



Community Organization, Inc.

Here are some tips concerning Burglary Prevention:

1. Doors secured with single cylinder deadbolts. Mail and newspapers are not accumulating on the porch or in front of home.
2. Windows locked. In 70% of the burglaries committed in Northeast Baltimore entrance is gained via a rear or side window.
3. Keep Blinds and Shades closed. Do not leave your wallet, car keys, or other valuables in plain view
4. Trees and shrubs are trimmed short enough so that all windows and doors are visible from the street and people cannot hide behind them.
5. Examine your basement windows and doors. They are normally a neglected portion of a house and thus its weakest point. If they are old and can be easily forced, consider replacing the door and the windows with stronger frames or glass block.
6. When leaving the house for vacation, lights are connected to timers that go on and off during evening hours. Newspapers and mail are being held and are not accumulating on the lawn, porch, and steps.
7. Front and rear porch lights are left on throughout the night so that the front and back of the house is constantly lit and visible. Consider utilizing motion activated spotlights on the side and the rear of your home.
8. If you are out of your home, leave radios on at the front and back doors of your house that are tuned to a talk radio station, and if you are away for an extended period of time, place the radios on timers.
9. If you see suspicious persons walking down the street with unboxed TV's or computers, leaving a neighbor's home, or entering the rear window of your neighbor's home. Call 911.
10. It has been learned the burglars often survey or case their targets by posing as either carpenters or home repair persons. They also have been known to call their targets by phone to determine when they are not home, and they will hang up immediately if you answer the phone.
11. If you are having contractors work on your home, ensure you use contractors licensed by the Maryland Home Improvement Commission (MHIC). It is also wise to ask for and contact references and to check their rating with the Better Business by typing this link into your browser: <http://greatermd.bbb/Find-Business-Reviews/>
12. Potential burglars may knock on your front door to see if you are home. If the door is answered, they may ask for a person who does not live at the house or ask if you requested a food delivery. If this occurs, call 911 and report it.
13. If you are going away for a period of time, call the Northeast District at 410-396-2444 and ask the police pay special attention to the home while you are away.
14. Engrave your valuables with your Maryland Driver's License Number known as your Soundex Number.
15. The interview of a burglar charged with numerous burglaries in Northeast Baltimore revealed silent alarms did not deter him. However, if he activated an audible alarm when he entered his target, he fled immediately. If you install an alarm, consider ensuring it has an audible alarm component.

You can borrow an engraver to engrave your property with your driver's license or Soundex Number by calling or E-mailing Mike Hilliard at HARBEL at 410-444-2100 or harbel.necop@juno.com.

"1970-2010, HARBEL's 40th Anniversary of Service to Northeast Baltimore"