

Neighborhood Crime Prevention Tips

Participating in a neighborhood watch to discourage criminals from spending time on your block or street is something valuable you can do – even if you have little to no self-defense experience or knowledge. In order to protect yourself and your belongings from housebreaks, Myers Meadow HOA encourages you to follow the tips below:

- Keep your home doors and windows locked at all times, even when you are home.
- Never open your door to someone you do not know, no matter what excuse they provide.
- Make sure all exterior doors should be metal or wood and well-installed dead bolt lock.
- Install a peephole or wide-angle viewer in all entry doors so you can see who is outside without opening the door.
- Keep your garage door closed and locked, even when at home or in the backyard.
- Don't hide keys in mailbox, planters or under doormats.
- Don't leave notes on the door when going out
- Leave lights on when going out at night; use a timer to turn lights on and off when you are away for an extended period.
- Document serial numbers of all electronics and take pictures of all valuables. Keep this in a safe place to provide to the police in the event you are burglarized.
- Let a neighbor know you will be gone and that there will be no one coming and going from your house
- If you plan to be gone for a long period of time, have someone pick up your mail and newspaper, or have them stopped until you return.
- If you do leave your car parked outside of your garage, don't leave a garage door opener in the car.
- Trim shrubbery that hides doors or windows. Cut tree limbs that could help a thief climb into windows.
- Watch someone going door-to-door or looking into the widows and parked cars.
- Keep your home well-lit at night, inside and out; keep curtains closed
- Never leave valuables inside of the vehicle, where they can be seen in plain view.
- Car doors should always be locked and windows rolled up, even when parked at home.
- Always park your cars in the garage with the garage door shut to prevent anyone from observing your occupancy patterns.
- Thieves hate bright lights. Illuminate your porches, yards and entranceways. Consider installing motion-detection lighting
- Consider installing a home security alarm and cameras.
- Have your home phone forward call to your cell phone. Thieves will sometimes call your home to see if you are there.
- Bring the garbage cans in after the trash collection day.
- Be observant of repair men or service worker. If their behavior or location seems out of the ordinary, notify the police.
- Keep your yard well maintained. Store ladders and tools inside your locked garage or storage shed when you're not using them.
- It at possible, never walk alone.
- If you arrive at home and suspect a stranger may be inside, DON'T GO IN. Leave quietly and call 911 to report the crime.