

Colonial Terrace Neighborhood Watch Group 7/31/12

OBSERVATION

Be familiar with faces of neighbors and vehicles in the neighborhood.

Normal vs. Abnormal

Neighbors should look and listen for

Someone screaming or shouting for help

Someone looking into windows and parked cars

Unusual noises

Property being taken from closed businesses or from houses where no one is at home

Cars, vans, or trucks moving slowly with no apparent destination or with no lights on

Neighbors should also look for

Anyone being forced into a vehicle

A stranger sitting in a car or stopping to talk to a child

Abandoned cars

Any unusual activity in businesses, alleys, isolated areas, and notorious problem spots in your neighborhood

10 HOME SAFETY TIPS

1. Keep all doors and windows closed and securely fastened. An open window or door is an open invitation for burglars. Thieves are also quick to spot weak locks that may be easily forced open. Doors should have deadbolt locks with a one inch throw and reinforced strike plate with three inch screws. All windows should have window locks.
2. Secure sliding glass doors. Place a metal rod or piece of plywood in the track and install vertical bolts. These will help prevent burglars from forcing the door open or lifting it off the track.
3. Always lock the door to an attached garage. Don't rely on your automatic garage door opener for security.
4. Create the illusion that you are home by using timers on lights, radios and TV's. Making your residence appear occupied, even when no one is home will deter criminals.
5. Keep the perimeter of your home well lit. Installing low voltage outdoor lighting is a cost-effective way to discourage intruders, as well as highlight a house.
6. Never leave clues that you are away on a trip. Have a trusted neighbor collect mail and newspapers while you are away so delivered items do not accumulate. You can also ask a neighbor to park in your driveway or parking place to make it appear that you are present.
7. Keep some shades and blinds up and curtains open to maintain a normal, everyday appearance in your residence.
8. Never leave a message on your telephone answering machine telling people that you are away from home. A message that you will return at a certain time leaves your home vulnerable in the interim.
9. Keep shrubbery trimmed away from entrances and walkways. While large, ornate hedges may be beautiful, they also provide a hiding place for burglars who need only a minute to break in through a window or door.
10. Organize a community watch program to protect your neighborhood. An alert community is a safe community.

NIXLE

Nixle is a secure communication platform in which our police department can instantly connect with residents via TEXT MESSAGE and E-MAIL alerts.

Nixle will allow the police department to instantly release information concerning public safety and traffic issues, as well as updates concerning criminal activity at the NEIGHBORHOOD level.

To register for the Nixle Service go to www.nixle.com.

How to Sign Up:

Go To- <http://www.oceantwp.org/content/138/default.aspx>

Click on Boxes: Code Red- (Reverse 9-1-1) and NIXLE