



## **PROTECTING YOUR HOME AND CAR AGAINST VANDALISM**

### **To protect your home:**

Light, noise and community watchfulness help prevent crime. The following tips (including Neighborhood Watch) are also applicable for renters of houses and apartments who can work with management to provide proper lighting and other security measures.

- Know your neighbors. Join Neighborhood Watch and/or have a block map that includes names and telephone numbers of everyone on your block. Also, get to know your neighbors behind you. Use a phone tree to let people know about problems in the area to watch out for. Keep your neighbors informed when you will be away or if other people will be staying at your house. Create an atmosphere where people look out for each other and report suspicious activities.
- Keep porch lights and at least one light in your house on at night. Use motion detector lights and solar sensory lights.
- Keep bushes and trees trimmed around your house and outdoor lighting.
- Be familiar with the curfew law. It is against city law for youth up to the age of 18 to be out on the streets (unless going to or from work or accompanied by an adult) between the hours of 11 pm and 5 am, Monday through Thursday and Sunday, and between 12 am and 5 am on Friday and Saturday. Call the police department at (720) 913-2000 to report curfew violations.
- Report any non-working streetlights to the Department of Public Works/Transportation for repair at (720) 913-4560 (to leave a message) or (720) 865-3150 (direct).
- If 75% of residents in your block decide that there is a need to have mid-block or mid-alley lighting installed, the Department of Public Works has a procedure to follow to request installation. Call (720) 913-4560 for further information.

### **To protect your car:**

Do not make it easy for someone to take your car on a joyride or to do damage to it.

- Again, know your neighbors and report any suspicious activities to your neighbor and the police.

- ALWAYS lock your car doors and close windows, even when "momentarily" going into a house or business.
- Never leave valuables or other tempting items inside the car where they can be seen.
- Park in well-lighted areas on the street.
- Keep garage doors locked at all times. Keep garage and surrounding area well lit. Install motion detector or photocell lighting on the garage or nearby.
- Purchase a steering wheel protector and use it every time you leave the car.
- Do not leave keys hidden on the body of the car. Instead, give an extra key to a trusted neighbor or friend.
- Install a car alarm system. Buy a car stereo system that is theft protected.

**When you go away:**

- Ask a neighbor to collect your mail and newspapers, and offer to return the favor, or place a stop delivery order with the newspaper and post office. Properties known to be unoccupied can be targets for vandals.
- Put an automatic timer on at least one light and a radio. Install photoelectric sensors to turn outside lights on and off automatically.
- Tell a trusted neighbor when you're leaving and when you'll return. Include an itinerary and phone numbers where you can be reached in an emergency.

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**Telephone Numbers**

In an Emergency or to have the police respond immediately .....911  
 Non-emergency police assistance.....(720) 913-2000  
 Department of Public Works, Transportation .....(720) 913-4560

**Denver Police Community Resource Officers (for a free home security check)**

District 1, 1311 W. 46<sup>th</sup> Ave.....(720)913-0400, TTY (720)913-0404  
 District 2, 3555 Colorado Blvd.....(720)913-1000, TTY (720)913-8484  
 District 3, 1625 S. University Blvd.....(720)913-1300, TTY (720)913-1196  
 District 4, 2100 S. Clay.....(720)913-0200, TTY (303)937-4446  
 District 5, 4685 Peoria..... (303)376-2300, TTY (303)376-2306  
 District 6, 1566 Washington St..... (303)839-2100, TTY (303)839-2105