

DON'T BE AN EASY TARGET

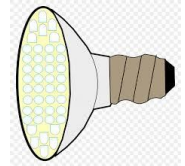


VISIBILITY. Increase visibility to your home by trimming all bushes and hedges to 3 feet or shorter. Anything taller and you create a hiding place for criminals. Lower vegetation also increases visibility for your neighbors, walkers, and patrolling police. Consider planting low, thorny bushes beneath your windows.

LIGHTING.

The use of outdoor motion-activated lights can take away the cover of darkness.

Install these in multiple locations around your house and outbuildings.



TUCK IT AWAY. Put away expensive items or keep them out of view from outside. Don't let criminals get a preview of the loot they could score. Additionally, don't hang or set keys and purses just inside the front door where they are visible from outside. This can make for a quick smash and grab! Put away bicycles and other outdoor items that can entice criminals onto your property. And **DO NOT** leave valuables in your vehicle.



LOCK IT UP. Some homeowners unknowing create an easy target for burglars by leaving their doors and windows unlocked or open – this includes your garage door. Remember to lock your doors and windows. Make a habit of checking to be sure that doors and windows are shut and locked before going to bed and before leaving.

ALWAYS BE HOME. Not really! But create the illusion you are! The majority of burglaries take place when people aren't home, particularly during the day, while the victims are at work. Utilizing timers for indoor lights, TV's and radios. Set them to go on and off in a logical sequence. If you'll be away from home for multiple days, don't advertise your absence by letting mail or newspapers pile up. Arrange for someone to mow your lawn, set out trashcans and park in your driveway. Let your neighbors know you will be away. Call NPPD and have your house added to the "Vacation House Check" list.

INSTALL AN ALARM.

Alarm systems are available with multiple options and a number of price points. An effective alarm should include sensors at entry points, motion detectors inside the home and a loud audible alarm to alert your neighbors someone has force entry into your house. Some motion-activated cameras will alert you via your phone when motion is detected and even allow you to see in-time activity. This is useful day or night, whether you are home or away.

Crime prevention is always a multi-layered effort. The more layers of protection you incorporate, the less likely you are to become of a victim!