheriff of Washington County, I have a growing concern about the increasing number of motor vehicle accidents that are occurring on our public highways and neighborhood streets.

A vehicle registered to you, (license #), was reported by a citizen to have committed a traffic violation on (location) near (closest cross street) when the operator committed the offense of (violation). This created unnecessary hazards to other motorists and pedestrians.

Please accept this letter as a friendly reminder that I am concerned about your safety as well as that of your neighbors. We acknowledge that the license numbers reported to us are not always accurate. Please disregard this letter if your vehicle was not in the area described in this letter. This is not a citation. We will not notify your insurance company or the Department of Motor Vehicles.

I hope I can count on you to operate your vehicle in a safe manner and to remind others who use your vehicle to do the same. We are convinced this will help make Washington County safer for all of us.

Very truly yours,

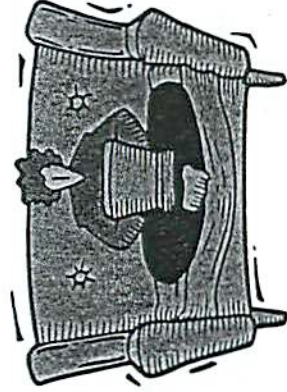
Rob Gordon, Sheriff

Rob Gordon, Sheriff

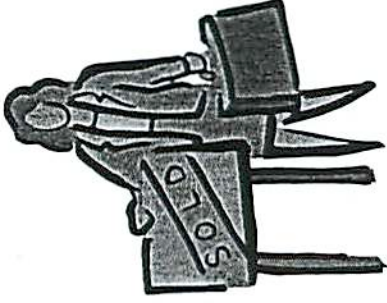
215 SW Adams Avenue, ACS-32
Hillsboro, OR 97123
Tel. (503) 846-2700 - FAX (503) 846-3719

Personal Safety

At home



At work



In public

Be Alert—Avoid Trouble

The best crime prevention is being alert to your surroundings. Don't put yourself and your family in situations or locations where crime is most likely to occur. Be prepared. You can reduce the risk of becoming a crime victim by taking a few simple precautions. Talk through these ideas with your family. Teach them to always be alert and aware of the people around them. Especially in alleys, dark parking lots and ATM machines. As you are teaching them, you'll reinforce in your own mind the crime prevention tactics we offer here.

Street Precautions

1. Be alert to your surroundings and the people around you, especially if you are alone or it is dark.
2. Whenever possible, travel with a friend.
3. Stay in well-lighted areas as much as possible. Carry a small flash light if out at night.
4. Walk close to the curb. Avoid doorways, bushes and alleys where someone could hide.
5. Walk confidently and at a steady pace.
6. Make eye contact with people when walking.
7. Do not respond to conversation from strangers on the street, continue walking.
8. If you carry a purse, hold it securely between your arm and your body.



Car Safety

1. Always lock car doors after entering or when leaving your car.
2. Park in well-lit, active areas.
3. Have your car keys in your hand ready to unlock your car.
4. Check the back seat before entering your car.
5. If you think you are being followed, drive to a public place, such as a police, sheriff, or fire station.
6. If your car breaks down, open the hood and attach a white cloth to the car antenna.
7. If someone stops to help, stay in the locked car, roll down the window just a little and ask them to call the police, sheriff, AAA or a tow truck.
8. Don't stop to aid motorists on the side of the road. Phone and request help for them.

Waiting For a Bus



1. Avoid isolated bus stops.
2. Keep safely away from curb until the bus arrives.
3. Don't open your purse or wallet while boarding the bus. Have your pass or money ready in your hand or in an easily accessible pocket. Before you board the bus, keep your purse at your side with your hand clutching it.
4. Don't invite trouble — keep gold chains out of sight; don't flash your jewelry and turn your rings around so the stones don't show.

On the Bus



1. During off-hours, sit as close to the bus driver as possible.
2. Stay alert — be aware of the people around you.
3. If someone bothers you, change seats and /or tell the driver.
4. Check your purse or wallet if someone is jostling or crowding or pushing you.
5. If you see any suspicious activity, immediately tell the driver.



Office Security



1. Never leave your Purse or billfold in plain view or in the pocket of a jacket hanging on a door.
2. Personal property should be marked with your driver license number such as **OR123456DL**.
3. Don't leave cash or valuables at the office.
4. If you work alone or before/after normal business hours, keep the office door locked.
5. If you work late, try to find another worker or a security guard to walk out with you.
6. If you are in the elevator with another person, stand near the control panel. If you are attacked, press the alarm and as many of the control buttons as possible.
7. Be alert for pickpockets on crowded elevators.
8. Report all suspicious people and activities to the proper authorities as soon as possible to the office manager, building security or law enforcement.

ATM Precautions

Automated Teller Machines are very common place today, offering convenience to users and opportunities to criminals. Here are a few precautions:

1. Prepare for your ATM transactions at your home or office to minimize your time at the ATM. Example: Fill out deposit slips and have the bank's deposit envelopes available at your home or office.
2. Mark each transaction in your account record, but not while at the ATM.
3. Always save your receipts. Don't leave them at the ATM.
4. Don't lend your ATM card to anyone.
5. Remember to not leave your card at the ATM—especially in the machine.
6. Protect the secrecy of your Personal Identification Number (PIN) Example: Don't tell anyone your PIN. Don't write your PIN where it can be discovered. Don't keep a note of your PIN in your wallet or purse. Especially, don't write your PIN on your ATM.
7. Prevent others from seeing you enter your PIN by using your body or other hand to shield their view.
8. If you lose your ATM card or if it is stolen, promptly notify your bank and your local law enforcement agency.



9. At the ATM, be especially mindful of your surroundings. Look out for suspicious activity near the ATM facility. At night be sure the ATM site, the parking area and walkways are all well lighted. If you observe anything unusual, go to another ATM facility.

10. Don't accept assistance from anyone you don't know when using an ATM.
11. If any problem arises after you have begun an ATM transaction, cancel the transaction, pocket your card and leave.
12. Wait until you are in a secure surroundings to count your cash.
13. If you are held up after you get your cash, throw the cash on the ground and run—yell or scream for help.
14. At a drive-up ATM, make sure all the car doors are locked and all of the windows are rolled up, except the driver's window. Be mindful of preparing your transactions before hand. Keep the engine running and remain alert to your surroundings.
15. If you are held up after you get your cash at a drive-up, and someone blocks your path...do not stop, keep going.
16. The ATM should be safe and convenient for you. Tell your bank of any problems associated with an ATM facility.

Minimize Car Jacking Risks

Thrusting a gun in your face and taking your car while you are in a parking lot, at a traffic signal, getting gas, or simply waiting in your car is called Car Jacking and it can happen to you

Before entering your car:

1. Be alert to any activity near your car.
2. If there is someone loitering near your unoccupied car, keep walking until they leave.
3. Pay attention to your surroundings.
4. In a parking lot, approach your car by walking toward it in the center of the driving lane, not at the side where someone could leap out from between cars.
5. Walk with a purpose.
6. Don't walk aimlessly towards your car. Have an alternate route in mind in case of problems.
7. Always have your key in hand and check the back seat and locks before entering your car.
8. If someone demands your car, especially with a child in a car seat, gain time by asking to get your child out, holding your keys momentarily and then throwing them away, preferably under another parked car.
9. If you are confronted, do not resist.
10. Never get in a car with a car-jacker. Yell, scream, run, do everything you can to avoid getting in your car.



Once in your car:

11. Lock and start your car immediately. Keep doors and windows locked.
12. If someone threatening you blocks your pathway, keep going, don't stop.
13. Stay out of high crime areas.
14. Be suspicious of people approaching your car asking for directions, change, or giving out flyers.
15. When stopping in traffic, leave enough distance between your car and the car in front of you, so you can pull away quickly and carefully.
16. If a suspicious person approaches your car, drive away quickly and carefully—even if you must go through a traffic light. Of course, be careful to avoid an accident.
17. If another vehicle bumps your car, or your tire goes flat, keep your doors and windows closed and wait for law enforcement to arrive or put your flashers on and drive slowly to the nearest police station or populated area such as a store or gas station.
18. Be especially alert when using drive-up ATM machines.
19. Keep valuables out of view when traveling. Store them in the trunk.

"Be alert to your surroundings"

When crime hits home, the results can be devastating.

They may include:

Financial and property loss,

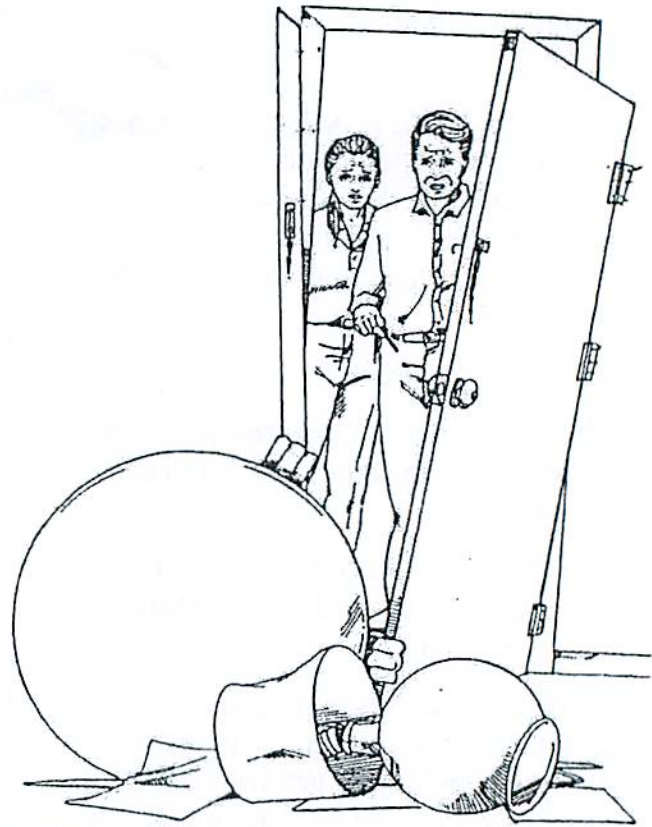
As well as vandalism of home and possessions.

Emotional turmoil

-invasion of your privacy can cause as much trauma as the loss of prized possessions.

Possible physical harm

-intruders can become violent, especially when they're caught in the act.



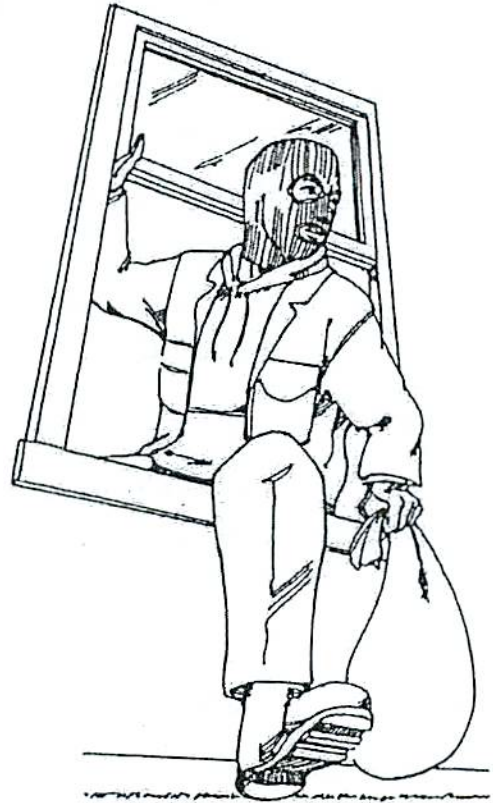
The burglary of even one home can make an entire neighborhood feel angry or afraid.

You can protect against break-ins.

In most cases, a little extra care and thought are all that's needed. Keep in mind that:

Most intruders seek easy targets.

They want to get in quickly, quietly and unseen! The harder you make it for them, the lower your risk of a break-in.



Effective home security need not be costly!

That's because common sense and a bit of time and energy can go a very long way!

We need to make it as hard as possible for a burglar to break in.

Home security starts at the door.

Here are a few ways to make exterior doors a real problem for would-be intruders.

Use sturdy doors.

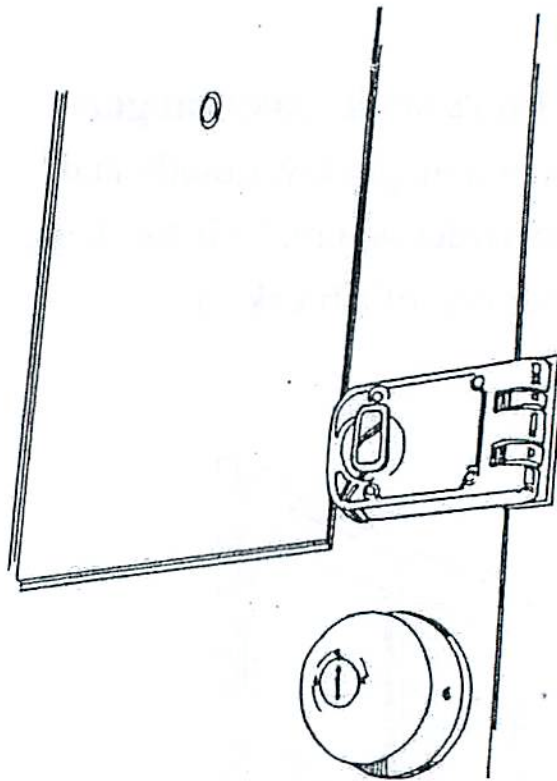
Solid wooden doors or doors reinforced with steel offer much more protection than hollow-core wooden doors.

Use safe locks.

Adding deadbolt locks is a great idea because they can't be "popped" the way spring-latch locks can.

Install a peephole.

Always know who's on the other side of your door before you open it.



Secure sliding glass doors.

A broomstick or steel rod placed in the track will help a lot! You may also drill a hole through the upper part of the slider and track, and insert an eyelet bolt or pin for added security.

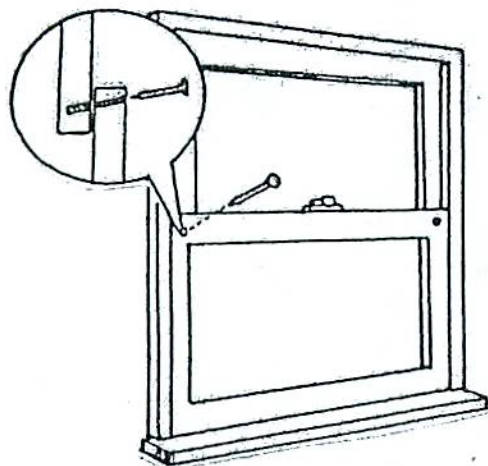
*50% of all burglaries
can be prevented.*

Remember to be window-wise!

Securing your windows makes clear sense.

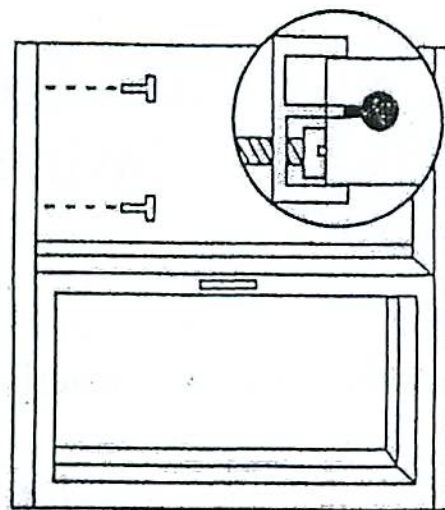
Consider window pegs.

Drill a hole through the sliding window sash into the part that is stationary. Insert a nail or peg.



More Window Tips:

- Make sure window air conditioners are firmly secured to the window.
- Make sure standard window locks close properly and are firmly screwed to the window frame.



Adjustable screws in the upper track:

With the door or window open, drill holes and install several screws in the upper track. Adjust them so that the window or door just barely clears the screw-head.

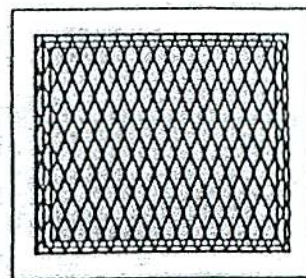
This prevents the door or window from being lifted from its track.

Look into security glass.

Break-resistant plastic or treated glass around doors and in windows gives added security.

Metal grilles.

Consider installing metal grilles or bars (with inside release levers) in basement/cellar and ground-level windows.





Lighting and Landscaping

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design



You can do a lot to make your home's surroundings unattractive to burglars and vandals!

Locate outdoor lights carefully.

Areas that benefit most from outdoor lighting are those that are most vulnerable—garage and shed doors, entryways and ground-level windows.

Consider various lighting options.

For example:

- ◆ Motion sensor floodlights turn on when a person or object moves past them.
- ◆ Photo-electric lights automatically turn on at dusk and off at dawn.
- ◆ Low-voltage lighting uses very little energy to illuminate lawns, steps, walkways, shrubs, etc.



Install floodlights high enough so that an intruder can't unscrew them.

Keep trees, shrubs and hedges trimmed.

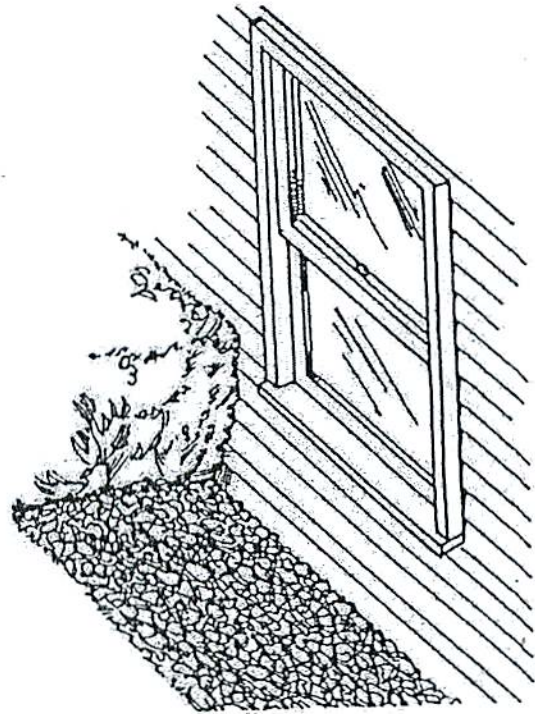
This will give intruders fewer places to hide.

Plant defensive type shrubs or bushes around windows and walkways.

Shrubs and bushes are favorite hiding spots for burglars. Spiny or thorny plants will discourage entry.

Place gravel beds below windows.

Gravel can be noisy and tough to sneak across without being heard.



Position fencing and trees with care.

Make sure they don't hide your windows, doors and walkways from public view, or serve as a step up to a window or balcony.



Conduct a home security inspection to determine your home's weaknesses

Notes: