Home security checklist

The St. Louis Park Police Department would like to remind residents to practice good home security habits. Below is a quick and easy checklist to assist you in developing these good habits.

- Do you lock up? Double check that all doors and windows are closed and locked tight before leaving your home. Lower and terrace level windows and doors should be closed and locked during overnight hours, regardless if the residence is occupied or not.

- Do the exterior lights illuminate your home well?

- Are the trees and shrubs by the windows and doors trimmed?

- Are garage doors closed and locked when not in use?

- Do you report suspicious activity or persons to the police immediately?

- Do you lock up your tools and ladders and make sure they are not laying out in the yard for burglars to use?

- Do you have heavy duty strike plates mounted on exterior door frames?

- Does your deadbolt extend at least 1 inch beyond the edge of the door and into the frame?

- Is your house number displayed in such a way that it is visible from the street both day and night?

- Most importantly, do you know a neighbor or two? This is important so that if you are out of town someone can look over your home or have contact information in time of an emergency. Go out and introduce yourself to your neighbors or get involved in your Neighborhood Watch group! You can contact the police department’s community outreach to see if your block is organized. Note: Do not share travel plans or when you may be generally absent from your residence with everyone. It is recommended to only share this with those with a need to know.

You should be able to answer "yes" to all the above suggestions to be well on your way to burglary prevention. If you have any other questions or concerns or would like to set up an appointment for a Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) survey of your residence, contact the police department’s community outreach at 952.924.2661.