



Loudoun County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER

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Important Numbers:

- * **Emergency 911**
- * **Non-Emergency**
703-777-1021
703-777-0445
- * **Poison Control**
1-800-222-1222
- Animal Control**
703-777-0406
- * **Sheriff's Office Admin**
703-777-0407
- * **Narcotic Tip Line**
703-779-0552
- * **Crime Solvers**
703-777-1919

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Home Security/Alarm Sales Info.

Recently the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) put out an alert to law enforcement agencies concerning non-licensed alarm system vendors operating in Virginia. DCJS provided all licensing and over site for alarm companies, including sales and installation. DCJS conducts background checks on company personnel and ensures that only reputable employees are being utilized in this sensitive area.

Here in Loudon we saw this problem last summer with a company operating from New Jersey and without proper licensing from DCJS. The public is reminded that should an alarm vendor appear at your residence or solicit at your residence for an alarm system installation or upgrade, residents should ask to see the following identifications.

1: A solicitor license issued by the Lou-

doun County Sheriff's Office. (required for all for-profit soliciting)

2: An identification card issued from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS)

In addition to sales personnel being required to be registered with DCJS, all installation personnel are also required to be registered with DCJS. Residents are reminded to ask for DCJS identifications for any person who enters their home for the purposes of installation of upgrade of an alarm system.

Should a solicitor or installer not have these identification, residents are asked to contact the Sheriff's Office so we can respond and identify the company and the employee. This reporting is critical so that DCJS can continue to protect citizens from unscrupulous alarm companies and employees.

Getting Involved...

Citizens regularly ask how they can get involved but fear that their identities will become compromised. To help citizens remain anonymous and still keep them involved we have a few telephone numbers they can call and report information and remain totally anonymous.

- If you suspect narcotics (drug) use or sales you can call the Narcotics Tip Line at 703-779-0552.
- If you suspect gang activity or gang participation you can call 1-866-NO-GANGS.(1-866-664-2647)

- If you have information about a crime that is about to occur or has already occurred you can call 703-777-1919.

Working together, we can all help keep our community and families safe.

WARNING



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

WE ARE WATCHING TO REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY OR PERSONS

TO

LOUDOUN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Frequently Asked Questions

If you would like to have a question answered, please e-mail the question to Nathaniel.Payne@loudoun.gov or James.Spurlock@loudoun.gov

Burglary Prevention

The months of June, July and August are the three highest months across the US for burglaries. Remember a burglary is a crime of opportunity. The best way to combat this crime is by controlling the opportunities.

- Always ensure your windows and doors are locked if you are leaving your residence. Even a short trip to the store can be enough time for a burglar.
- Do not hide or store valuable jewelry in predictable locations ie: Jewelry Boxes/Drawers. Burglars know where to look and

will head directly to those places.

- Make the would be burglar work for what they may get. Burglars do not want to spend a lot of time in a home. Store valuables in non-traditional locations and in non-traditional containers.
- When you leave home look for any suspicious vehicles or persons in your neighborhood. They may be waiting for you to leave. Call and report them immediately.
- When in doubt let us figure it out. Make the call, do not approach, and be the best witness you can be.

- If you go on vacation have a trusted neighbor watch you home and report any suspicious behavior.



Thefts from Vehicles...

Thefts from vehicles continues to be an ongoing problem in Loudon County. Since January there have been **256** incidents and all of these were totally preventable. In most cases the victims do not believe that what they are leaving in their vehicle is of any value or they do not believe it could happen to them. This crime is totally a opportunity based crime and if

items of value were not left in vehicles this crime could be eliminated completely. Residents are encouraged to take all items of value out of their vehicles. Residents are also encouraged to be watchful in their neighborhoods and report ANY suspicious persons regardless of time of day.

Non-Emergency:
703-777-1021

Warming up...

As the weather gets warmer normally the crime rate picks up. Also as the economy gets worse the crime rates will increases. Loudoun County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit wants all citizens to be aware of this and be extra vigilant in the coming months. Please report any suspicious activity to the Sheriff's Office at 703-777-1021. Let's all plan on having a fun and safe summer.



Upcoming Events

- May 22, 2010: 10:00am - Personal Safety for Women (Only Female Students Allowed) Potomac Club in Lansdowne**
- May 10, 2010 7:00 pm - Home Security - Hunt Civic Center Ashburn**
- May 26,2010 7:00pm - Home Security - Ashburn Library**