

Residential Burglary Prevention Strategies

The City of West Frankfort Police Department would like to remind residents of tips they can use to reduce becoming a victim of a burglary to your home.

Burglary Prevention Tips While You Are Away

- Check and make sure all your doors and windows are locked before you head out the door. Periodically check to be sure all are working properly.
- Use timers for your lights, television or radio to give the impression that someone is home.
- Do not let newspapers or mail pile up while you are away. Place a hold on these items or have someone collect them for you while you are away.
- Have someone cut your lawn in the summer or shovel snow in winter.
- Have someone you trust check in on your residence while you are away.

Burglary Prevention Tips While At Home

- Keep all doors and windows locked even when you are at home, will only be gone a short time, or are just going next door.
- Many criminals go from house to house looking for unlocked doors or windows. Often the criminal will knock on the door of a residence to see if anyone is home. If someone answers they will ask for a person, pretending as if they have come to the wrong residence. Make note of the person's physical description, clothing, tattoos or other distinguishing characteristics and give that information to the police.
- Never admit a stranger into your home without seeing proper identification. The proper persons needing entry (telephone, utilities, etc.) will have it.
- Beware of burglars posing as solicitors. If you choose to let them in your residence, do not leave them alone while they demonstrate their product.
- If a stranger comes to your door needing assistance, offer to call the police for them while they wait outside.
- Keep all entrances to your residence well lit and maintain landscaping to prevent hiding places.

REMEMBER! The best crime prevention tool is alert neighbors. Be aware of suspicious activity in your neighborhood, and report it to the police.