

## **Crime Prevention Around Your Home**

1. Be ALERT of your surroundings and what is going on.
2. Get to know your neighbors and let them know when you are going to be gone for an extended period.
3. Make sure doors and windows are locked all of the time, even if gone for a short time — including the garage door.
4. Do not leave valuable items setting in plain view (ex. purse on the kitchen table).
5. Pull blinds/shades at night and when gone.
6. Utilize exterior lighting; this is a huge deterrent for criminals. Install motion control sensors.
7. Do not "advertise" that you are not home or on vacation. Use time switches inside for various lights, do not let papers pile up in your driveway, have a neighbor get your mail and remove advertisements from the front door.
8. Have a chain/latch lock system on your door and easy way to view who is on your porch.
9. Never leave spare keys under anything on your front or back porch.
10. Do not use common number sequences for opening systems (no birth years, not the last four of your social security number, not the last four of your phone #).
11. Never place bills in your mailbox and raise the flag for pickup.
12. Be VERY suspicious of salesmen. **Absolutely never let any salesmen in your house for any reason.**
13. Be very careful about who you use as a serviceman or repairman.
14. Leave nothing in your car, especially if you use a carport; always make sure your vehicle is locked; and utilize lighting whenever possible.
15. Utilize alarm signage even if not using an alarm service.