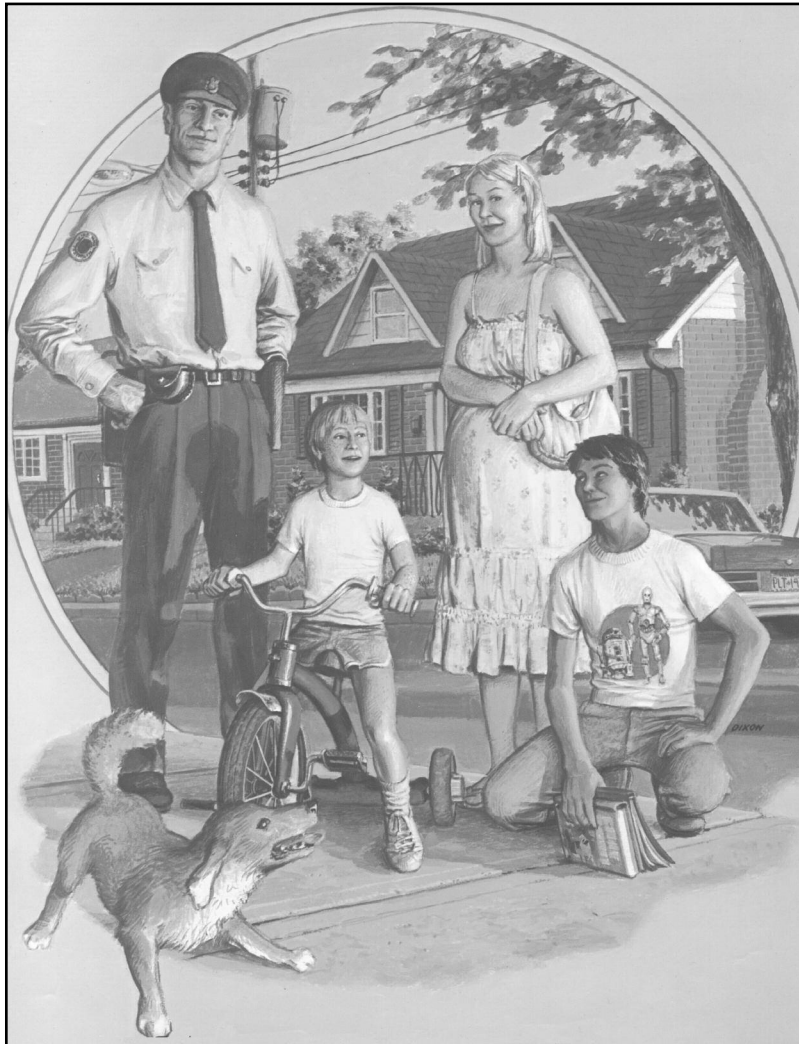




Working Together To Prevent Crime



Neighbourhood Watch



MISSION STATEMENT

As members of the Winnipeg Police Service,
we are committed to making Winnipeg safer by:

- Performing our duties with integrity, compassion and respect.
- Building strong, trusting relationships with the community because we can't do it all alone.
- Enhancing our effectiveness so we can be there when we are needed most.
- Finding innovative ways of delivering our services.

**This book is intended to be a comprehensive
compilation of crime prevention information.**

**It has been prepared by members of Crime Prevention,
Winnipeg Police Service Community Relations.**

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Community Relations was formed in 1982 to provide crime prevention information through presentations, displays, and media, and is comprised of the following sections:

Crime Prevention is responsible for developing new initiatives and maintaining existing programs.

Diversity Relations is tasked with liaison with various cultural groups.

School Resources is responsible for delivery of crime prevention and safety education in the schools and for training School Patrols.

Victim Services is responsible for providing support and information to victims of crime.

Each area also provides speakers on topics such as crime prevention, personal safety, home and business security.

Requests for a speaker can be submitted:

By Mail: **Winnipeg Police Service
Community Relations
P. O. Box 1680
Winnipeg, MB R3C 2Z7**

By Fax: **204-957-2450**

If you have any questions, please call **204-986-6322**

Our Web Site address is: **www.winnipeg.ca/police**

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Neighbourhood Safety

In the following section on Neighbourhood Safety we will discuss how using the Neighbourhood Watch Program can secure our neighborhoods with strength in numbers.

Most crimes are a crime of opportunity and that includes residential break and enter. Whether you reside in a home or an apartment, this section will discuss ways that you can reduce your chances of being broken into.

Some of the methods to lessen your chances of being a victim of a break and enter are through Environmental Design. Lighting, shrubs and fencing are just a few areas that when designed properly could prevent a break and enter.

Operation Identification informs you how to mark your property so if it is stolen, the police will know who the rightful owner is.

Did you know that growing vines over your wooden fence will practically eliminate graffiti? Find out more in our Graffiti Section.

Does your neighbour have a marihuana grow operation? Our section on Reporting Drug Labs and Grow Operations informs you what to look for.

If you are aware of a crime but don't want to get involved then Crime Stoppers is the right number to call.

I hope you take the time and read the following pages to make your community a safer place to live.

NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFETY

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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Almost every street has a group of friends and neighbours who look out for each other. They watch each other's homes, take in mail, shovel snow, etc.

Neighbourhood Watch expands on this concept by fostering an attitude of caring, communication and co-operation among the residents of a block to make their neighbourhoods safer.

A Neighbourhood Watch block encompasses all the homes on a block, both sides of the street, from one intersection to the next. Not all blocks, therefore, are created equal. The longest blocks can include over a hundred homes, while the smallest cul-de-sac may have only a few homes.

Neighbourhood Watch is a co-operative, proactive program to reduce residential break and enters. It involves the police, the block captain(s) and you.

A Neighbourhood Watch is started this way:

Someone, a volunteer from the block, contacts the police and undertakes to try to organize their block. They receive an organizational package and proceed to canvass their block. They record all the addresses on the block, and fill in the names, phone numbers, and if applicable e-mail address of the residents. They invite the residents to an organizational meeting with the police.

The police officer explains the concept of Neighbourhood Watch, and various home security procedures. A minimum of two-thirds of the residents on the block need to attend the meeting and commit to the program in order to have an effective number of participants. There needs to be at least one Block Captain for each block.



The police hold organizational and Block Captain meetings, advise block captains of crime in their area, arrange for printed materials and street signs.

The Block Captain(s) represents the homeowners on the block and act as liaison with the police. They invite new neighbours to join, maintain the street list, and ensure crime prevention materials are distributed to the block. If there is no block captain(s) on the block, the police have no liaison with the residents and therefore have no option but to remove the street signs.

You get to know your neighbours, improve your home security, report crimes and suspicious activity, and quickly spread the word around your neighbourhood if you are the victim of a crime.

YOU ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT PART.

Residential break and enters affect us all. In order to break into a home, a burglar must have ability, need, and opportunity.

Ability... anyone can break into a home. In fact, the majority of break and enters are performed by fairly young, inexperienced criminals.

Need... the need for cash, food, drugs, liquor... any way they can get it.

Opportunity... is the only factor that we can do something about. We can do our best to take away the opportunity to break into our homes and garages, and rob us of our possessions.

A burglar breaking into a home wants it to be quick, quiet, and unseen. These are the factors that we can do something about.

Quick... an average break and enter takes about three minutes. A burglar will look in obvious places for jewellery, drugs, cash, electronics, etc. They will not waste time looking through a laundry room, for example.

Quiet... breaking glass, alarms, and other noises alert neighbours, and increases the chance of being seen.

Unseen... coverage from shrubs, high fences, and unlit areas all improve a burglar's chance of committing a crime unseen by witnesses.

You can:

Use what you've got! Many break and enters into homes occur because the residents neglected to lock the door, even when they are in the home. Another example is a break and enter using the garage door opener left in vehicles (locked or not) parked on the street, driveway, or even in the garage. It's just a fancy key!

Harden the target....upgrade home security to slow a burglar down, create noise, and eliminate hidden areas.

Report suspicious activity, persons, and vehicles to the police.

Communicate with your neighbours. If you see suspicious activity, alert your neighbours, or call the police. If you are the victim of a crime, informing the neighbours will accomplish three things:

1. it will make them more alert and security conscious;
2. it may be that they find your stolen goods stashed around their property and you have a better chance of recovering same; and
3. neighbours may have seen the suspects or their vehicle, and may have a description, licence plate number, or other information.

Many break and enters occur in the warmer months when the resident is working or relaxing in the yard, or putting in the garage. There have even been break and enters into homes while the resident is shovelling snow. Make sure all doors are securely locked!

Does your house not only look lived in, but also that people are home? Are there lights on? TV on? Radio playing? Snow cleared? Grass cut?

Remember, you do not have to "play fair". You can have a "beware of dog" sign without the dog. You can have children's toys in the yard without having the children. You can park a pair of Size 12 boots by the back door even if you wear size five. If the doorbell rings, you can call out "Just sit, Bruiser, I'll get the door" even if you live alone. You can plant cactus in front of the basement windows, even if you hate gardening.

To have an effective "watch" on your block, you must have at least one block captain, a minimum of two-thirds of the homes on the block should be involved, and the residents on the block must have an attitude of crime awareness and prevention. The first step is attending the meeting with the police. This is not the end of the program but only the beginning.

An active Neighbourhood Watch can result in savings on your insurance premium.

Remember, it takes everyone: you, the block captains, and the police, to keep your Neighbourhood Watch working, and you are the most important part.

These simple duties can make your street a safer place to live.

DUTIES OF A NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH MEMBER

- 1. Attend the organizational meeting. If you move onto a block that is already organized, attend one of the follow up meetings. Your block captain will advise you of dates and locations of these meetings.
2. Put the Neighbourhood Watch decals on your home immediately after the meeting.
3. Get to know your neighbours. Don't be nosy – just concerned.
4. Conduct a security survey of your home, and make every effort to upgrade any weaknesses.
5. Borrow an engraver from the police and mark items of value. Keep a list, and put "Operation Identification" decals on windows and doors.
6. Consider becoming a Block Parent. Applications are available from the Block Parent office.
7. Practise every personal safety and home security precaution.
8. Record and report suspicious activity to your neighbours and the police.
9. If you suffer a theft, vandalism, break and enter or other crime, report to the police, and then advise your neighbours and block captain.
10. The police notify block captains of residential break and enter incidents in your neighbourhood by way of a computer messaging system called "The Captain". This system is meant to notify block captains of meetings and of incidents in their neighbourhood. It is not meant to be the first or only notification to the block captain of a break and enter on their block. On the best Neighbourhood Watch blocks, the block captain and neighbours are already aware of the specific incident because of good communication on their block.

Complete the following list of names, addresses and telephone numbers for the people on your block:

Neighbours:

Block Captain

Co-Captain

Co-Captain

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH BLOCK CAPTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

***THANK YOU
for volunteering
your valuable time to
become a Neighbourhood
Watch block captain.
You have just become
part of the backbone
of the most important
crime prevention
program in
Winnipeg.***

BLOCK CAPTAIN DUTIES

Act as a liaison between the Winnipeg Police crime prevention officers, and the residents on your block.

Establish a fan-out network for your block that can be used to pass on crime information, prevention tips or meeting notifications that you will receive from the police.

Attend scheduled block captain meetings and relay any pertinent information to the residents of your block. These meetings occur once or twice a year.

Approach new residents of your block, inform them of the Neighbourhood Watch program, invite them to join, and advise them of upcoming new member meetings.

Maintain a current street list of Neighbourhood Watch members on your block.

With the assistance of the crime prevention officers, act as a resource for home security problems on your block.

Encourage residents to participate in the Operation Identification program.

Monitor the Neighbourhood Watch street signs on your block, and report faded, damaged or missing signs to Winnipeg Police Crime Prevention.

If you can not meet your responsibilities as block captain for any reason, arrange for a replacement from the members on your block. If you cannot find a replacement, we ask that you distribute cancellation notices to the residents of your block, informing them that their block will be designated as inactive when you leave your position.

QUESTIONS/ASSISTANCE/INPUT

If you have any questions about Neighbourhood Watch, suggestions for improving the program, or need any assistance or guidance in your responsibilities as block captain, please phone Winnipeg Police Service Crime Prevention at **204-986-6322**.

And once again, thank you for volunteering to become a block captain.

CITIZEN'S ACTION NETWORK (CAN)



CAN is a Network formed by the Winnipeg Police Service in conjunction with the City of Winnipeg Community Services Department as a way of safely receiving information from the public.

The information is received by a member of the Community designated as the (CAN Coordinator), from members of the public that have neighbourhood concerns or problems including but not limited to derelict vehicles/housing, overflowing garbage bins, and other neighbourhood issues.

The CAN Coordinator then forwards the information to WPS, “311”, or Manitoba Justice – Public Safety as applicable. The information received is not to be of an emergency nature, in progress, or meant to bypass any current reporting procedures.

CAN is the only Community information network endorsed by the Winnipeg Police Service.

Citizen's Action Network (CAN)

General Information:

The Citizen's Action Network:

- a) Is built on the Premise of inclusion. (All groups and individuals will have access to the CAN regardless of social economic level or community infrastructures)
- b) Emphasizes the consolidation of Crime Prevention Groups/initiatives, interest groups, to a common goal of making their neighbourhood a better place to live.
- c) Gives Community Ownership by getting Citizens involved at the ground level, as well as access to the resources/referrals to solve many of their own problems.
- d) Aids Communities to build their capacities by solving problems with the aid of various Support Agencies.
- e) Allows Citizens to take the concept and make it their own based on the needs of the Community while following the safeguards/training put in place.
- d) Is based on the idea that the residents know their area best. (1st to see/become aware of Suspicious or problematic behaviours, as well as other area issues that may contribute to future problems)
- e) Directly links Community to CSU Constables and Community Development Workers (Community Services Dept).
- f) Builds relationships with the public in a safe way.
- g) Builds Community ownership of their own problems/issues. Provides the resources (WPS, Community Services etc.) to help build community capacity.

For more information visit the Winnipeg Police website at www.winnipeg.ca/police

RESIDENTIAL SECURITY

***Most crimes are a
“Crime of Opportunity.”
While you are away,
use timers and motion
detectors to give the
appearance someone
is at home.***

Break and enter is the most common major crime committed. Although some areas are at a higher risk, no one can anticipate where or when a break-in will occur.

Given sufficient time and resources, a determined thief can enter most homes. However, most break-ins are relatively unsophisticated, and many are simply “crimes of opportunity”. Thieves will usually seek out the easiest opportunity (target) to enter a home with the least threat of detection.

Time, noise, and light are a burglar’s worst enemy. With little effort, you can set up deterrents as a defence against possible danger, injury to people, or damage to property. By anticipating the opportunity and taking proper preventive action, it is possible to effectively “harden the target” and discourage most burglars from attempting a break-in.

Included in the following pages are steps that you can take to improve the security of your home. Many of these suggestions are relatively simple and inexpensive.



The advice given is intended to increase your knowledge so that you can better assess the security of your home, and to assist you in the proper selection of any new security devices you may require.

Do not hesitate to seek the professional assistance of a reputable locksmith and/or alarm company.

RESIDENTIAL SECURITY SURVEY CHECKLIST

ALARMS

Many types of alarm systems work well to protect homes. The system should be individually tailored to suit the needs of the residents. Consult the Manitoba Burglar & Fire Alarm Association, Consumers Bureau, Better Business Bureau, or your crime prevention office.

INTERIOR LIGHTING

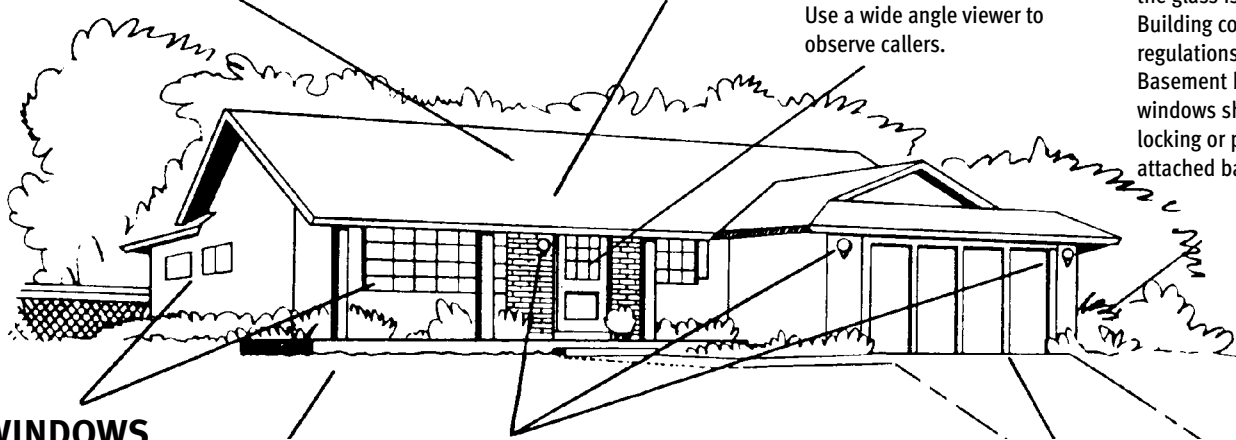
When you are away from home keep some interior lights burning. This creates the appearance that someone is at home. Use a timer to turn the lights off and on at normal hours.

EXTERIOR DOORS

Should be solid core with rugged frames that cannot be spread apart with a pry bar. A one inch deadlock, in addition to the key-in-the-knob lock is essential. Use a wide angle viewer to observe callers.

BASEMENT WINDOWS

Should be secured to prevent forcing (window bars) and the locks should not be vulnerable to attack if the glass is broken. Building code regulations state: Basement bedroom windows shall not have locking or permanently attached bars.



WINDOWS

Should have key-operated locking devices. Keep your windows closed and locked when you are away. Screens and storm windows should be securely fastened to the structure. Building code regulations state: Bedroom windows shall not have locking or permanently attached bars.

LANDSCAPING

Shrubs that provide you with privacy also give a burglar a place to hide. Keep bushes low and prune trees up, at least seven feet.

EXTERIOR LIGHTING

A 40 watt light at each entrance, including the garage, will provide you with both safety and security and will not be wasting energy when used in conjunction with a timer or sensor.

GARAGE DOOR

Should be as secure as any other area of your home. Always keep it closed and locked. A burglar in your garage has access to tools and ladders and can often work on your home undetected.



BE NEIGHBOURLY Working Together
To Prevent Crime

Talk with your neighbours about your concern about burglary. Tell them what you are doing to protect your home and suggest they do the same. Ask them to report any suspicious persons or activities around your home to your local police service. Good neighbours make safe neighborhoods.

BURGLARY PREVENTION CHECK LIST

OUTSIDE PERIMETER:

YES NO

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Are doors fitted with dead bolt locks? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Are doors of solid construction? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do doors fit their frames snugly? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Are strike plates properly secured? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Are door hinges inaccessible? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you lock your porch and garage? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you lock your doors when away from home for short periods? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you lock the doors out of your view when working in the yard? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you avoid leaving keys hidden near access doors? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you avoid leaving notes on the door to indicate your absence? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Are windows fitted with locks and do you lock them? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you keep tools, ladders, etc. in places inaccessible to potential burglars? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you store lawn mowers, snowblowers, gas barbeques, etc. out of sight when not in use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you light the outside of your home to discourage prowling or loitering? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| When you move to a new residence do you re-key all locks? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you change your locks immediately if your keys are lost or stolen? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

INSIDE SECURITY:

YES NO

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Do you refuse to provide information regarding your property to telephone surveys? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you avoid leaving valuable coin collections or large amounts of cash at home? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you leave lights on and a TV/radio playing when out for short periods? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have you marked your valuables or recorded serial numbers for identification? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

VACATION SECURITY:

YES NO

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Do you notify a neighbour of your travel plans and give a key with a request for a periodic house check? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you leave window shades in the normal positions? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you cancel all deliveries? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you make arrangements for your yard to be kept up and any mail or brochures to be picked up? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| If you own a second car do you park it in the driveway? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you use a light timer on interior and exterior lights? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you double check all doors and windows to be sure they are properly secured before leaving? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

APARTMENT SECURITY:

YES NO

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Do you refer unknown persons seeking entrance to the manager? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you report suspicious activities to the manager or police? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you advise the manager of any travel plans and request apartment checks and mail pick-up? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you avoid storing valuable property in your apartment locker? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If your answer is NO to any of the above you should improve your home security.

You may feel additional home security is an unnecessary financial burden, but it is one of the few ways you can permanently protect your family, yourself, and your home. Most home security can be vastly improved by modifying and improving existing windows and doors.

DOOR FRAMES



Even the best locks and doors can be defeated by a burglary method known as “spreading”, where either a wedge or jack-like device is inserted between the frames.

This method can often be successful

because doors and frames are purchased as single units, and are placed into the wall opening provided by the builder during construction. Although the opening between the wall and frame is braced at the top and bottom with alignment wedges, the midsections are often left open. This permits the frame to bow under pressure.

Solid blocks inserted between these openings will help to resist this form of attack.

HINGES

Most exterior doors in houses and apartments open inward, with the hinges on the inside. This arrangement protects the hinges from being tampered with.

Hinge screws should be long enough to reach through to the wall stud beyond the door frame. Drill a pilot hole to prevent splitting the frame.

EXTERIOR DOORS

Exterior wooden doors should be solid core. Hollow core doors are not suitable for exterior use. Test by knocking on your exterior doors. If a door sounds hollow, you have a door made of two thin wood panels filled with cardboard or fibre fill. It is easy to punch or cut a hole through a hollow core door and reach the lock inside.

Replace the hollow core door with a solid core door. A steel or solid wood door with suitable hardware will provide both security and better insulation. Even if your door is solid, you need to be concerned about the locks on the door.

Exterior Doors with Glass or Thin Panels

Wooden doors with inset glass or thin wooden panels are easy for a burglar to penetrate and reach the lock inside. Burglars can also reach locks by breaking glass near doors.

Inspect the glass in or beside your door. Consider replacing it with more secure glass, plastic or a shatter resistant plastic film adhered to the inside surface.

An economical solution for doors that you don’t use often is to install a slide bolt six inches (15 cm) from the bottom of the door, provided the lower portion of the door does not have thin panels.

Patio Doors

Sliding patio doors are usually installed with a poor locking system that should be reinforced with secondary mechanisms. Without these secondary mechanisms, sliding doors could be pried out of their tracks.

By using devices such as commercial jimmy plates, spring locks and safety bars, a greater level of security can be obtained. There are also very cost effective home remedies that can be incorporated. Reduce the chances your doors can be opened by simply cutting a hockey stick to fit snugly between the door and wall. Drilling a small hole through the frame and inserting a nail or metal pin can also prevent sliding. Reduce door vertical movement by inserting sheet metal screws into the top track.

LOCKS

Locks are the first line of defence against intruders. Few homeowners know if the locks on their premises provide any reasonable degree of protection against thieves. It has often been said “the average lock is designed to keep out honest people”.

This generalization is only true in relation to some locks. Locks on the market today range from poor to excellent in their protective qualities. Therefore, it is a matter of selection based on knowledge and judgment whether or not the locks on your doors will serve their prime function of providing any real protection.

No lock, no matter how good, can make a house burglar proof. However, good locks can be an effective deterrent and make the difference between the burglar considering your premises easy or difficult to enter. The more difficult, the less likely the burglar is to try or to succeed.

Key-in-knob Locks

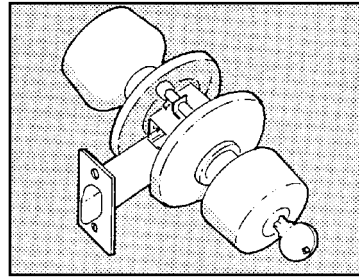
These locks, as the name implies, have the cylinder in the knob and are commonly called cylindrical locks.

Advantages: The main reasons for the popularity of these locks are low cost and simplicity of installation. The preparation of the door only requires drilling two holes.

Disadvantages: Extra force on the knob can defeat the locking mechanism. In most cases cylinders are not designed with pick-resistant features. Keys can be readily duplicated.

Security: Minimum security provided.
NOT RECOMMENDED on their own.

Two kinds of latches are common to these locks – the spring latch and the deadlocking latch. Two typical designs are illustrated.



Spring Latch Plunger

Spring Latch

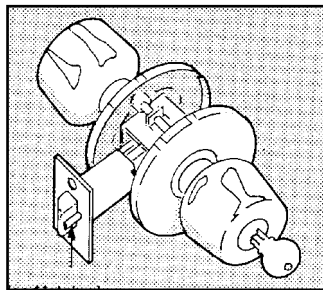
No key is required to lock this type of beveled edge bolt, which is spring operated and automatically snaps into position when the door is closed.

It is suitable only for internal use on passageway, bathroom and similar doors.

Advantages: Simplicity of operation, since no key is required to lock the door to which it is attached.

Disadvantages: Since the bolt is spring operated, it can be pushed out of the striker plate by inserting a piece of plastic such as a credit card, thin metal or wire between the door and the frame. The bolt can also be held back by tape, or the hole in the striker can be stuffed with wadding.

Security: None



Dead Latch Plunger

Dead Latch Bolts

This is identical to a standard latch bolt in operation, but when the door is shut the latch becomes “dead”, the spring action having been blocked by a lever operated by a

“pin” inside the bolt. This “pin” is depressed by part of the striker plate when the door is shut.

Advantages: No key is required to lock the door, and a degree of protection is achieved by the “dead latch” feature.

Disadvantages: Correct installation is critical. Some “play” will be found because partial spring action is maintained. Very little force may be required to move the bolt out of the striker.

Security: Minimal

DEADBOLTS

The deadbolt gets its name from the fact that it does not move (is dead) except with a key or thumb turn. It can not be slipped with a card or tool because it has no spring attached. This means that, to lock a deadbolt, you must use a key from the outside. If you pull your door shut and walk away, your deadbolt is not locked and your house is not secure.

Remember: Lock when you leave.

Here are a few things you should check when selecting a deadbolt lock:

1. The “bolt” should be no less than one inch (2.5 cm) when fully extended, and should retain part of the bolt within the mechanism of the lock. This ensures some degree of strength where the bolt and mechanism meet.

2. The outside collar surrounding the cylinder should be of substantial construction, not a thin alloy which can be easily crushed or ripped open.

“Slip rings” are a feature of some slightly more expensive models, and allow the collar to rotate freely. This prevents the cylinder from being twisted off with vice grips or a pipe wrench.

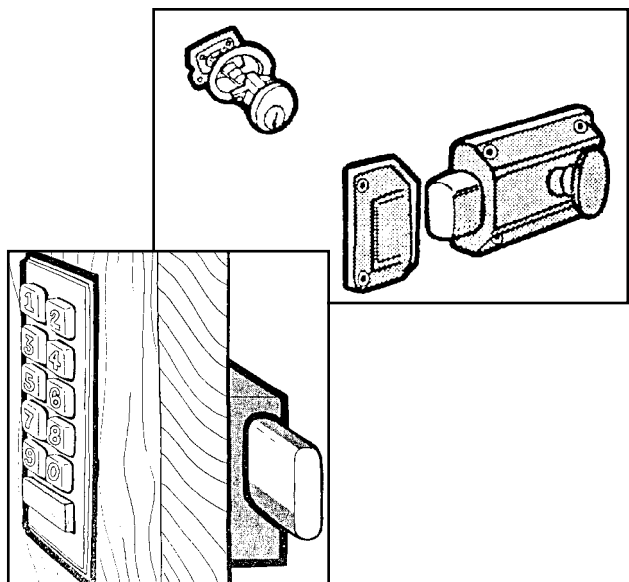
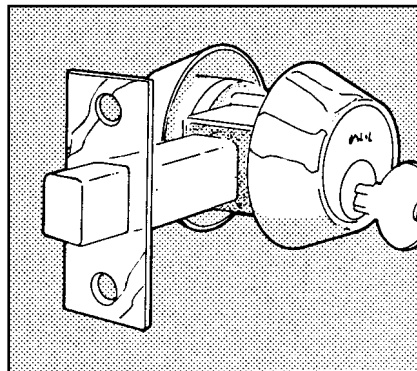
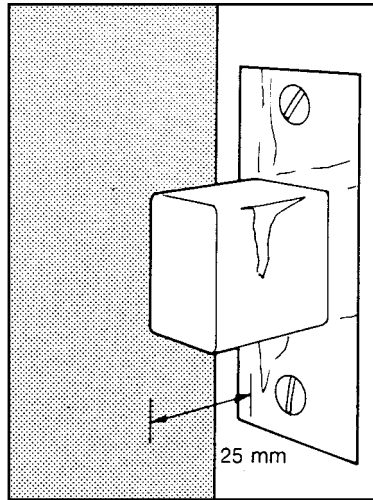
3. It is important that a suitable strike plate be attached to the frame to ensure a strong anchor point for the bolt to sit in.

Security: Good to excellent depending on quality.

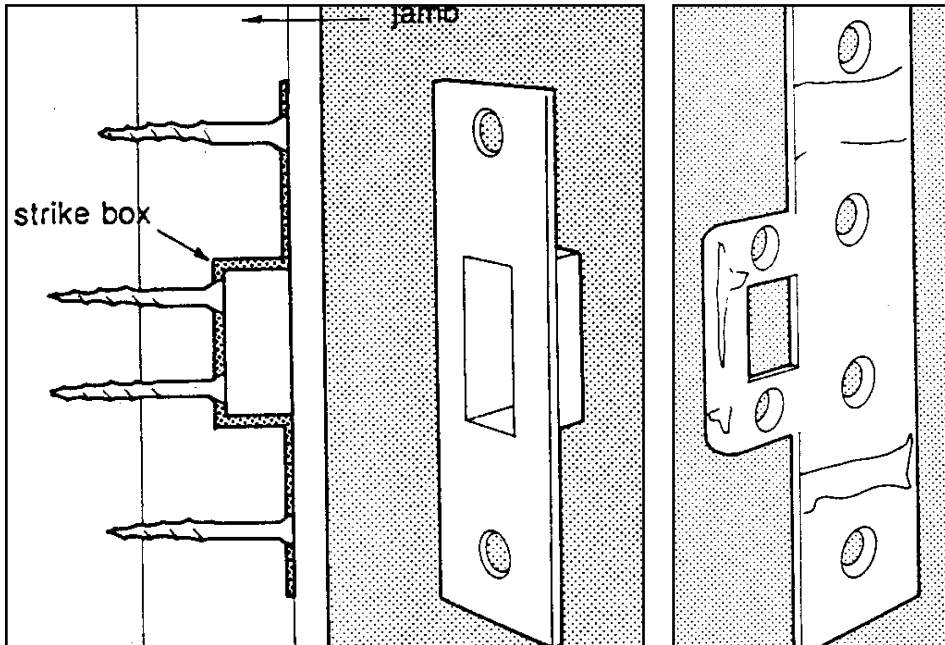
Rim Deadbolt locks are surface-mounted on the interior of the door, usually with four screws. They are easy to install and offer better security than a key-in-knob lock. Their primary weakness is in the length of the screws used to fasten them to the door, but this can be compensated for in many cases by the use of carriage bolts. If the screws for mounting the strike plate are not long enough to be effective, replace them.

Pushbutton Rim Locks are keyless locks operated by pressing the correct combination. A lock that operates on four numbers offers 10,000 possible combinations. One that operates on seven numbers offers ten million possible combinations. They are available with either a springbolt or a deadbolt latch

with a one inch (2.5 cm) throw; only the latter is recommended. Many people like this type of lock because it means one less key to carry. Remember to change the combination so as not to wear out certain buttons.



STRIKERS



When considering a deadbolt lock, it is often forgotten that although this improves the means of locking the door, there still remains the weakness in the door frame against force applied to the door.

A metal striker is installed on or in the door frame and is intended to house and protect the bolt of the lock. A typical striker is shown in the diagram.

Most standard strike plates are small, and are installed with short screws. It is important that the desired measure of

Striker Plates should be secured with 3" screws so they extend past the door frame and into the wall stud for better holding power.

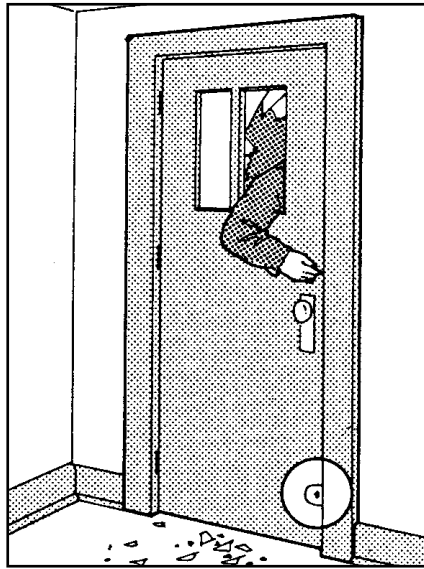
security is not compromised. Therefore, an extended strike plate should be added to the frame to complement a good deadbolt. These extended strike plates are available from locksmiths in 8 inch (20 cm) or 12 inch (30 cm) sizes and, when attached with 3 inch (8 cm) screws, add a substantial degree in strength to the frames.

A high security box-type striker installed with 3 inch (8 cm) screws through the door jamb and into the wall stud will offer a strong housing for the bolt of a deadbolt lock.

Wrap-around strike plates are another means of strengthening a frame where an extended strike plate can not be used. This is particularly useful on a frame with an adjacent sidelight where a minimum thickness of wood is available, usually no more than 1-1/2 inches (4 cm). This style of strike plate is fastened with screws in two directions, thereby enabling it to be fastened securely.

WINDOW GLASS AND PLASTICS

If a door presents a reasonable barrier, a burglar may try to enter through a window by forcing open the window catch with a screw driver or pry bar. If this fails, some will attempt to remove a pane of glass by removing the glazing splines or putty with a knife. If this is unsuccessful, they may be prepared to break the glass, reach in and release the window catch or the door lock.



Several companies have developed transparent polycarbonate materials which look like glass, but are very difficult to break. These may cost two or three times as much as glass and have varying resistance to scratching. Acrylics are also widely used as window glass where high breakage rates make the use of glass costly. The more commonly available glazing materials follow, arranged in descending order of resistance to breakage:

Highest Resistance (Unbreakable)

- Polycarbonate plastic, vinyl-bonded laminated glass, 1/2" (12 mm) thick or more

- Acrylic plastic sheets, 3/8" (9 mm) thick or more

Medium Resistance (Vandal-Resistant)

- Wired glass, 1/4" (6 mm) thick
- Laminated glass, approximately 1/8" (3 mm) thick
- Acrylic plastic, approximately 1/8" (3 mm) thick, depending on specific chemical characteristics

Medium Resistance (Break-Resistant)

- Plate glass, 1/4" (6 mm) thick
- Conventional float or sheet glass, more than 1/4" (6 mm) thick
- Tempered plate glass, 1/8" (3 mm) or more in thickness

To reduce the opportunity for entry by breaking window glass, consider one of the following options:

An operable window that is seldom used, and not required as an emergency exit, may be securely closed with tamper-resistant screws.

Replace thin glass with tempered or laminated glass, or plastic (polycarbonate or acrylic) glazing. To ensure windows can not be removed from the exterior, reinforce the glazing spline with longer finishing nails or replace the old putty. If necessary, it would be better to replace the sash with one where glazing is held in place by an interior spline.

Normal window pane glass is approximately 1/8" (3 mm) thick, extremely brittle and easily broken. Plate glass is usually a minimum of 1/4" (6 mm) thick and will withstand an accidental knock. Plate glass is used for larger areas because of its greater strength due to increased thickness, and because the initial cost is worth the extra protection. Tempered glass is no stronger than plate glass, but provides greater strength than ordinary glass for equivalent thickness, and will not cut someone who breaks it.

Note: Because the materials produced by various manufacturers may differ, this list should be regarded only as a guide. Ask your salesperson to provide details on the resistance of the product to breakage and flame spread to conform to the Manitoba Building Code.

WINDOWS

Horizontal Sliding Windows

These windows consist of two overlapping sheets of glass which slide in a track top and bottom. There are two sets of windows, an inner and an outer set, which are vulnerable to forced entry by either sliding the window open, or lifting the glass out of the track.

The following ideas will cost very little, and can be done by the homeowner quite easily:

1. Install screws in upper track above the outer set of windows to prevent lifting.
2. Install a permanent stick in the lower track behind the screen. This will prevent the outer pane from being slid open.
3. Place a suitable stick in the lower track of the outer set. A snug fit is essential to prevent the stick from being pried out of the track with a knife or wire slipped between the panes.
4. Place a similar stick in the lower track of the inner set of windows.
5. Install an additional rocker catch so that it sits against the edge of the inner pane of glass. Another stick may be used instead of this catch.

Vertical Sliding Windows

These windows usually have a top half that can be lowered and a bottom half that can be raised.

These windows are almost always vulnerable because they have thin glass a burglar can easily break. After the glass is broken, it is easy to reach in and turn the latch. Do not rely on these windows to be secure just because they are painted shut.

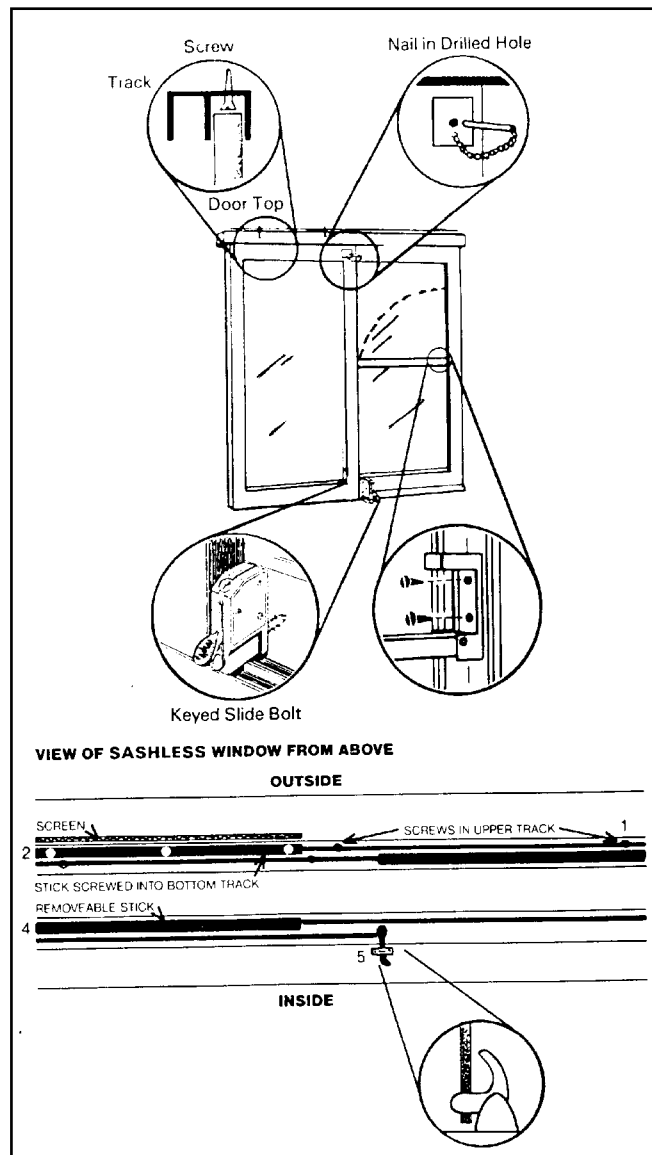
If the window is not to be used as a fire exit, it can be secured by nailing it or screwing it permanently closed.

If the window must be opened or is needed as a fire exit, drill a downward-angled hole for a pin or heavy nail which can be removed. A second hole two or three inches above the first will let the window be opened for ventilation while remaining secure.

A keyed latch may be installed in place of an unkeyed one.

A wooden block screwed to the frame will secure the window if you do not need it as a fire exit.

Window bars may be installed if the window is not to be used in case of fire.



Casement Windows

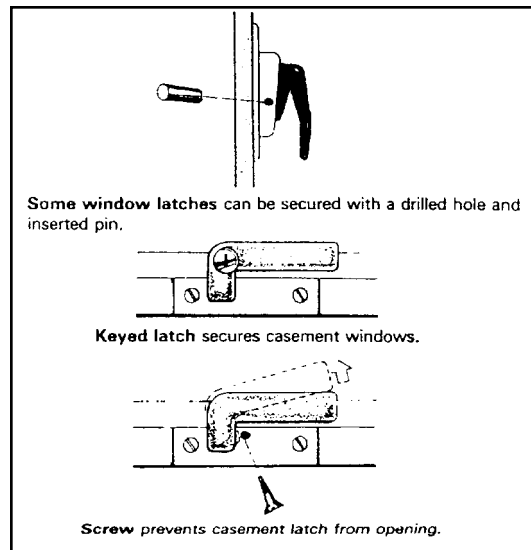
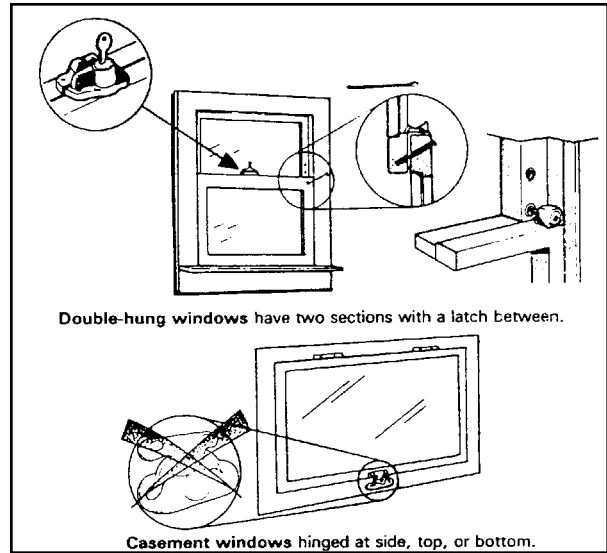
These windows open by hinges mounted at the top, side, or bottom. Like vertical sliding windows, these have thin glass. In addition, they can be pried open by breaking a flimsy latch.

Replace existing latches with a keyed latch or keyed slide bolt.

If you have a latch similar to the one shown in the diagram, drill a hole through the latch handle and frame while the window is closed and insert a metal pin.

If you have a pivoting casement latch, place the latch in a closed position and put a protruding screw in its path so that the latch can not pass the screw. Do this only if the window is not to be used as a fire exit.

If the window is used only to admit light and is never to be opened, install long screws from the sash into the frame or use window bars.



Fire Caution



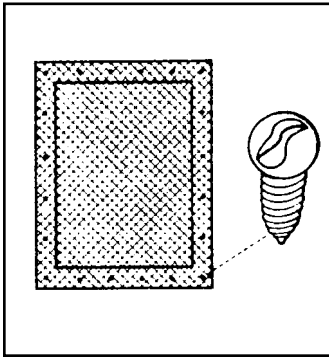
Before beginning to make your home more secure, inspect your home to plan for a variety of exits in case of fire. In no instance, for example, should you barricade all windows in a bedroom. If you are in doubt about how to allow for adequate fire exits, contact the Fire & Paramedic Service.

Shatter Resistant Window Film

A transparent polyester film is available to make windows stronger and more impenetrable. It is no more than .007 inch thick, yet when applied to the inside of any window, will hold the glass firmly together if broken. This film is quite inexpensive and easy to apply.

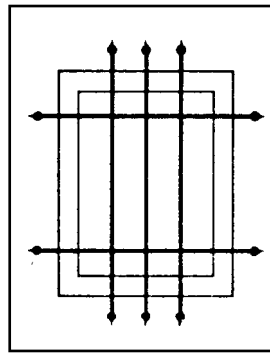
This is particularly useful in sidelights, entrance doors with glass panels or windows where there is access to inside doorknobs or catches.

Heavy Duty Screen



Heavy duty security screen can be used to protect vulnerable areas, such as glass windows in doors. Install the screen with one way screws to make removal of the screen from the outside more difficult.

Ornamental Window Bars



Ornamental bars can be used to protect windows that are particularly vulnerable and easily accessible. To ensure fire safety, use an inside release mechanism that is approved by your fire department so you can remove or open the bars in an emergency.

No untreated glass should be used in doors or entry ways where security is a problem. Even when deadbolts are used, if untreated glass panels should give a burglar access to the thumb turn, that glass should be replaced with treated glass or break-resistant plastic.

BASEMENTS

Window Bars

Basements usually have the casement style window and are particularly vulnerable to entry. The young persons responsible for most residential break and enters need very little space through which to enter a home, and poor quality window catches offer little resistance to the most casual attempt at entry.

Basement windows, even in a window well, will afford ample opportunity for a child or young person, and as such should be given as much attention for security improvements as other parts of the home. Improving only the window catch is usually not sufficient, as the hinges may be fastened with short screws, the frame may not be anchored into the foundation wall, and the glass may be single pane and easily broken.

Metal window bars fastened securely to the exterior of the foundation wall, or between the screen and window, or to the interior basement wall, are the only truly effective means of giving basement windows proper security.

There are many styles of window bars and different methods of installation, some with non-removable screws, some with pins, and others with a padlock.

Make sure at least one such device is installed in a way that it can be opened from the inside, as a fire exit. All other windows can have the devices installed permanently, provided no danger of being trapped is created by doing so.

***Basement
window bars in
bedrooms must
be easily opened
from the inside
per Winnipeg
Fire Code.***

Fire Caution



You can deny a burglar quick, silent entry and still leave quick fire exits for your family. Call the Fire & Paramedic Service for advice on fire escape plans, and then make security improvements with that escape plan in mind. Rehearse the escape plan, especially with children.

ADDITIONAL HOME SECURITY MEASURES

Light timers installed in areas throughout the home and set to go on and off at different times during the evening can give the appearance that a residence is occupied. The same timers can also be set to operate radios. When a house is left in total darkness, or completely lit up for extended periods of time, it can give the impression that the home is unoccupied. Timers should be set to blend in with the rest of the neighbourhood. Most timers are inexpensive and can be purchased at most hardware and department stores.

Good lighting is one of the cheapest, most effective tools in crime prevention. Invest in timers and motion sensor lights. Have several lights on in the house when you are home. When you are away from home, either leave a couple of lights on, or put some lights on timers so they will come on as soon as evening falls. Remember that in winter, darkness falls early.

Chain locks are not recommended, as they can give a false sense of security. Most chain locks are installed with short screws and weak chains. Once the door is opened, even with the chain engaged, it can be grabbed or pushed open to gain entry. The strength of any door only works when it is closed. It is recommended that other items be used to better reinforce the door.

Through-door viewers provide a view to the outside. This is a great feature for solid core doors without any windows so that you can see who is there before allowing access. There are several styles on the market, and each provides different peripheral views from 160 to 180 degrees. The ideal viewer will provide a large image with a 180 degree view so that there is no “blind spot” left or right at the wall. The newest form of viewer is comprised of a prism construction that will not allow any view to the inside from the outside, and a large inside viewer that can be utilized several steps back from the door.

Door wedges or stops can provide additional reinforcement to the door. Such devices can be as simple as rubber wedges pinned into predrilled holes in the floor, to commercial devices which function in the same manner. If these items are used, all residents and visitors should be made aware of their operation in case of fire.

Vacations should be considered as a security concern. You should take certain steps to help prevent your home from becoming a target while you are away. Use timers for your lights and radio to give the impression that someone is home. Cancel all deliveries, newspapers and mail. Make sure that all your valuables are stored properly or put into a safety deposit box. Leave your home in the care of someone you trust, and let them know where you can be reached in case of emergency. Instruct them to keep the mailbox clear, and to either cut the grass in the summer or shovel snow from sidewalks and driveways in winter.

***Good lighting
is one of the
cheapest, most
effective tools in
crime prevention.***

Household Identification: Do not put your name on the gate or the exterior of your home. This gives burglars a chance to look up your phone number in the telephone book, and to phone on some false pretence to ascertain if there is anyone at home. Do not make it easy for a burglar to locate your telephone number. Use only your initials in your telephone book listing.

House numbers should be large, visible and lighted at night to help emergency personnel locate your home quickly. House numbers should be mounted at the back of your property so that they are visible from the back lane. Numbers at least six inches in height and providing a colour contrast to their background should be adequate. Check from the road to see if you can read them easily.



Mail Boxes: Often we put up with an undersized mailbox, which not only causes damage to our mail but also exposes mail and newspapers to the

elements. Replace your undersized mailbox with a larger one. This will protect mail from the weather, and keep it all out of sight of would-be burglars. Only by opening the hinged lid can the contents be seen.

Window Access

A window that is usually too high for easy access becomes much more vulnerable when burglars use various “aids” that are available around the home.

Ladders should not be left outside the house unless secured by a lock to an anchor point such as a sturdy fence. Even ladders stored inside a garage or shed should be locked to a wall, work bench, or other heavy item.

Burglars have used lawn furniture, building materials, recycling boxes, bicycles, vehicles, air conditioners, and various other items as well as ladders to reach windows.

Tools, snow shovels, and gardening equipment can be used by a burglar as a pry bar to force windows and doors. These should be securely stored when not in use.

Storm/Screen Doors: In warm weather, residents like to leave their inner doors open, relying on a storm/screen door for security. When you are inside the house, keep the screen door locked. Slitting the screen will allow a thief quick and quiet access to the inside lock. Install a second “hook and eye” type lock in the upper corner for additional security.

Keep doors locked. Security devices are only effective if you use them. Every year, many homes are broken into while the resident is asleep, doing housework or watching TV in a separate part of the home, or while working or relaxing in the yard.

GARAGES

Keeep the garage door locked at all times. There is no need to advertise your absence by showing the public your vehicle is gone from the garage. Your garage also probably contains valuable items such as bicycles, tools and garden equipment. The burglar may drive right into your garage, close the door and load up the goods, or break into your house from the garage by using your tools to force entry.

The walk-in door and the entrance door between an attached garage and the house should be a solid-core wooden or metal door with a high quality locking device.

Consider installing an automatic garage door opener. This device allows you to stay in the safety of your vehicle until the garage door is opened and/or closed.

A positive point in favour of automatic garage openers is that the arms and linkage on the door act as a barrier to forced entry. Change the manufacturer's coding on your garage door opener.

Unplug your garage door opener from the power source if you are away for a period of time.

Treat your garage door opener like a key. Do not leave it in your vehicle.



For manual garage door openers there are security devices at your local hardware store.



ALARM SYSTEMS

An alarm system is intended to detect a burglary, and will not necessarily prevent one. An alarm system should never replace good physical security such as deadbolt locks, adequate lighting, secure basement windows and strong exterior doors.

Selecting an Alarm Company

When selecting an alarm company, ask for recommendations from your insurance agent or from friends with alarm systems. Find out how long the company has been in business, and the number of service facilities with local offices. The company should possess adequate liability insurance and its employees should be bonded. A written contract should be supplied and include equipment and service warranties. The contract should also contain a service agreement to ensure that the equipment retains a high level of operation.

It is wise to obtain detailed quotes and security information from at least three alarm companies before making a final selection. For further information, contact the Manitoba Chapter of the Canadian Alarm and Security Association, the Better Business Bureau, and the Consumers Bureau.

Protecting Your Home

DOORS: Magnetic contact switches are affixed to the door and frame. When the door is opened, the magnetic field is broken, causing a signal to be sent to the control panel.

WINDOWS: Windows that open may be protected with magnetic contacts, which operate similarly to the door switches. Glass breakage may be detected as follows:

FOIL: a silver coloured metallic tape applied to the glass, which will break when the window is broken.

SHOCK SENSORS: a small device attached to the window that electronically detects the glass being broken.

SOUND DISCRIMINATORS: a device that electronically listens for the sound of glass being broken.

WINDOW BARS: a plastic spring-loaded bar that electronically detects removal, commonly used on basement windows.

INTERIOR: Motion detectors are devices that detect movement in the protected area. These devices are commonly referred to as “infrareads”, ‘P.I.R’s”, “ultrasonics”, or “photoelectrics”. The area to be protected and the environment of the protected area will determine which type of detector may be used. For example, some detectors may be configured to accommodate pets.

CONTROL PANEL: A digital keypad is located near the commonly used entry door. It allows you to turn the alarm system on and off, and may display the status of your alarm system. The keypad is a remote device usually connected to a main control panel, commonly located in the basement. The main control will house the rechargeable battery and controls the operation of the entire system.

It is possible for thieves to circumvent some monitored alarm systems by cutting the telephone wires before they enter the house. Speak with your alarm company about obtaining an alternate system that does not use the telephone wires to send its signal to the alarm company, or install a metal shield that goes around the telephone wire and is bolted to the house. This shield protects the telephone line from being cut.

ALARM PERMITS

False alarms waste police time and reduce the integrity of the alarm system. Statistics show that over half of all false alarms are caused by user error. Therefore, it is the user's responsibility to ensure correct operation of the system.

The Alarm By-law No. 4676/87 requires everyone who has a burglar alarm, hold-up alarm, or distress alarm to register their system with the Winnipeg Police Service by submitting a completed Alarm Permit Application. This regulation applies to both local alarms and monitored alarms.

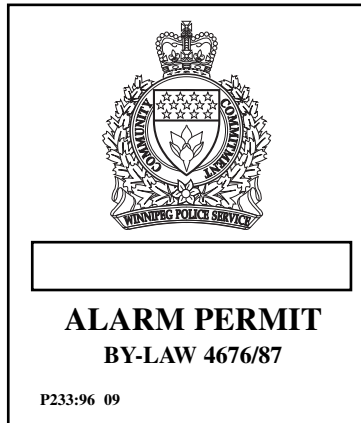
Applications for an Alarm Permit are available from any police district station or service centre.

Audible Alarm Systems:

If the alarm system you wish to operate is an audible or local alarm and is NOT monitored by a security company, then in accordance with Section 3 of the by-law you must inform the Chief of Police in writing of the names, addresses and telephone numbers of at least two persons at different locations who will attend the premises within 45 minutes and be able to provide access to where the audible alarm is located, when required to do so by a member of the Winnipeg Police Service.

Monitored Alarm Systems:

If the alarm system you wish to operate is monitored by an alarm company, it is your responsibility to provide that company with any information they may require in order to comply with Section 4(3)(b) of the



alarm by-law, which requires them to... "notify a person capable of affording access to the premises where the monitored alarm system is located, to attend at such premises within 45 minutes of so informing such member of the Winnipeg Police Service of the actuation".

Effective May 3rd 2004 the Winnipeg Police Service changed our response policy to residential alarms.

Residential alarms that are not monitored – Police will only respond if criminal activity has been verified.

Residential alarms that are monitored – Police will respond where two separate monitoring zones have been activated, and if the alarm company's monitoring station has been unsuccessful in their attempt to contact the premises.

It is anticipated that these steps will reduce Police response to false alarms, and give the Winnipeg Police Service more time to respond to verified alarms and calls for service.

Forward all copies of the completed Alarm Permit Application to:

Winnipeg Police Service - Alarm Co-ordinator
P. O. Box 1680 • WINNIPEG, MB R3C 2Z7

Questions may be directed to the Alarm Co-ordinator at **204-986-3406**. Any subsequent changes to any information contained in the application must also be communicated immediately in writing to the Alarm Co-ordinator.

CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (CPTED)

Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) is the relationship between how space is designed and used, and a person's real or perceived feeling of safety while using that space.

CPTED

- is an urban design approach to crime prevention
- improves the comfort of an area for the users
- can be applied to a single site or an entire neighbourhood

Developers and builders have recognized the value of having projects reviewed with a CPTED mindset to make their spaces as comfortable as possible.

CPTED builds on the following ideas:

1. Well maintained areas express a sense of ownership – people tend to protect an area they feel belongs to them
2. Areas that have few obstacles blocking the view of casual observers have people watching and reporting suspicious activity
3. Areas with distinguishable entrances and exits (between private and public space) help keep potential criminals from entering
4. Encouraging activity in public spaces helps to discourage crime and disorder. Busy areas increase the feeling of safety.

KEY CPTED PRINCIPLES

Natural Surveillance (the ability to see in or out of an area)

When there is a high level of natural surveillance, illegitimate activity is discouraged for fear of being caught, and legitimate users feel safer knowing people will see them if they are in trouble. Design and organize the space to ensure maximum visibility of activity. Introduce lighting to help increase surveillance into an area that people will utilize at night.

Some examples: How easy is it to see in and out of a store or across a tree path? Keep the area between three and seven feet (1-2 m) from the ground clear to provide maximum visibility both in and out of the area. Do shrubs and trees conceal the area around your house? Heavy trees or shrubs could protect the activity of a potential criminal.

Access Control

Limit and define access to an area through symbolic or psychological barriers and physically guide people in and out of spaces through placement of entrances, exits and fencing. This includes placement of doors and locking mechanisms or placement of thorny bushes against fences.

Territorial Behavior/Reinforcement

Use physical elements to express ownership. Users of the area should be made aware that they are entering into a different area. Territorial reinforcement can show different kinds of spaces.

Some examples: Fencing, pavement patterns, curbs, signs and landscaping can help show definition of a space and identify who owns it.

Maintenance

Encourage the continued use of a space for its intended use. Do not let a space fall into disrepair.

Some examples: Are branches trimmed? Are fences repaired? Has graffiti been removed quickly?

WHERE CAN CPTED PRINCIPLES BE APPLIED?

Lighting

Install lighting for illumination of activities, security, and to enhance the visual appeal of a location.

Consider better, properly placed lighting rather than brighter lighting.

Lighting checklist:

- Is anything blocking the light? For example: a canopy of trees blocking street lights.
- Are lighting levels adequate to identify potential hazards ahead?
- Are lighting levels so bright they disturb adjacent properties?
- Is the lighting even or does it create bright areas and dark shadows?
- Do shadows provide hiding places?

Fencing

Fencing helps define space, guide movement and create a sense of territoriality and ownership.

What job is the fence designed to do? Is it doing more, or less than is intended? Key factors to keep in mind are:

Transparency - a fence that defines space without creating a solid wall or “fortress” effect will be most effective.

Height - a fence that defines a space is best kept to a height of three feet (1 m) or less to ensure sightlines are kept open. Installing a fence that needs to be higher than three feet (1 m) for security purposes should be kept as transparent as possible to see activity in and out of the area.

Materials - wherever possible fence materials should be kept transparent while maintaining the job they were installed to do. Some examples are wrought iron, chain link, or picket fences with wide spaces between the pickets.

Vegetation

Choosing the right kinds of vegetation, placing plants in the right spot and maintaining those plants is an effective way to keep an area safer. Some examples of “crime fighting” plants are:

Vines to make walls less attractive to graffiti:
Engelman Ivy, Riverbank Grape, Virginia Creeper.

Spiny Shrubs or Shrubs with Needles: Barberry, Caragana, Juniper, Mugo Pine, Roses, Salt Bush, Sea Buckthorn, Silverberry, Silver Buffaloberry.

Spiny Trees or Trees with Needles: Black Hills Spruce, Colorado Blue Spruce, Russian Olive, Scotch (Scots) Pine.

ASK THE RIGHT QUESTIONS...

FIND SOLUTIONS

- Why don't I like this place?
- When and why do I feel uncomfortable here?
- What changes would make me feel safer?
- What is this space intended to be used for?
- How is it actually being used?
- Who is intended to use this space?
- Who actually uses it?
- Do things like landscaping, structures or lighting encourage the use of the space for its intended purpose? Do they get in the way?
- How well does lighting illuminate pedestrian walkways, directional signs, pay phones, entrances?
- Is there appropriate signage?
- Are the signs legible and easily understood?
- Are light fixtures safeguarded – are they vandal-resistant?
- Is lighting even and consistent?
- Is lighting too dark, too light, poorly aimed?
- Do trees or bushes obscure outdoor lighting?
- Is there anything blocking your line of sight ahead of you?
- Are there places someone could easily hide?
- Is there an escape route?
- Are activity areas isolated from the rest of the site or from the vantage point of adjacent streets or sidewalks?
- Is it difficult to see what is ahead because of sharp turns, fences or recesses?
- Is it difficult to see into an area because of fences or berms?

Common Suggestions

- ❖ Remove clutter from storefront windows.
- ❖ Install lighting in recessed doorways.
- ❖ Leave a light turned on all evening, or install motion detection lighting.
- ❖ Alter fencing to be more transparent.
- ❖ Trim hedges and trees.
- ❖ Plant prickly shrubs in areas you do not want people to go, such as under windows that open or windows you do not want people peering into.
- ❖ Plant shrubbery or vines against walls to prevent graffiti and vandalism.
- ❖ Plant low shrubs along front property line to provide clear border definition of private space.
- ❖ Clean up garbage.
- ❖ Paint and repair fencing.
- ❖ Remove graffiti quickly.
- ❖ Change burned out light bulbs.
- ❖ Ensure light bulb wattage is at an appropriate level.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Winnipeg Committee For Safety
Tool Box and Safety Audit Manual
www.winnipegcommitteeforsafety.org

Downtown Safety Coordinator ~ **204-986-5267**

Illuminating Engineering Society of North America
<http://www.iesna.org/>

APARTMENT SECURITY

Don't leave it all to the manager or police. By following these suggestions, you can make your building a safer place in which to live. Security of the apartment building you live in is only as effective as you make it.

Securing your Apartment

Always check the identity of persons seeking entrance before releasing the latch on the lobby door. Refer suspicious or unknown persons to the manager.

Notify the manager when your suite will be empty.

Make arrangements with the manager or a neighbour to receive deliveries if you will be out. Do not leave notes on the lobby callboard or on your door indicating you are away.

Do not identify yourself on the callboard as a female living alone. Use only first initials to identify yourself, such as "J.S. Smith".

When moving into a new apartment, have lock cylinders changed. Check with the manager first, as permission is usually required.

Equip apartment doors with a wide angle door viewer, and a good quality dead bolt lock, with a minimum one inch (2.5 cm) bolt.

Secure sliding balcony doors with screws in the upper track and a length of wood in the bottom track, making sure it fits snugly.

Install good quality locks on all windows, especially those opening on to balconies or rooftops.

Elevators

Do not enter an elevator if you are suspicious of the occupant(s). Wait for the next one.

Stand near the control panel. In a difficult situation, push as many buttons as possible, particularly the **ALARM** button. Do not touch the Emergency Stop button, as it will stop the elevator, perhaps between floors.

Laundry Rooms

Do not do laundry when you are likely to be alone. Try to arrange your laundry times with a trusted neighbour.

Apartment Lockers

Do not store valuable property in your locker or storage area.

Report suspicious persons loitering in the vicinity of lockers to the manager or police.

Parking Areas

Be alert to vehicles or persons following you into the garage or parking lot.

Never enter your car without checking that it is safe to do so.

Do not expose yourself to unnecessary risk. Leave the parking area if you encounter suspicious circumstances, and report immediately to the manager or the police.

Lock your vehicle, and remove valuable and portable items.

Going on Vacation?

Inform the manager or a trusted neighbour of your departure and return dates, and leave a telephone number where you can be reached in an emergency.

Cancel all deliveries, including mail, or have your neighbour pick up newspapers and mail.

Use timers that activate lights and radios to give the impression that someone is home.

Store valuables in a safety deposit box.

Before leaving, check that all doors and windows are secured.



For Your Safety

If you find a door or window has been forced or broken while you were absent, **DO NOT ENTER THE APARTMENT**. The criminal may still be inside. Use a neighbour's phone to call police.

Do not touch anything or clean up if a crime has been committed until the police have inspected for evidence.

Let your neighbours know if you have been the victim of a crime. They may have noticed a suspicious person or vehicle, and noted a description or licence number.

Apartment Watch

If you wish to start an Apartment Watch in your block (similar to a Neighbourhood Watch) contact Winnipeg Police Service, Crime Prevention, at 204-986-6322.

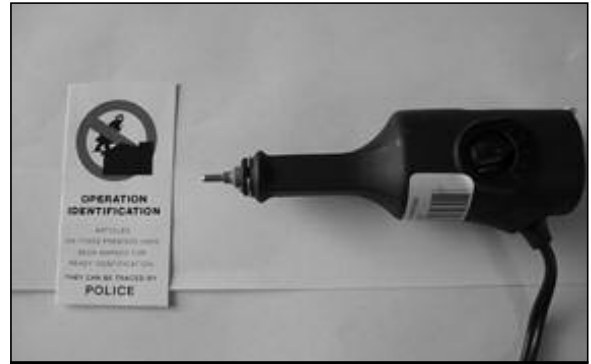
OPERATION IDENTIFICATION

Operation Identification is a crime prevention program designed to discourage theft and to provide means of easy identification of stolen and/or lost property by marking your valuables.

Have you ever wondered what happens to property that is seized or recovered by the police? In many cases it is destroyed or auctioned, simply because it can not be traced to the proper owners. In cases of property that is seized by police from suspected burglars, criminal charges can not be laid if the property is not positively identified as belonging to someone else.

Proper identification makes it easier for the police to return personal property. How would you feel if you had an irreplaceable heirloom stolen from you? Even though your insurance might cover it, you would probably rather have the item itself returned to you. Engraving or marking with a black light pen an identifier such as your date of birth, your initials, or a combination of letters and numbers on valuables identifies them as uniquely yours.

Operation Identification is a strong deterrent to thieves. Although it does not guarantee that your valuables will not be stolen, it has been shown to reduce the incidence of stolen property. Marked articles are difficult to dispose of because they are more easily traced.



Check List Home & Business

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adding Machines | <input type="checkbox"/> Power Mowers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bicycles | <input type="checkbox"/> Radios |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Binoculars | <input type="checkbox"/> Record Players |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cameras | <input type="checkbox"/> Stereos |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computers | <input type="checkbox"/> Stereo Speakers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing Equipment | <input type="checkbox"/> Toasters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golf Clubs | <input type="checkbox"/> Televisions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guns | <input type="checkbox"/> Typewriters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Tools | <input type="checkbox"/> Musical Instruments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen Appliances | <input type="checkbox"/> Power Tools |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Metal Lock Boxes | <input type="checkbox"/> Antiques |
| <hr/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Microwave Oven | <input type="checkbox"/> VCR/DVD |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mag Wheels | <input type="checkbox"/> Radio |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tape Decks | <input type="checkbox"/> Hub Caps |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Speakers | <input type="checkbox"/> Battery |
| <hr/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jewellery | <input type="checkbox"/> Watches |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Silverware | |
| <hr/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Furs | <input type="checkbox"/> Clothing |

HOW DO YOU JOIN OPERATION IDENTIFICATION?

Just get in touch with your local police station and borrow an electric engraver, at no charge. You will also be supplied with inventory forms to record your marked property. Keep this record in a safe place. A second copy may be left with your insurance company.

When you return the engraver, you will receive Operation Identification decals to place on your windows and doors. This will advertise your participation in the program and in itself will help to deter potential thieves.

For deterrent purposes, the identification number should be clearly visible, without marring the appearance of the item. A second hidden number may also be added.

Some items such as fine jewellery, silver, china, or items you may wish to sell, should not be engraved. Take photographs or a video record of these items, and keep these with your inventory records.

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION INVENTORY



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

All items listed below are inscribed with the following:

(ie: birth date, initials, unique combination of letters and numbers)

[illegible]

SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS

Firearm storage regulations apply to all firearms, including antiques. Guns stolen during a break and enter can be used by the thief to commit another crime. The owner could be charged for improper storage.

Non-restricted firearms must be stored unloaded, and unable to be fired by:

- using a secure locking device* that can only be opened or released by electronic, magnetic or mechanical keys or by setting the device with a combination of numbers or letters, and when applied to a firearm, prevents it from being discharged; or
- removing the bolt or bolt carrier; or
- locking in a sturdy, secure container or room that can not be easily broken open or into; and
- in a place where ammunition for the firearm is not easy to obtain. Ammunition that is stored in a securely locked container that can not be easily broken open can be stored with the firearm. If the securely locked container can hold both the ammunition and the firearm, they can be stored together in the container.

Note: Non-restricted firearms being stored in remote wilderness areas do not have to be stored unable to be fired or away from ammunition. They must still be stored unloaded.

Note: If a non-restricted firearm is used for predator control, it can be temporarily stored unlocked and out in the open as long as it is unloaded.

Restricted and prohibited firearms must be stored unloaded, and unable to be fired:

- by using a secure locking device*; and
- storing the firearms in a sturdy, securely locked container or room that can not be easily broken open or into; or
- securely locked in a safe, vault or room that has been built or adapted for the safe storage of restricted and prohibited firearms; and
- in a place where ammunition for the firearms is not easy to obtain.

Ammunition can be stored with the firearms if it is stored:

- in a securely locked container that can not be easily broken open. (If the container holds both the ammunition and the firearms, they can be stored together in the container); or
- in a securely locked safe, vault or room built or adapted for the safe storage of restricted and prohibited firearms.

Fully automatic firearms:

If removable, the bolts or bolt-carriers must be removed from fully automatic firearms.

Bolts/carriers must be stored in a securely locked room (separate from the one that holds the fully automatic firearms) that can not easily be broken into.

If stored in a locked vault, safe or room built or adapted for the secure storage of prohibited firearms, the bolt/carrier need not be removed.

SAFE TRANSPORT REGULATIONS FOR FIREARMS

Non-restricted Firearms:

Transport non-restricted firearms unloaded.

Muzzle-loading firearms can be transported loaded between hunting sites if the firing cap or flint is removed.

You can leave non-restricted firearms in your unattended vehicle** if they are:

- unloaded; and
- safely locked in the trunk or a similar compartment of the vehicle. If your vehicle has no trunk or compartment, leave firearms inside the locked vehicle, unloaded, and out of sight.

You can transport non-restricted firearms on a snowmobile, boat or ATV.

In remote wilderness areas, where it is legal to discharge a firearm, you can leave non-restricted firearms unattended as long as they are unloaded and out of sight.

If your vehicle does not have a trunk or similar compartment, and your firearms can not be locked inside, they must be left unable to be fired by using a secure locking device* unless they are required for predator control.

Restricted and Prohibited Firearms:

Transport restricted and prohibited firearms:

- with a valid Authorization to Transport; and
- unloaded; and
- unable to be fired by using a secure locking device*; and
- locked in a heavy duty, non-see-through container that can not be easily broken open during transport.

Fully automatic firearms must be transported with bolts/carriers removed if reasonably easy to do so.

Authorization to Transport:

- replaces existing Permit to Transport, Permit to Convey and, in some cases, Permit to Carry;

- allows restricted and prohibited firearms to be transported between two or more specific places;
- may be valid for up to three years (for target shooting);
- may be renewable by telephone;
- will only be issued if the transportation of restricted and prohibited firearms will not endanger anyone.

You will need the following information to apply:

- a description of the particular restricted/prohibited firearms to be transported;
- the period of time that the firearms will be transported;
- the places, to and from home, that you will transport the firearms (using a reasonably direct route); and
- the reasons for transporting the firearms.

You can leave the container containing the firearms in an unattended vehicle's** locked trunk or similar compartment if you have a valid Authorization to Transport, and your firearms are:

- unloaded; and
- unable to be fired by using a secure locking device*; and
- locked in a heavy duty, non-see-through container that cannot be easily broken open during transport.

If the vehicle does not have a trunk or compartment, lock the vehicle and leave the container inside and out of sight.

* **Secure locking device** is defined as a device that:

- can only be opened or released by electronic, magnetic or mechanical keys, or by setting the device with a combination of numbers or letters; and
- when applied to a firearm, prevents it from being discharged.

** **Unattended vehicle** is defined as a vehicle that is not under the direct and immediate supervision of an adult or a minor with a minor's license.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL **1-800-731-4000**
OR VISIT **www.cfc-ccaf.gc.ca**
OR EMAIL - **canadian.firearms@justice.x400.gc.ca**

THE CAPTAIN

MEMBER POLICE INFORMATION NETWORK



COMPUTER AUTOMATED PHONE TRACKING AND INFORMATION NETWORK



Computer Automated Phone Tracking and Information Network CAPTAIN is a computerized voice messaging system capable of placing up to 800 calls per hour.

These calls are usually programmed between 9:30 am to 8:00 pm, but can be utilized outside these hours in an emergency. CAPTAIN can leave a message on an answering machine. If there is no answer, or if the line is busy, additional calls are made automatically.

Business Participants

Businesses may receive calls about counterfeit currency, credit card and/or cheque fraud, shoplifting, robberies, or crime prevention seminars.

To be eligible for CAPTAIN messages, a business must send at least one representative to a CounterAction seminar. This is an all-inclusive crime prevention program for the business community, covering topics such as robbery prevention, shop theft, internal theft, and more.

Any business wishing to join CounterAction should call Winnipeg Police Service, Crime Prevention, at 204-986-6322.

Residential Participants

Neighbourhood Watch Block Captains receive messages about break and enter incidents, stolen vehicles, crime prevention news and neighbourhood watch meetings.

GRAFFITI PREVENTION

Graffiti is more than just words or symbols sprayed on a wall. Graffiti is an act of vandalism that costs hundreds of thousands of dollars to remove or cover every year. Every dollar spent on graffiti removal is a dollar that could be used on other badly needed programs.

What Graffiti Means to a Community

If not immediately removed, graffiti sends out a message that “nobody cares” about the area. It also causes the area to look unsafe and makes people concerned about their personal safety. This creates an open invitation for more littering, loitering, and other graffiti. Unfortunately, it may also lead to an increase in other crimes and acts of violence.

Areas filled with graffiti are less appealing to those who may be looking to buy or rent property. Property becomes more difficult to sell and values are reduced.

Graffiti, done without the owner’s permission, is not “art”. It is a crime.

The three most common types of graffiti are:

TAGGING: Individuals involved in this form of graffiti refer to themselves as “taggers” or “graffiti writers”. They gain “fame” and status from other taggers by painting their distinctive “tags” in as many places as possible. Tagging is usually illegible to the untrained eye, and is intended to be seen by other taggers. They may also paint highly stylized murals. Sometimes glass or other clear hard surfaces are gouged with sharp instruments or stained with acid-based products.



GANG GRAFFITI: This form of graffiti is less common and mostly done by gang members or associates. It is a method of communication that is used to promote a gang, mark territory, recruit new members, or intimidate a neighbourhood.

HATE GRAFFITI: This graffiti is aimed at specific ethnic groups. It should be reported to police immediately, and promptly removed.

Take Action to Prevent Graffiti & Vandalism

Graffiti, like other forms of vandalism, is a crime. If you see anyone committing vandalism, report it immediately to police at **204-986-6222**.

Get organized! Have a neighbourhood meeting on vandalism to discuss its victims, costs and solutions. Form a graffiti removal crew, volunteer your time, donate supplies, or help in any way you can to eliminate graffiti in your community. Adopt a street, park, school, church, or other building that is a target for graffiti vandalism.

Consider using clinging vegetation like ivy or paint a silicone paint finish so spray paint will not adhere.

Keep property clean and well maintained. Increase lighting around your property. Install motion detector lights where possible.

Choose a durable surface or use protective anti-graffiti coatings for your buildings.

Establish a clear boundary, such as a durable fence and locking gates, between your property and public property.

Use clinging vegetation like ivy on vulnerable walls to eliminate large writing surfaces.

Plant thick or thorny bushes and install a durable fence to keep people out of or away from areas that could attract graffiti.

Request that pay phones, benches or other items be removed if they encourage people to loiter near your building.

If you are a Victim of Graffiti

If there are no witnesses or suspects, you may make a report at your local police district station or service centre.

Take a photograph of the graffiti whenever possible. A photograph will assist the police in linking the offender to other cases. When identified, the offender may face stiffer penalties and/or be required to pay restitution. A photograph may also assist your insurance company when making a claim.

Graffiti Removal and Maintenance

The following information is to be used as a guide only. There are a number of effective graffiti removal products available which are designed to work on a variety of surfaces. Before using any product to remove graffiti, consult with a paint store or professional graffiti removal contractor. Always follow the manufacturer's directions when using any product. Some products may be toxic and will require that rubber gloves and masks be used. There are also products available which are biodegradable and less or non-toxic.

Stickers: A growing trend in graffiti is the use of stickers, such as "Hello My Name is" stickers. Graffiti

vandals will "tag" the stickers and place them wherever they can reach. Remove as much of the sticker as possible, and use nail polish remover or acetone-based cleaner to remove the gummy residue.

Non-sensitive surfaces such as painted wood

siding, painted concrete: Apply a stain-killing primer or pigmented shellac to seal the graffiti and keep it from bleeding through fresh paint. Repaint the surface with an appropriate colour. Try to match the existing colour, as a poor paint job can lead to more graffiti.

Sensitive Surfaces

Brick, cement & concrete: Apply extra strength paint remover or graffiti remover with a wire brush and allow the product to dry; then rinse with a forceful stream of water.

Stucco: Use paint remover, and then wash with a high-pressure water hose. Use stucco paint and carefully cover graffiti.

Metal, aluminum siding, fiberglass: Use carburetor cleaner, or use paint remover sparingly, and rinse carefully.

Glass, plexiglass: Use carburetor cleaner if regular cleaners do not work. Use caution with plexiglass as it scratches easily. If glass has been stained with acid, it can be polished. If glass has been gouged, it may be polished depending how deeply gouged.

If your property is repeatedly hit with graffiti and has a "sensitive surface", the application of a sacrificial or protective coating will ease graffiti removal. The coatings provide a barrier between the building's surface and the graffiti.

With sacrificial coatings, only the coating with graffiti is removed, using a high-pressure hose. The sacrificial coating is then reapplied to that specific area. For protective coatings, a remover is applied and the graffiti is wiped or sprayed off.

Check the telephone yellow pages under "Graffiti Removal" for a list of companies that specialize in graffiti removal and sacrificial or protective coatings.

Removal of graffiti within 24 hours normally prevents recurrences.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES



Take Pride Winnipeg!
204-956-7590

In cooperation with the City of Winnipeg, Take Pride Winnipeg! focuses on education programs, organized volunteer paint-outs, and manages the citywide mural program.



Winnipeg Crime Stoppers
204-786-TIPS (8477)

If you have information about individual(s) involved in graffiti vandalism, you can call Crime Stoppers, which offers up to a \$2,000 cash award for information leading to an arrest. The program allows callers to remain anonymous.



Winnipeg Police Service
204-986-6222

If you see graffiti in progress, call the police at 204-986-6222. The police also work actively with the community to prevent graffiti. This is achieved through enforcement, prevention, education, and awareness programs.

BICYCLE THEFT PREVENTION

Did You Know?

- As many as 3,000 bicycles are reported stolen in Winnipeg every year.
- The city recovers up to 1,500 bicycles each year, but only 10% to 12% are returned to their rightful owners.
- The city sells over 1,000 bicycles a year because owners can't be traced to the recovered bicycle.
- The city holds auctions of bicycles twice a year.

You can register your bicycle with the city's Bicycle Recovery Section. Registration forms are available at most civic offices, libraries and other selected locations.

Every precaution should be taken when leaving your bike unattended. Use a good chain and lock to secure your bike to a pole, tree or fence. At home, lock your bike even if it is stored in a garage or shed. Never park your bike, even for a few minutes, without chaining and locking it. That's all the opportunity a thief needs.

For information on registering your bike or on the auctions please contact:

BICYCLE RECOVERY
204-986-6280



REPORTING DRUG LAB & MARIHUANA GROW OPERATIONS

A recent drug trend has found its way to the Winnipeg area. Evidence of methamphetamines, ecstasy, GHB, and other chemically derived drugs has been seen and seized on the streets. These drugs are often produced in clandestine lab settings found in residential homes, or mobile vehicles.

Clandestine Drug Labs and Grow Operations cause three main types of harm:

- Physical injury from explosions, fires, chemical burns and toxic fumes;
- Environmental hazards; and
- Child endangerment.

***Clandestine laboratories
have been found in
single and multiple family
dwellings, motel rooms,
campgrounds, mini-storage
buildings, and motor vehicles,
especially rented trucks.***

Recognizing an Illegal Drug Lab

The most important tools to combat the potential epidemic of methamphetamines are education and public awareness. Methamphetamines are readily available and rapidly spreading. Clandestine laboratories have been found in single and multiple family dwellings, motel rooms, campgrounds, mini-storage buildings, and motor vehicles, especially rented trucks. The following examples are clues that may indicate production or sales of drugs:

- Access denied to landlords, neighbours, other visitors.
- Purchases and payments in cash.
- Covering or blacking out of windows.
- Unusual traffic and activities, such as excessive night traffic or purchases taking place.
- Burn pits, stained soil or dead vegetation indicating dumping of chemicals or waste.
- Packaging from over the counter ephedrine or pseudoephedrine cold pills.
- Empty containers from: antifreeze, white gas, ether, starting fluids, Freon, lye or drain openers, paint thinner, acetone, or alcohol.
- Compressed gas cylinders or camp stove (Coleman) fuel containers.
- Packaging from Epsom salts or rock salts.
- Anhydrous ammonia tanks; propane tanks or coolers containing anhydrous ammonia.
- Pyrex/glass/Corning containers, or other kitchen glassware with hoses or duct tape.
- Coolers, thermos bottles, or other cold storage containers.
- Respiratory masks and filters, dust masks, rubber gloves, funnels, hosing and clamps.
- Coffee filters, pillowcases or bed sheets stained red (used to filter red phosphorous) or containing a white powdery residue.
- Apartments or buildings that smell like chemicals, including sweet, bitter, ammonia or solvent.

Recognizing an Indoor Marihuana Growing Operation

Sophisticated indoor marihuana grow operations, although not new to Winnipeg, have been turning up with regularity in all areas of the city, even middle and upper class residential neighborhoods. The following are indications of a grow operation:

- Evidence of tampering with the electric meter (damaged or broken seals) or the ground around it.
- Homes made to look lived in by things like light timers, but very few people are seen going in and out of the home.
- Late night or very short visits by people.
- Strange smells or overpowering smells of fabric softener.
- Water lines and/or electrical cords running to the basement or an outbuilding.
- People bringing unusual items into the house, such as bags of soil, lots of plant roots, and potted plants.
- People continually bringing items and/or taking items in garbage bags.
- Windows that are always covered.
- Residence or outbuilding has unusual amount of exhaust fan noise, or unusual number of roof vents.
- Unusual buildup of ice or amount of steam coming from vents in the house in cold weather.
- A house rooftop with no snow on it, when roofs of surrounding houses are snow covered.
- High condensation around windows.
- People entering and exiting the residence only through the garage, keeping the garage door closed.
- New neighbours never taking furniture or groceries into the house.
- Purchase of very expensive heat lamps for unexplained reasons.
- Unexplained and unseasonably high utility bills.
- Property with excessive security such as guard dogs, “keep out” signs, high fences, heavy chains and locks on gates.

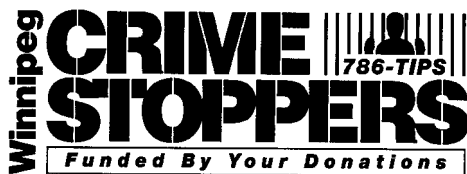
If someone believes he or she has discovered an illegal drug lab or the site of an abandoned lab, or grow operation, immediately contact police at 204-986-6222 or Crime Stoppers at 204-786-TIPS. Do not enter the area of the suspected lab. Anyone who inadvertently enters a lab should back out immediately without disturbing the cooking process, chemicals or equipment.

Note for Landlords

Landlords may notice that tenants insist on paying their rent in cash, and, while having no known source of income, they have expensive cars, cell phones, pagers, etc.

These same tenants will be reluctant to allow landlords to inspect their rented property. They will make arrangements to meet landlords away from the property to pay their rent and/or to discuss any problems.

Landlords should have a detailed rental agreement and ensure that the individual(s) renting their premises are those living there. References should be mandatory and followed up.



WINNIPEG CRIME STOPPERS

Winnipeg Crime Stoppers is a citizen, media and police co-operative program designed to involve the public in the fight against crime.

Crime Stoppers will provide citizens with the opportunity to anonymously supply the police with information regarding a crime they may have knowingly or unknowingly witnessed, or a crime or potential crime of which they may have knowledge.

How Does Crime Stoppers Work?

An unsolved crime is brought to the attention of the public via the media. An award is offered to anyone providing information which leads to the solution of any crime. Awards are also offered for information leading to the arrest of individuals for other criminal offences, the recovery of stolen property, or the seizure of narcotics.

A 24-hour hotline is answered by police personnel who process and pass on the information to investigating officers. Each caller is given a code number which is used in all subsequent transactions, thus ensuring anonymity.

Who Administers the Crime Stoppers Program?

A citizen board of directors actively guides the program. Winnipeg Crime Stoppers, a charitable non-profit organization, is responsible for raising funds and the disbursements of awards. Donations are tax deductible. The award and amount thereof is determined at the sole and absolute discretion of the board.

FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS (24 HOUR SERVICE)

In case of emergency call: 9 – 1 – 1
(Crime in progress, Fire, Medical Emergency, Poisoning)

Non-emergency police services call:
204-986-6222
(When immediate police response is not required)

Hearing Impaired Non-emergency (TTY System):
204-942-7920

Missing Persons Reports
204-986-6250

Public Safety Building Main Desk
204-986-6246

Crime Stoppers
204-786-TIPS

Some of the other agencies referred to in this handbook:

Better Business Bureau of Manitoba Inc.
204-989-9010

Block Parent Program of Winnipeg Inc.
204-284-7562

-anadian Centre for Child Protection
204-945-5735
toll free 1-800-532-9135

Consumer Protection Office
204-945-3800

Manitoba Public Insurance
204-985-7000

Women's Advocacy Program
204-945-6851

Safety Aid
204-956-6440

COPP

CITIZENS ON PATROL PROGRAM

With several years of success behind us, the Manitoba Citizens on Patrol Program (COPP) continues to flourish in new communities across the province each year, as dedicated volunteers work to address community safety-related issues.

The main goal of the Citizens on Patrol Program is to be on the look-out for any suspicious or criminal activity, to record this activity and, where appropriate, to report such activities to the police. COPP members act as additional “eyes and ears” for their community and the police, which assists in reducing crime.

Neighbors, family and friends in dozens of Manitoba communities appreciate the willingness of COPP volunteers to actively prevent crime and improve safety in their neighborhoods.

Mission

To mobilize citizens to participate in a community-based crime prevention initiative in cooperation with the local law enforcement agencies.

Program Goals

Deterrence: to provide a presence in the community through patrolling by vehicle, by foot, by bicycle or other means, as required.

Education: to educate Manitobans about crime prevention.

Awareness: to increase Manitobans’ awareness on crime-related issues such as theft, auto theft and speeding.

Box 6300

Winnipeg, MB R3C 4A4

Phone: 204-985-8849

Toll Free: 866-326-7792

Fax: 204-954-5317

coordinatoratcopp@mpi.mb.ca

Email: COPP Coordinator

Personal Safety

In this section on Personal Safety, if you are looking for a home we will inform you on how to assess an area before you move in.

Once you take possession of your new home, how do you handle strangers at your door, delivery people and those annoying and harassing phone calls? It's all here in Personal Safety In Your Home. Going for a walk? What's the safest route? We can help.

Whether it's going for a stroll, taking public transportation or safety while traveling it's all in Personal Safety On The Street.

Senior Safety and Vulnerable Persons talks about some of the crimes or abuse that may involve today's seniors. Whether it's physical, psychological, financial or neglect we inform you of the signs to look for and the right organizations to assist you.

Our Domestic Violence section informs you how to break the cycle of violence and some of the court orders available to protect you from further harm.

Be an informed consumer, and educate yourself about consumer frauds, scams and counterfeit money. We will inform you of some of the scams so you won't take a hit in the pocket book.

Have you purchased a paper shredder yet? Did you know it is the best way to protect yourself from Identity Theft?

If you have young children, our Internet, Computer and Children's Safety pages are a must read. Educating our children today can pay back many, many times over the years that lie ahead.

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PERSONAL SAFETY IN THE HOME

Many people operate under the assumption that concerns for safety apply only to someone who is away from the comfort of home. A person should not take anything for granted when it comes to safety. It is important to TakeAction regarding your personal safety in all situations, including the home.



Strangers at the Door

Reports of strangers robbing victims who answer their door are all too prevalent in today's headlines. Here are some steps you can take to prevent this from happening to you or your family:

Assessing an area before moving in

Some of the things that you should consider before purchasing a home or moving into a rental property are:

- What is the general maintenance standard of surrounding properties, streets and parklands? This is a good indicator of the concern that residents have for their neighbourhood, and will tell you much about the area.
- What is the quality of the overall street lighting? This will involve visiting the neighbourhood after dark. Some areas are quite different after the sun goes down, and it is recommended you visit them before you purchase a new house or move into a rental property.
- What is the proximity to transit? How far will you be required to walk to and from transit facilities, and what is the neighbourhood like when it is dark?
- How close are the schools in the area? How far will your children be required to walk to and from education facilities?
- What is the traffic flow in the area, and what is the availability of sidewalks?
- Is there a Neighbourhood Watch program operating in the area? This is another important indicator of the type of neighbourhood you are considering moving into. An active Neighbourhood Watch block indicates that at least 66% of the residents are participating in the program.
- Is there a Block Parent in the vicinity? A Block Parent is someone who is willing to help their neighbours when required.

- Keep doors and windows locked at all times. This includes while you are in the house, or while working or relaxing in the garage or yard.
- Install a peephole in the door so you can see who is on the other side before opening it.
- Do not open the door to anyone you do not know without seeing proper identification. If you are not satisfied with the identification, do not open the door. It is your home and you do not have to allow access to it.
- If a stranger comes to the door asking to use your telephone, do not open the door. Offer to make the call for them.
- Never give out personal information to any stranger who comes to your door.
- Do not let anyone who comes to your door know that you are alone in the residence.
- You do not have to participate in surveys - that is your choice.
- If a stranger comes to your door and refuses to leave, tell them that you will call the police. Do not panic or argue, but be firm and state your intent confidently.
- Surround your house with security lighting at night (sensor lights, floodlights, etc.)
- Educate your children regarding the actions they should take if a stranger comes to the door.

Service and Delivery People

Be sure to use reputable and reliable businesses for service calls. Take the time to check on references regarding any company that you plan to hire to perform work or service for you.

If possible, have all service and delivery people attend your residence by appointment.

Do not hide keys outside your house for the delivery person to use while you are not home.

Ask for identification from any delivery or service person who attends your residence.

If you do not like who you see when the delivery or service person attends, you can send them away.

Do not leave valuables open to view while service or delivery people are in your home.

Telephone Safety and Annoying/Harassing Phone Calls

If a caller refuses to identify him or herself to you, **HANG UP THE TELEPHONE**. Remember, no matter who they say they are, you can not visually identify a telephone caller. They could be anyone! Consider answering machines as useful tools for screening telephone calls. Use only your first initial in the directory, or choose to have an unlisted number.

If a caller asks what number they have called, ask them what number they dialled. Do not give them your telephone number. Do not tell anyone that you are home alone. Do not provide personal information, either about yourself or anyone else, to someone you do not know.

If you wish to respond to telemarketing calls or surveys, ask for their telephone number and offer to call them back.

Teach your children proper phone etiquette and safe telephone practices.

Do not hesitate to use telephone screening codes: ***57 (Call Trace); *60 (Call Screen); *67 (Call Block); and *69 (Call Return)**. Further information about these features can be found in the telephone book white pages.

A person who makes annoying, obscene or threatening phone calls is guilty of committing a crime. Many people may not realize it is, in fact, against the law to use profane, obscene or abusive language over the phone, or to use a telephone to harass people. Generally, crank callers are seeking attention or reaction such as shock, anger or exasperation from those receiving the calls. If you are the recipient of any of these types of calls, there are some procedures you can follow to deter them.

HANG UP if a caller will not identify him/herself, if the person remains silent, or at the first obscene or lewd remark. Do not talk to the person and do not slam the receiver. Do not give the caller the satisfaction he/she is seeking.

Activate the *57 Call Trace feature. Notify the police immediately if the calls are life threatening. If the calls are annoying or harassing, document the date, time and nature of the calls and assemble a record of calls before calling police. Information on any suspect would be of great assistance. If you do not recognize the caller's voice, you may be able to supply some information describing the caller. Make notes such as whether the caller is male or female, estimated age, is he/she intoxicated, accent or speech impediment, specific words or phrases, and background noise.

Additional Safety Measures

Do not use double cylinder deadbolts. These are illegal in residences.

Display house address numbers on the front and back of the residence.

Use exterior motion sensor lighting and interior light timers.

Apply the “three foot/seven foot” (90 cm/210 cm) rule to maintain open sight lines around your residence. Shrubs should be trimmed so they are no higher than three feet (90 cm) from the ground, and tree branches should be trimmed so they are no lower than seven feet (210 cm) from the ground.

If you return home and find that it has been broken into, go to a place of safety and call Police Emergency 911 immediately.

Be a good witness. Watch for suspicious activity in your neighbourhood and immediately report anything suspicious to **Police Non-Emergency 204-986-6222**.

Consider establishing a safe room in your house. In the unlikely event that you are home when a break-in occurs, make all attempts to get out of the home and go to a place of safety where you can immediately call 911. However, if you can not get out of the home, have a designated safe room inside your residence. A safe room should have a strong door, a good lock, and a telephone from which you can immediately call 911.

***Be a good witness.
Watch for suspicious activity
in your neighbourhood and
immediately report anything
suspicious to Police.***

PERSONAL SAFETY ON THE STREET



In most cases, you are in control of the circumstances in which you place yourself. Being aware that you are a potential victim of a crime is the first step toward prevention.

The least expensive and most effective measure you can take to protect yourself against crime is to incorporate certain habits into your daily routine that make you and your family less vulnerable – to adopt a “security conscious” lifestyle. A basic rule is to stay alert to your surroundings, trust your instincts, and if you feel uncomfortable in a place or situation, TakeAction, and leave immediately.

***Successful deterrents
to street crime are the
“BUDDY SYSTEM” or
carrying a PERSONAL
SAFETY ALARM***

Pedestrian Safety

One of the most successful deterrents to street crime is the “buddy system”. A lone person is the best target for a criminal. Travel in pairs or with a group whenever you can.

A personal alarm, carried in plain view in a person’s hand while walking, is a visible deterrent against being attacked or robbed.

Wear comfortable clothing and footwear.

Do not carry large sums of cash, or wear jewellery that can attract attention.

Walk confidently, with your head up.

Be aware of your surroundings. Always know the street name where you are, and the address of your destination.

Plan a safe route and stick to it. Do not use unfamiliar shortcuts to save time.

Stay on busy, well lighted streets.

Walk in the middle of the sidewalk.

Walk facing traffic so you can see approaching vehicles.

Cross the street at crosswalks or pedestrian corridors. Make sure traffic is stopped before stepping out on the street.

Set boundaries and keep a safe distance from strangers on the street. Do not engage in conversation with panhandlers.

If you are being followed, change directions and head for a populated area.

Never accept rides from strangers, or even from people that you do not know well.

If you exercise outdoors, vary your route and use populated paths.

Have the door key ready in your hand when arriving home.



Criminals associate a purse or wallet with money. If a pedestrian does not carry a purse, they dramatically decrease their chances of being a victim of robbery. Instead of a purse, use a backpack, fanny pack, wallet, or anything that can be concealed on your person.

Before you leave home, ask yourself whether you really need to take your purse, or whether you can carry what you need in some safer way. If you decide to take the purse, carry only what you really need inside it.

When going shopping, carry only the methods of payment that you will need.

Always carry emergency money and keys separate from your wallet or purse.

Keep the purse strap wrapped around the purse when carrying it – not over your shoulder or wrists. This will decrease your chances of being injured if someone grabs the purse.

If you are faced with a robbery, you will minimize the likelihood of injury if you cooperate as best you can and give up your money. In most cases, the criminal only wants your money. Remember, your personal safety is the number one priority!



Using Public Transportation

Try to use convenient, well lighted and busy bus stops.

Make sure that you aren't alone at an isolated bus stop for a long period of time.

Know where you are going, where you have to transfer, and how to get back home. Take into consideration that your transfer point may be in an area of town unfamiliar to you.

Choose a seat close to the driver. All buses in Winnipeg are equipped with two-way radios and can summon police rapidly if they are required.

If you are verbally or physically harassed while you are on the bus, attract the attention of the driver and other passengers by talking loudly and screaming. Report the incident to the bus driver immediately.

Use "Request Stop". Ask the driver to let you off at the location on the bus route closest to your destination.

Be alert to who gets off the bus with you. Trust your instincts. If you feel you are being followed, walk immediately to a public place where people are present.

If you must walk home late at night from a bus stop, try to arrange for someone to meet you.

Personal Safety While Travelling

It is important to remember that you must be security conscious even while you are travelling for business reasons or on vacation. Many areas of the world have a higher incidence of crime than Winnipeg. It pays to TakeAction to ensure your trip is safe and successful.

Before Taking a Trip

Use a reputable travel agency.

Learn as much as you can about your destination.

Select the safest routes using current maps and travel information.

Check with Government of Canada Department of Foreign Affairs if travelling to another country. They will inform you of any travel advisories regarding security problems or health conditions in that country.

Pack wisely. Being overburdened with luggage makes you more of a target. Avoid packing valuables or items you can not afford to replace.

Never put personal information on luggage tags. Use business instead of home phone numbers.

Never leave luggage unattended. Lock all luggage.

Dress wisely. Avoid looking like a “tourist” or appearing wealthy.

Leave a complete travel schedule with a trusted family member or friend, including information on where and when you will be at a location, and how you can be reached.

Hotel and Motel Safety

Choose reputable establishments recommended by a travel agency, auto club, etc.

Do a complete security check of the room with hotel staff present.

Ensure there is a peep hole in the door, and that the dead bolt and other locks are in good working order.

Keep the doors locked when in the room. Purchase a travel door lock for added security.

Never open your door to anyone you do not know. If the person states they work for the hotel, call the front desk and confirm this before allowing them entry.

Keep valuables locked in the hotel safe, and get a receipt.

Rental Vehicles and Taxis

Always use reputable, licensed vehicle rental and taxi companies.

Choose a rental company that does not advertise or identify its vehicles as rentals.

Record the name and licence number of the cab and driver.

Know the route you want to take, and instruct the driver.

Keep vehicle doors locked, and windows rolled up at all times

Keep valuables out of sight and locked in the trunk.

Keep purses on the floor under the seat.

SENIOR SAFETY



Crime can strike anyone, anywhere. Victims can not be classified according to age, economic status, profession or occupation.

Seniors are often seen as “easy targets” for crime. However, surveys consistently show that the elderly are victims of crime far less frequently than younger people, with possibly a couple of exceptions. Certain crimes do seem to be directed at older people, specifically purse snatching and frauds.

To prevent purse snatching, consider having direct deposit of pension and other cheques, and direct withdrawal of utility payments, to reduce the number of visits to banking facilities. Try to avoid carrying a purse, and use a small wallet that can be put in a pocket out of sight. If you must carry a purse, use it only for incidentals, keeping money, identification, and keys separate.

To prevent being a victim of fraud, two golden rules to follow are:

- Never turn over money to a stranger, no matter how promising the opportunity appears.
- Never rush into anything involving money or property. Allow yourself time to make financial decisions.

Preventive Measures:

Stay sociable as you age, and maintain and add to your network of friends and acquaintances.

Keep in contact with old friends and neighbours if you move in with a relative or change to a new address.

Develop a “buddy system” with a friend outside of the home. Plan for at least weekly contact and share openly with this person.

Ask friends to visit you often. Even brief visits allow for observations of your well-being.

Participate in community activities.

Have your own telephone, and post and open your own mail.

Arrange to have your pension cheques or other income deposited directly into your bank account.

Get legal advice about arrangements such as powers of attorney that you can make now for possible future disability.

Keep accurate records, accounts, and lists of property and assets available for examination by someone you trust, as well as by the person you or the court have designated to manage your affairs.

Review your will periodically, and do not make changes to it without careful consideration and/or discussion with a trusted family member or friend.

Only give up control of your property or assets when you decide you can not manage them.

Ask for help when you need it.

Discuss your plans with your attorney, physician or family members.

Also refer to Personal Safety – In the Home and on the Street.

VULNERABLE PERSONS ABUSE



Abuse of vulnerable persons is a problem that is something that all segments of society should be aware of, learn to recognize, and TakeAction to prevent. The definition of abuse is “any deliberate action or lack of action by a person in a relationship of trust, which results in harm to another individual”.

Forms of Abuse:

Physical Abuse (any action that causes physical pain, discomfort, or injury);

Sexual Abuse (any sexual contact or activity that does not involve an individual’s full understanding and consent);

Psychological Abuse (any verbal or psychological attack which provokes fear, severe mental anguish, emotional distress, or anxiety and results in loss of dignity and self-esteem);

Financial Abuse (any actions, with or without the knowledge and/or consent of the vulnerable person, which result in the loss of money, property, or other possessions);

Neglect (the failure or refusal by someone who has assumed a caregiving responsibility to provide for the needs of a person who is unable to independently meet his/her own needs. The unintentional failure to fulfill one’s caregiving obligations – without conscious or wilful intent – is seen as passive neglect, while the deliberate or intentional withholding of adequate care is viewed as active neglect).



Who are the Abused?

- Victims are women and men, “younger” persons as well as “older” persons, the healthy as well as the frail, from all income levels, racial, religious and ethnocultural backgrounds.
- Most victims know and trust their abusers.
- Most victims are mentally competent and able to make decisions for themselves.

Who are the Abusers?

Abusers are both men and women who are related to the victim through a kinship or a position of trust.

- Abusers are someone who has control or influence over the other person.
- Abusers may be dependent on the other individual for financial help, a place to live, assistance with child care, or emotional support.
- Abusers may be individuals with a history of alcohol, drug and/or gambling addiction, mental illness, chronic unemployment, financial problems or family violence.

Signs of Abuse:

- Repeated incidents of unexplained physical injuries and/or accidents.
- Unexplained delay in seeking treatment for injuries.
- A history of “hospital/doctor hopping”.
- Sexually transmitted disease in a person who is not known to be sexually active.
- Rent/mortgage/utility bills unpaid or in arrears.
- Lack of money to purchase necessities when income appears to be adequate.
- Unusual activity in bank account(s) such as a change in the frequency or amount of withdrawals, withdrawals being made by bank card rather than in person, or opening of joint bank accounts.
- Symptoms of depression, anxiety, fearfulness, low self-esteem.
- Withdrawal, a sense of hopelessness and resignation, suicidal ideation.
- Malnutrition and/or dehydration.
- Deterioration in personal hygiene, untreated wounds.
- Inappropriate use of medication, lack of needed medication, over-sedation.

Why It Is Not Reported:

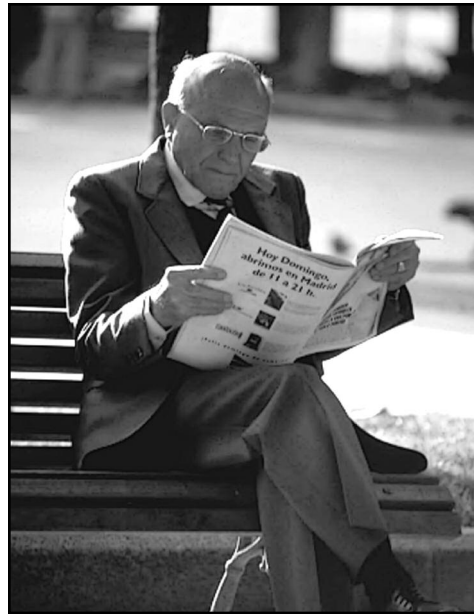
- Fear of retaliation or punishment.
- Fear of abandonment or rejection by the abusers or other family members.
- Family loyalty.
- Shame and embarrassment if the abuser is a spouse or other family member.
- Fear of placement in an institution.

What To Do About It:

If you or someone you know is being abused, seek help from a social worker, public health nurse, doctor, clergyman, or police.

Preventive Measures:

- Stay sociable as you age, and maintain and add to your network of friends and acquaintances.
- Keep in contact with old friends and neighbours if you move in with a relative or change to a new address.
- Develop a “buddy system” with a friend outside of the home. Plan for at least weekly contact and share openly with this person.
- Ask friends to visit you often. Even brief visits allow for observations of your well-being.
- Participate in community activities.
- Have your own telephone, and post and open your own mail.
- Arrange to have your pension cheques or other income deposited directly into your bank account.
- Get legal advice about arrangements such as powers of attorney that you can make now for possible future disability.
- Keep accurate records, accounts, and lists of property and assets available for examination by someone you trust, as well as by the person you or the court have designated to manage your affairs.
- Review your will periodically, and do not make changes to it without careful consideration and/or discussion with a trusted family member or friend.
- Only give up control of your property or assets when you decide you can not manage them.
- Ask for help when you need it.
- Discuss your plans with your attorney, physician or family members.



Develop a “buddy system” with a friend outside of the home. Plan for at least weekly contact.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND PARTNER ABUSE

The Winnipeg Police Service is committed to the prevention of domestic violence/ partner abuse through intervention.

Domestic violence/partner abuse is a crime. It is not a private family matter. It occurs in all socio-economic, ethnic and cultural groups.

Domestic violence/partner abuse is defined as violence, threats of violence, or other acts of a criminal nature which may include elements of emotional and psychological abuse committed against a person by that person's spouse, common-law spouse, boyfriend, girlfriend, or other intimate partner, past or present.

It is the duty and responsibility of the police to lay a charge when there are reasonable grounds to believe an assault or some other criminal offence has occurred in a domestic situation. Reasonable grounds may exist even in circumstances where there are no visible injuries or independent witnesses. It is the police duty to lay a charge whether or not the victim wishes to proceed with the matter.

Charges may include criminal harassment or various crimes against property if they relate to the domestic situation. They may also include physical assault, which includes shoving, punching, choking, pushing, kicking, confinement; sexual assault, which includes any forced sexual activity; and verbal assault, which may include uttering threats to kill or injure. All of these are criminal offences.

Violence within relationships has distinctive dynamics not found in other violent crimes. It is rarely an isolated incident, and frequently the violence increases over time. Individuals living in these relationships may feel isolated, fearful, guilty, helpless, ashamed and/or responsible.

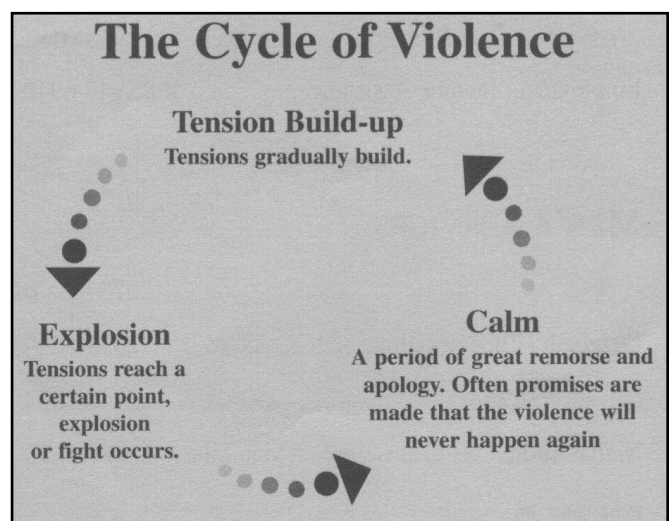
The effects on children living in homes where domestic violence/partner abuse is occurring may be harmful and long lasting. There is a higher likelihood that these children will become involved in delinquency. If the violence is unchecked, they will come to view violence as a normal part of a relationship, and they will continue this vicious cycle into their adult lives. They may also feel responsible, confused, frightened and unhappy. They may have insomnia, nightmares or bedwetting difficulties. They may behave aggressively or withdraw to avoid attention. They may develop physical illnesses, or become depressed or suicidal.

The Cycle of Violence

The calm is a period of great remorse and apology. Often promises are made that the violence will never happen again. The calm period becomes shorter and may disappear over time.

Tensions will gradually build.

The explosion occurs when tensions reach a certain point and the violence erupts. The explosion intensifies in frequency and duration and there is a shorter calm and period of tension build up.



Breaking the Cycle

The victim is not responsible for the actions of the abuser. If you are a victim of domestic violence/ partner abuse, or you know someone who is, please talk to someone about the situation. It is only with help that victims can begin to break the cycle. The cycle of violence can not be broken without help. Arrest intervenes in the cycle of violence, and offers the greatest and safest potential for ending it.

The police will:

- Provide for the immediate safety of the victim and children.
- Actively pursue the apprehension of the offender and the subsequent notification to the victim.
- Ensure the enforcement of all court orders*.
- Ensure the victim is referred to the appropriate support agencies, including the Women's Advocacy Program.

The Women's Advocacy Program will:

- Contact the victim and provide court based information and assistance, as well as referrals to counselling agencies.
- Advocate on behalf of the victim to the Crown Attorney, and assist the victim in court matters.

*Non Communication Court Orders

Recognizance Orders or Undertakings are issued by a police supervisor, hearing officer, magistrate or justice, after the accused has been arrested and when released prior to the court appearance. These remain in effect during the period the charge is before the court.

Probation Orders are issued by the court at the time of sentencing, and are in effect for a specific period.

Peace Bonds are applied for in a civil court process by the victim, based on fear, and are signed by the respondent. They remain in effect for one year. There is no criminal court involvement unless the respondent breaches the conditions of the order.

Protection Orders can be granted on an emergency basis by applying to a Justice of the Peace without notice to the respondent. A criminal investigation need not have occurred for the application to be granted. Once granted by a Justice of the Peace, the order is in effect and can be enforced. The respondent must then be notified.

Prevention Orders are granted by the Court of Queen's Bench Judges. Applications to obtain these orders must be made in front of a judge, and so may not be as easy to obtain quickly in emergency situations. Prevention Orders can, however, contain a greater number of conditions.

Family Law Restraining Orders and Non-Molestation Orders are no longer granted. However, existing orders will continue to be valid and will be enforced.

PROTECTING YOURSELF AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT

Unfortunately, sexual assaults are a crime which occur too frequently in our community. No matter what the form of sexual assault, it is a crime and considered an act of aggression and violence.

The offender's motive is typically to vent their hostility, degrade or prove their superiority over the victim. The majority of rapists will continue until they are caught. It is important that you report any kind of sexual assault to the police.

Very often women are more at risk of sexual assault by someone they know rather than by a stranger. To reduce the risk of sexual assault, these are some precautions that can be taken:

- Practice security at home by always keeping doors and windows locked and not opening the door to strangers.
- Always pay attention to your surroundings.
- Use the "Buddy System" when going out in the evening.
- Walk with confidence and stay in well-lighted areas.
- If you are in danger, try to attract attention to yourself – scream, run and yell if you are able.
- Carry a personal safety alarm.
- Never go off alone with anyone you do not know well or trust.
- Avoid excessive drinking (drugs) that impair your judgment. If your judgment is impaired, you are at greater risk of being sexually assaulted.
- If you are being stalked, immediately call the police. Keep a record of all incidents.

IF YOU ARE ATTACKED

- No one can tell you whether you should fight back, submit or resist. Your main concern must always be your safety. It depends on you and the situation. Only you can decide how to respond to sexual assault given the circumstances, the offender and your own personality.
- Keep assessing the situation as it is happening. If one strategy is not working, try another. Those who successfully resist rape usually employ several strategies to deter the attack.
- Some possible methods include:
 - Stalling for time
 - Distracting
 - Negotiating
 - Verbal assertiveness
 - Screaming to attract attention
 - Fleeing to a safe place
 - Physical resistance

SEXUAL ASSAULT AND DRUG MISUSE

Recently there have been reports, particularly in the United States, of sexual assaults that have occurred after the victim has ingested drugs that have been unknowingly slipped into their drinks. Some of the common street names for these drugs are Liquid Ecstasy, Liquid X, Grievous Bodily Harm, Easy Lay for the drug gamma hydroxybutyrate (GHB), Special K for the drug ketamine, and Roofies, La Rocha and The Forget Pill for the drug rohypnol.

Although reported instances in Winnipeg are still rare, these are some of the steps you can take to reduce your risk of being drugged and sexually assaulted:

- Do not leave beverages unattended in public places, parties or bars.
- Do not accept drinks from anyone you do not know and trust.
- When drinking in a bar or club, only accept drinks directly from the bartender or server.
- Use the “Buddy System”. Watch out for your friends and have them watch out for you.

Anyone acting intoxicated after consuming a small amount of alcohol may be in danger. Remember though, that alcohol in high enough quantities can have very similar effects to these drugs. If you consume enough alcohol, you may fall unconscious or may not remember the details of what transpires during a sexual assault. For this reason, particularly if you are in a group setting or with someone you do not know well or trust, it is a good idea to limit your alcohol consumption.

IF YOU BECOME A VICTIM OF A SEXUAL ASSAULT

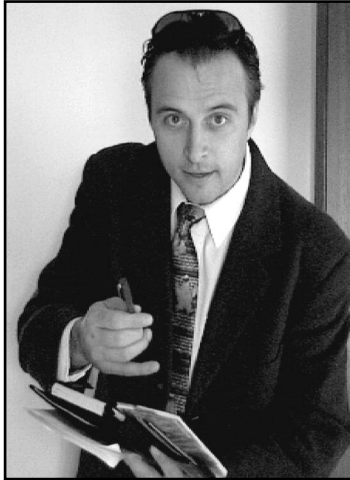
If you are the victim of any sexual assault, immediately go to a safe place and call a sexual assault crisis centre, hospital, police, relative or friend. If you think you have been drugged and sexually assaulted, go directly to a hospital emergency room and inform them.

If you decide that there is any chance that you wish to report the assault to the police, you should not shower, bathe, douche, change clothes or straighten up the area that the assault occurred in until medical and legal evidence has been gathered, as this destroys evidence.

CONSUMER FRAUDS AND SCAMS

Millions of dollars are lost through frauds and scams, and thousands of victims are stung each year. Not a year goes by that someone does not lose their life savings to a fast-talking swindler who convinced them to take part in something that was not what it seemed.

The con man (or woman) often sees people, especially seniors, as easy targets for this type of crime. Con artists can contact you in a variety of ways such as knocking on your door, calling you on the telephone, or dropping a brochure in your mailbox. We should all be aware that we could lose our life savings to this type of individual, and TakeAction to educate ourselves in the best methods to prevent frauds and scams.



The con man relies on a variety of techniques to “sell” his swindle, such as:

Rush Deals: They tell you that you have only a limited time to take part or you will lose the deal. This is to pressure you into getting involved with their scam before you have time to think it through.

Scare Tactics: They scare you into thinking that the opportunity is golden and will never come again, when in fact they just want to bilk you out of your money as fast as they can.

Pressure for Down Payment: They tell you they require cash right away or you will lose the opportunity. This is just a ploy to get some money out of you as fast as possible.

Secrecy: They tell you that the “deal” is extremely special and you are one of the select few who are invited to take part. In fact, they just want you to keep the proposal a secret because they are defrauding you and do not want you talking to anyone else about it.

Claims of Credibility: They tell you over and over that their proposal is legitimate and they are a very legitimate company. This is merely a ploy to convince you that they are legitimate and get you to cooperate. Real legitimate companies do not have to do this. They will give you all the time you want to think it over. They will give you references and will have no problem if you check with the Better Business Bureau and the Consumers’ Bureau.

Two of the most harmful frauds are:

Home Repair and Improvement: The con artist appears at your door or telephones you and offers to perform work on your home that is “badly needed” or a “great bargain”. Unfortunately, the work is usually “badly overpriced” and “badly done”, and the con artist will tend to find more things that need this overpriced, shoddy “repair work”.

Phony Prizewinner: The con artist proclaims that you are a “winner of a fabulous prize”, but you must first send money to cover one or more “minor” expenses. They may even send a courier to pick up the money from you....money that you will never see again! The prize turns out to be nonexistent or very minor in nature and not worth the money that you have just lost forever.

Other types of frauds that may be offered by these swindlers are insurance, investment and business schemes; quackery and medical related frauds; and phony bank inspector scams.

Take Action to Protect Yourself

Learn about the frauds that occur and how to avoid becoming a victim.

Be very wary of any offer that promises great wealth with minimal effort. If a deal sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Don't believe that everyone calling with an exciting promotion or investment opportunity is trustworthy, especially if you do not know them or their company. Con artists can be very friendly and very persuasive, but all they want is your money.

Don't be fooled by a promise of a valuable prize in return for a low cost purchase. A legitimate prize agency will never ask you for anything in return for your prize.

Never disclose any personal information, including information about bank accounts, credit cards, or personal finances to anyone for any reason.

Check with trusted family or friend, and officials such as the police, Consumers' Bureau and Better Business Bureau before entering into any transaction, or whenever you have any doubts about dealing with someone.

Shop around before purchasing services or products. Get references, compare prices, and check performance.

Deal only with local, well-established firms. Never do business with anyone who appears at your door if you have not contacted them first.

Never conduct business over the phone unless you initiated the contact. Do not give out your credit card number over the phone.

Ask any unknown sales or service person for identification, and verify it by telephoning their office, before allowing them entry to your home.

Never sign any contracts, estimates or other papers that you do not totally understand. Check with trusted family or friends, a banker, or a lawyer if necessary.

Never pay for services until they have been performed to your complete satisfaction. Then pay by cheque, not with cash.

If You Are a Victim

If you suspect an attempt to con you or someone you know has been made by telephone, immediately contact the police at **204-986-6222**, or "Project Phonebusters" toll free at **1-888-495-8501**.

Notify the responsible agencies immediately (Police, Better Business Bureau, and Consumers' Bureau). React quickly if a creditor or merchant calls about changes you didn't make.

Stop payment of any cheques as soon as possible.

COUNTERFEIT MONEY

Advances in computers, printers and scanners had dramatically altered the nature of counterfeiting. Counterfeiting has become enticingly easy and is a common concern. What has not changed is the seriousness of the offence. Making or unlawfully possessing counterfeit currency is a criminal offence punishable by a sentence of up to 14 years.

The most commonly counterfeit bills are the \$20 followed by the \$100 and the \$50 notes. If you receive a bill that you think is counterfeit, contact your local police. Remember that it is illegal to knowingly pass a counterfeit note on to someone else. The most efficient way of detecting a counterfeit note is to compare it to a known genuine note.

For the Canadian Journey paper currency **Tilt-Look-Touch**. It is printed on 100% cotton paper with special ink.

Tilt the note. The metallic stripe should have colour shifting leaves and numbers. The number on the metallic stripe should match the bill's denomination.

Look through the note. There should be a ghost image and the image should match the portrait on the front of the bill. The ghost image should be visible from both the front and the back of the note. The dashes on the back of the note should form a solid line seen from the front and the back of the note. The irregular marks on the front and back of the note should form a complete number matching the bills denomination seen from the front and the back of the note.

Touch the note. A specialized printing process leaves areas of raised ink on various sections of the note that feel thicker to the touch.

Security Features: CANADIAN JOURNEY SERIES



- 1 Metallic stripe
- 2 Ghost image
- 3 Dashes
- 4 Puzzle number
- 5 Raised ink

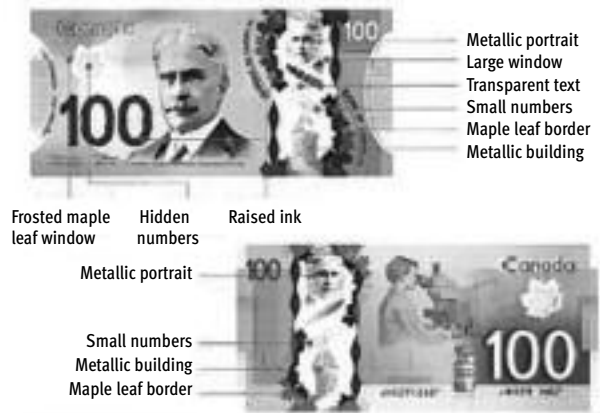
For the new polymer currency **Feel-Look-Flip**. The notes are printed on a smooth, single piece of durable polymer film.

Feel the note. The polymer is smooth, feel the raised ink.

Look through the large see through window. There is a metallic portrait which should match the portrait on the front of the note. The metallic building also appears in the see through window. Both the metallic portrait and the metallic building should have sharp colour changes when the note is tilted. There are small numbers- matching the notes denomination, transparent text and a maple leaf border.

Flip the note. The metallic images and small numbers on the front of the note are repeated in the same colours and detail on the back of the note.

Security Features at a Glance



IDENTITY THEFT

Identity theft is a growing problem. There are steps you can and should take to protect yourself against this crime.

Financial Fraud is the most common form of identity theft, where money is stolen to fund a criminal enterprise or make an illegal profit. Money is stolen through banking procedures, fraudulent credit card use, computers or other forms of telecommunication, social program misuse, tax refunds or mail fraud.

Personation means that criminals take on someone else's identity in order to commit a crime, enter a country, obtain special permits, hide their own identity or commit acts of terrorism.

***Do not carry all
your identification in
your purse or wallet
when you go out.***

Some of the ways criminals steal identities are:

“Tomb stoning”: Organized crime and terrorist groups have been known to obtain names and dates of birth of deceased individuals from tombstones, (including names of parents) and use this information to create a new identity.

Stealing wallets and purses: Do not carry all your identification in your purse or wallet when you go out – carry only what you will need for that specific trip. It is important that pieces of identification are kept in a safe place, and the information contained on them kept secret. Criminals can make use of almost any form of personal identification the average person possesses, including:

- Name, address, telephone number
- Birth certificate / Passport / Health card
- Mother's Maiden Name
- Social Insurance Number
- Driver's licence number
- Bank and Credit cards and/or number/
Personal Identification Number (PIN)

Redirected mail: It is important to alert the Post Office, credit card companies and other business and government agencies of your new address immediately.

ATM/Debit Card: Ensure the Automated Teller Machine (ATM) you use is from a reputable bank. Do not use an ATM that looks unfamiliar or suspicious. Ideally, use ATMs in daylight hours around busy locations. Tell bank staff or property owners if you see suspicious people hanging around an ATM. Notify bank staff immediately of faulty or defective ATMs. Do not write down your PIN. Shield the keypad from view of people around you when you use your ATM card.

Anyone lurking around the machine could be watching you enter your PIN (referred to as “shoulder surfing”). Do not count your money at the machine – put it away and count it later in a safe place. NEVER accept help from someone in the vicinity if the machine appears to be malfunctioning – contact the bank immediately.

When using a Debit Card to make purchases at the cashier use your hand to shield the remote keypad from view of anyone around you. Always keep your debit card in view if the cashier or salesperson swipes the card to avoid the chance of “double swiping”.

Credit card receipts: Credit card receipts have your card number and your signature, which can be used to make purchases. Even during transactions, always attempt to keep your card in sight. Use caution when making on-line purchases. Check for digital certificates, (like the Verisign logo), which authenticate the Web site. Use a separate credit card with a low credit limit or utilize an escrow service (like Paypal) for on-line purchases.

“Dumpster diving”: Destroy unwanted mail, in particular credit card offers. Pieces of mail with your name, address, date of birth, signature, etc. discarded in the trash can be used to complete a credit card application in your name.

Mailbox: Pick up your mail regularly to minimize the chance of someone stealing a pre-approved credit card offer, tax form, etc.

Online databases: Think twice before you provide your personal information online. Online databases are frequently sold and traded.

Hacking: Information can be obtained by someone hacking into computer programs or files. Hacking is the unauthorized access to your computer via the Internet. Inquire about firewalls, encryption capabilities and other security measures.

How to Protect Yourself:

- Never give out personal information unless absolutely necessary and you have checked out the recipient.
- Do not give out your Social Insurance Number unless absolutely necessary.
- Shred any document which contains personal and private information.
- Put only name and address on cheques.
- Review credit card statements carefully. Be suspicious of unfamiliar charges.
- Shred unwanted credit card offers.
- If denied credit, find out why. Contact a credit rating agency or Phone Busters.
- Report any loss of documents to police promptly.

If you are a Victim:

Close any accounts that you know or believe have been tampered with or opened fraudulently.

If you have had your purse or wallet stolen, report it to police immediately. File a police report by calling 204-986-6222 or attending a police station or service centre.

If you lose a credit card, bankbook or bankcard, report it to the bank as soon as possible. You should also immediately notify the following three Canadian credit rating agencies, which will flag your account and watch for suspicious activity:

Equifax Canada – 1-800-465-7166
Northern Credit Bureau – 1-800-532-8784
Trans Union – 1-800-663-9980

INTERNET & COMPUTER SAFETY

While the majority of people use computers for lawful purposes, there is a small minority who use this technology to commit criminal acts. It is important that everyone TakeAction to protect themselves from people who misuse this important technology.

The Internet: A global “network of computers” which is not governed by any entity. Although it contains information on nearly every topic imaginable, there are no limits or checks on the kind of information that is maintained and accessible to Internet users.

E-Mail: Electronic mail that can be transmitted from one computer to another via the Internet. Documents and pictures can be “attached” to this e-mail and sent to the receiving computer, where they can be viewed and/or printed.

Usenet Groups: Also called News Groups, these are postings on specific topics, where the comments and/or pictures follow one another in a bulletin board style.

Chat Rooms: Also called Internet Relay Chat (IRC), these areas are where participants can talk to each other in “real time” with their remarks appearing as they enter them.

The Risks

Exposure to inappropriate material of a sexual or violent nature.

Physical molestation. While online, a person might provide information or arrange an encounter that could risk his or her safety. Pedophiles have used online contacts to gain a child’s confidence and then arranged a face-to-face meeting.

Harassment. A person might encounter messages that are harassing, demeaning, belligerent, suggestive or threatening.

Other Hazards

Even adults must always be aware when they are online. Everything you read online may not be true. Remember, any offer that is “too good to be true” probably is.

Do not respond to unsolicited email that requests personal or banking information.

Remember that there is always a risk involved when buying or selling goods over the Internet. You never know who is on the receiving end of your transaction.

Never give out your credit card number to anyone unless you totally trust them.

Use a low-limit credit card obtained for the sole purpose of on-line purchases.

Use an escrow service such as Paypal.

Be very cautious about downloading software programs from the Internet, as these can contain computer viruses that can damage or cripple the information in your computer.

PROTECTING YOUR CHILDREN

Learn about computers. Take a computer course and/or ask your children to teach you how to operate the computer.

Talk to your children about their use of the computer and discuss the dangers they may encounter online. Create a list of online rules and post them by the computer.

Keep the computer in a common area of your home so that children's activities can be easily monitored.

Limit time allotted on a computer. Watch to see if your child is withdrawing from friends and family. Excessive computer usage may indicate a problem.

Accompany your child when they are in chat rooms, or consider blocking out chat entirely. You can also consider routing your child's e-mail into your own account first so you can screen the e-mail for any undesirable messages.

Obtain a software filtering package that can block access to Internet sites or e-mail messages that you deem inappropriate for your children. This software can also log all of your child's activity on the Internet so you can review it later. Remember though, this software is not foolproof and can not take the place of parental involvement and supervision.

Find out from your Internet service provider whether you have a filtered or unfiltered system. The filtered feed will not allow access to the majority of sex-related Usenet Groups. However, as a parent, you should be aware that this is not foolproof and there are other ways for your child to access this information.

Watch for the storing of computer files that end with GIF, JPG, MPG, AVI, MOV, BMP, TIF, PCX, DL or GL, as these contain photographic or movie images that could contain unsuitable content.

About Cybertip.ca

It is illegal to distribute or possess child pornography. It is also illegal to knowingly access child pornography.

Child Find Manitoba is mandated by the Manitoba Department of Justice to run a tipline to safeguard Manitoba's children from being sexually exploited on the Internet. If you have information regarding incidents of child pornography, luring, or child prostitution, call Child Find Manitoba or contact them through Cybertip.ca.

A CHILD'S RULES FOR SAFE COMPUTING

Children should always ask for their parent's permission before giving out their full name, address, age, sex, telephone number or school name. Children should be made aware that people could pose as someone else while they are online.

If children come across any information that makes them feel uncomfortable or scared, they should hit the "back" key, log off, and tell a trusted adult as soon as possible.

Children should never respond to any obnoxious, sexual or menacing e-mail messages they receive. All electronic harassment and/or abuse should be reported to the company responsible for your Internet access. The police should be notified of all attempts by adults to set up meetings with children, or if you become aware of the transmission, use, or viewing of child pornography.

Children should never agree to meet in person with someone they've met online unless they have discussed it with their parents first. If they get permission to meet someone, an adult should always accompany them and the meeting should be arranged for a public place.



Computer crime - Warning Signs

Computer addiction. The person withdraws from friends and family, and spends all their time on the computer.

Computer and modem running late at night, even when unattended. If the computer is showing a series of changing numbers, the computer may be running a hacking program trying to identify calling card "pin" numbers or long distance telephone numbers. If the computer is showing sixteen digit numbers, the computer may be trying to validate credit card numbers.

Computer related doodling or writing using words such as "hacking", "phreaking", or any words with the letters "ph" replacing the letter "f".

CHILDREN'S SAFETY

Start early. Readyng your children to look out for themselves is a gradual process. You can't wait until the night before they start to school and then tell them everything they need to look out for. Too many "be carefals" administered at the same time may arouse an unhealthy fear instead of the healthy sense of precaution you want them to have.

Begin to instill a sense of awareness as soon as you start taking your children out on the street. Set a good example. Walk facing traffic if there is no sidewalk, and wait for the green light or the "WALK" sign, even when there is no traffic in sight, and explain why.

When they do start to school, walk with them and show them the route, several times if necessary. Point out landmarks. Show them the safest streets to walk on and the best corners at which to cross. If there are streets they should never walk down alone, tell them why.

Teach children how to enter and leave buses to ensure their safety, and to stay as far as possible from the roadway while waiting for the bus.

If a suspicious-looking person is loitering around the playground, say: "Let's go for a walk. Maybe that person will be gone when we get back." Explain why you do not want to stay there right now. When the children are old enough to go alone, they will know not to stay if something doesn't seem right.

"MOMMY, I GOT LOST!" Sooner or later, every child gets lost. It may only be for a minute or two in a crowded store, but even that can be traumatic. So do not wait until it happens to your child to explain what to do; otherwise, he or she may panic and accept help from the wrong person. Make a game of it: "What would you do if you got lost in the supermarket?"

"I'd cry."



"Then what?" Explain that he or she must never, never leave the store, alone or with someone who says "I'll help you find your Mommy." Point out who the clerks are (they usually wear a uniform and a name tag) and explain that one of them can always be asked for help. Explain similar things to do if he or she gets lost in another place: a department store, on the way home from school, or anywhere on the street.

Teach your children to say their name, address and telephone number clearly – and then let them know when it's okay, or even important, to give out that information. Impress on them, however, that they should not tell just anybody who asks who they are and where they live.

Very early, teach your children to use a pay telephone. Make sure they always have a quarter or whatever it takes to use one in your locality. Stress that this is not spending money – it's to be used only for an emergency phone call. See that they memorize their telephone number and the number of a neighbour who's apt to be home if you're not.

Helpful Rules to Keep Young People Safe

An unattended child is a child at risk. Arrange with your child an alternate place to wait if you are delayed, especially in the darker winter evenings. Suggest a well-lit store or inside an arena or school.

Always have children walk in pairs or groups, and only use predetermined, safe routes.

Use a secret family code. Children should never go with anyone, not even a close family friend, unless they are able to give the child the code. Once the code has been used, it should be changed.

Do not allow your young child to go to a public washroom unattended.

Tell your child it is not rude to ignore an adult who is asking directions on the street. Another adult could be asked for more accurate directions.

Teach your child how to safely answer the phone and what to say and do if someone comes to the door.



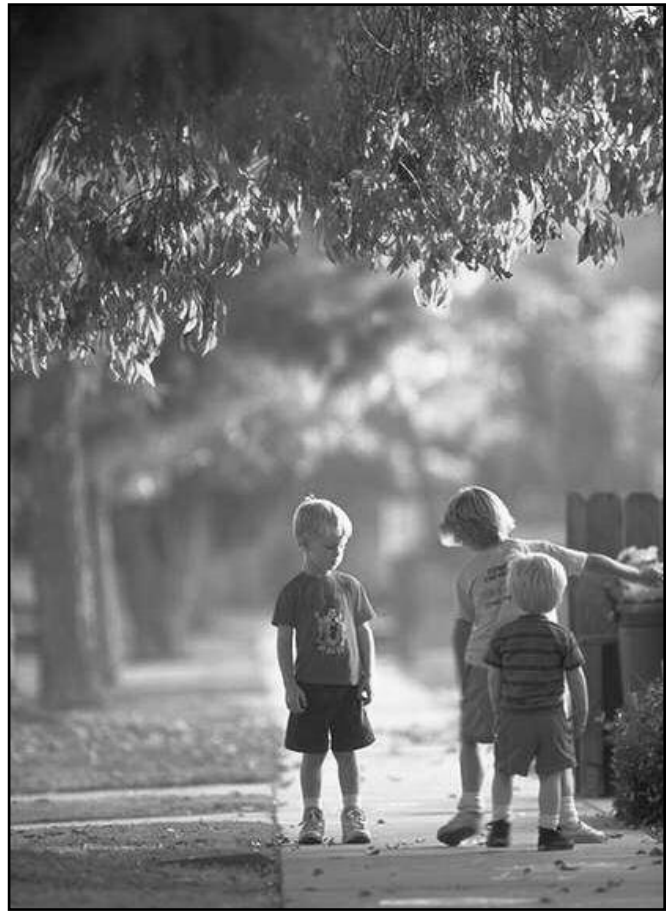
Teach your child about Block Parents, and consider becoming a Block Parent yourself. A home displaying a Block Parent sign means the residents have been cleared by police to provide a safe place for a child to go to in times of danger.

Keep an up to date identification card for each child, including their fingerprints. You can arrange to have your child fingerprinted by calling Child Find Manitoba.

Unwelcome Attention

Ask your children what they would do if they thought someone was following them. Tell them if they think someone is, to walk faster, to go into a neighbourhood store, or head for a busy street. Tell them to walk toward a group of people and wave as if they saw someone they know or to attach themselves to the group as if they were part of it.

If the children think they are being followed by a car, tell them to change directions and run. It takes time for a car to turn around. Teach them what to do if someone offers them a ride.



Ask your children what they would do if they started to get on an elevator (or enter a stairway) and there was someone there who gave them a funny feeling. If it happened to you, you wouldn't get on. Tell the children not to. If the person holds the elevator for them, tell them to say that they have to wait for their parents or that they forgot something and have to go back. If they are already on before they notice, and if the other person in the car is scary to them, tell them to press the button for the next floor and get off.

Tell your children if someone grabs them to scream – and keep screaming. It is their best defence. And to kick. (Ever try to hold a kicking youngster when he or she didn't want to be held? Next to impossible.) And tell them, if they can, to bite the hand that's holding them. Bite hard. That hurts. The molester just might loosen the grip long enough so that your child can run away. And tell them to keep screaming while they are running.

Above all, teach your children that police officers are friends. He or she need never be afraid of a police officer. Children can always go to one for help. The police officer will be glad your child came to the right place for help even if it turns out there was no real danger after all.

Most parents want to educate their children about sexual abuse, but they don't know how. These guidelines will help parents to teach their children how to keep safe. Remember, you can't tell a child too much. Knowledge does not stimulate inappropriate behaviour – ignorance does. Parents who talk openly with their children will be “askable” parents, and children will feel free to bring their worries and concerns to them in the future.

Tackle the subject of sexual abuse prevention with the same honest, matter-of-fact manner you would attach to road safety. Remember, the only time a child will ask you about sexual abuse is after it has happened. Open the subject and your child will remember that you are askable.

Discuss with your child the difference between fact and fiction/truth and lies, so that they may understand the nature of taking an oath. This may be necessary for a court appearance.

If you suspect that an abuse has taken place:

DO encourage the child to talk about it.

DO establish in the child's mind that he/she is not to blame.

DO NOT correct the child's story; listen to the original words, even those which are babyish or family words.

DO NOT suggest or modify what the child is trying to say. Your ideas might confuse the truth.

DO NOT show horror or anger. However, if caught by surprise and unable to control your emotions, be clear that your anger is meant for the offender, not the child.

When you are aware of an incident of sexual abuse, call the police or child welfare authorities immediately. Ensure that a social worker, a police officer, and someone supportive to the child are present when the evidence is given.

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF

- Does your child know what to do if lost?
- Have you ever discussed peer pressure with your child?
- Have you ever discussed with your child what abnormal behaviour is?
- Have you discussed when your child should get out of a friend's car?
- Have you discussed with your children what should be done if they find themselves at a questionable party?
- Have you ever taken a walking tour of your neighbourhood?
- Have you physically checked out the facilities your child attends: day care or school, sports facilities, social areas?
- Does your child know when to reject adult authority?
- Have you ever discussed emergency procedures with your child?
- Does your child carry personal identification and medical information?
- Is your child prompt?
- Are you prompt?
- Do you know if your child is a follower?
- Do you know if your child is a wanderer?
- Can you account for your child's whereabouts hourly?
- Have you discussed with your child who might be the best people to approach if he or she needs help?
- Have you ever done any public transportation training with your child?
- Do you know specifically how much money your child has to spend?
- Do you display a positive attitude towards police and the law in the presence of your child?
- Is your home a gathering place for kids?
- Have you thought of why?
- Do you know whose house is a gathering place for kids?
- Do you know the telephone numbers and addresses of your child's friends?
- Have you met the parents of your child's friends?
- Do you feel you:
 - Listen to your child?
 - Spend enough time with your child?
 - Does your child know how and where to reach you at any time?

BABYSITTING



BABYSITTER'S PLEDGE

I have one of the most responsible jobs in the world.

I'm taking care of a human being whose safety depends on me.

The Child and Family Services Act states that a child under the age of 12 cannot be left unattended and without reasonable provision being made for the supervision and safety of the child.

HOW TO CHOOSE A BABYSITTER

- Word of mouth, relatives, neighbours, friends, school guidance councillor, community information centre are good sources to find a babysitter
- Ask for and check references
- Ask if they have any first aid, CPR and babysitting training
- Ask how they would handle an emergency situation, and give examples
- Ask if they like pets (if applicable)
- Ask how they would deal with behavior issues
- Ask how they would spend their time while babysitting your children

PARENT-EMPLOYER ROLE

- Show the sitter the home and yard, pointing out off-limits or dangerous areas
- Show locations of first aid, fire extinguisher, electrical box and smoke detectors
- Provide information of allergies, medications, and bedtimes
- Provide nutritious meals and snacks as required
- Call home at least once, especially if your return time is changed
- Provide a list of phone numbers for emergency services, relatives, neighbours, and where you can be reached
- Pay the sitter promptly, and have the correct change
- Assure the sitter arrives and returns home safely

CHILDREN'S ROLE

- Listen to the sitter, and respect their authority
- Behave acceptably
- Assist with small tasks like picking up toys
- Advise sitter of illness or injuries
- Advise parents of the sitter's conduct and ability

SITTER'S PARENTS ROLE

- Ensure your child receives proper training, formal babysitting course, first aid and CPR training
- Ensure your child is mature enough to deal with the responsibilities of the job
- Support your child in their role as a sitter, and be available to give advice
- Know where and when your child is babysitting
- Ensure safe transportation to and from the sitting job for your child



SECURITY POINTERS FOR BABYSITTERS

1. Do not accept a babysitting job without knowing the people who have phoned, or at least without a reference from someone you know.
2. If you are advertising your services and do not know the people who call, ask to have an appointment with them before the actual date of employment:
 - to get to know the children
 - to discuss your fee
 - to discuss your duties
 - to discuss your ride home and pick up.

If the conditions set by the family do not suit you, you have every right to refuse the job.

3. If an appointment is arranged, ask your parent(s) to accompany you in the event you are being lured into a dangerous situation. Don't be fooled by the sound of a voice just because it sounds honest and polite. Always inform your parents of what you are doing and who you are meeting.
4. When you are babysitting, **know where the children are at all times and keep them in sight.** If you are outside with the children and a stranger approaches them, collect them and go into the house. Lock the house and call the parents and let them know. If the stranger does not leave, call the police.
5. Never open the door for anyone. Never unlock it; keep it secure at all times. If there is a peephole, use it. If the peephole is covered, call the police immediately. **DO NOT LET STRANGERS ENTER THE HOUSE.**
6. Do not admit strangers into the house on any excuse or story. If a stranger does come to the door and asks for assistance (because of some emergency, or must use the phone) offer to phone the number for them or summon the police to assist them.

7. If you receive a wrong number continually, report it to the parents. Never reveal to a caller that you are alone in the house. If the caller asks “Who is this?”, a good response is “Who are you calling, please?” Never give out any information to anyone on the phone. How do you know if they are the friend or relative they may claim to be?
8. Know where all the doors are leading to the outside. Know how to lock and unlock each door and window.
9. Ask for the phone numbers where the parents will be in the event of an emergency.
10. If the employer comes home in an intoxicated condition, call one of your parents to pick you up.
11. Do not invite your friends to help you babysit, as this only distracts you from your responsibilities.
12. In any type of emergency, call 911. Give your address and name and the nature of your problem. Do not shout. Attempt to control your emotions and speak clearly.



BABYSITTER'S ROLE

- Meet with the parents before accepting a job
- Be physically and mentally prepared to babysit and be on time
- Provide sufficient notice if unable to babysit, and try to find a replacement
- Be watchful and alert, and stay awake unless told otherwise
- Keep children away from electrical appliances and other potentially dangerous areas
- Ensure that children are playing with safe toys in good repair
- Keep doors and windows locked, and not open doors to strangers
- Always keep children in sight, never unattended
- Amuse and care for children without using physical discipline
- Keep children at home, unless otherwise directed by parents
- Provide good physical care, clean diapers, warm clothing, etc., for the children
- Provide nutritious meals for the children as directed by the parents
- Respect the employer's personal property, and not snoop around
- Not do homework or watch television while the children are still awake
- Not listen to loud music, wear earphones, make personal phone calls, or have friends over
- Not smoke, use drugs, or drink alcohol
- Know how to get in touch with parents, relatives, police and other emergency services
- Know the name, address and phone number of where I am babysitting, and ensure my parents also know

Vehicle Safety

In this section on Vehicle Safety some of the topics we discuss are Safe Streets, a new initiative by your Winnipeg Police Service to reduce the number of red light infractions and speeders.

Did you know your police service now has a photographic memory? By using fixed and mobile photo enforcement throughout the city we can reduce the number of red light traffic infractions and speeders.

Often times inattentive drivers accelerate through amber lights when they should be stopping. The police can not be everywhere. As a result we are using modern technology to assist with traffic safety.

For questions about the intersections where the cameras are deployed, how they work and some current statistical data, visit our web site at [winnipeg.ca/police/safe streets](http://winnipeg.ca/police/safe%20streets).

The next section deals with problem drivers, impaired and aggressive drivers. We discuss some of the signs of impaired drivers and how to avoid road rage.

Auto Theft is everyone's business today. Whether you use steering wheel locking device, car alarm or a car immobilizer you should take steps to protect your investment.

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AUTO SAFETY OCCUPIED/UNOCCUPIED

When Your Vehicle is Occupied

Assure your vehicle is in good running order and mechanically sound before leaving for your destination.

Keep the gas tank at least one-quarter full.

Keep the doors of your vehicle locked at all times, not just when you are driving in a “rough area” of town.

Ensure you know the proper route to your destination to avoid having to stop to ask strangers for directions.

If you feel you are being followed, drive onto the lot of a well-lighted business. If the vehicle follows you, remain inside your locked car and honk the horn until someone comes to assist you.

If you observe a vehicle being driven carelessly or erratically, do not try to pass it to get away from it. Slow down to let it get ahead of you and, if possible, record the licence plate number and report this vehicle to the police as soon as possible.

If your vehicle breaks down, try to pull over to the side of the road. Turn on your four way flashers, and display a “Call Police” sign in your window. Only open your window an inch (2.5 cm) to allow someone to talk to you, and ask them to call a tow truck for you. If you have a cellular phone, you can call for assistance yourself.

If you see a motorist who needs assistance, call police for them from the nearest telephone. Do not get out of your car to try and help.

When involved in a minor vehicle accident, quickly assess the damage. Then remove the damaged vehicles from the roadway and exchange particulars in a safe place.

When emergency vehicles are approaching you with lights and sirens activated, pull over to the right and come to a complete stop.

When being pulled over by the police, pull over to the right and stop in the first available safe place. Remain in your vehicle and await instructions from the police officer.

When parking your car, look for a busy, well-lighted parking lot and park as close to the entrance as possible.

When your Vehicle is Unoccupied

Always try to park in well-lighted and busy areas. This is important for both your personal safety and the protection of your vehicle and its contents.

All doors should be locked and the windows closed. Never leave the motor running or the key in the ignition, as this is an open invitation to a car thief.

Do not leave packages or property in plain view inside your vehicle. Keep the vehicle clean and empty of personal items that may attract thieves.

Do not keep any papers with personal information such as names, addresses and phone numbers in the vehicle. This includes your vehicle registration, which should always be carried with your driver's licence. Other drivers of the vehicle should carry a photocopy of your vehicle's registration.

Never use your name on a licence plate or key chain, as this identifies you to strangers.

Never hide an extra vehicle key under the hood or on the vehicle. Car thieves know all the places to look.

When approaching your parked vehicle, have the key ready. Take a quick look at the vehicle to ensure it has not been damaged or broken into, and no one is waiting inside. Then quickly open the door, get in, and lock the door immediately.

When carrying children and groceries/parcels to your vehicle, place children in the vehicle first, and then load your groceries or parcels. For extra precaution, ask a store employee to accompany you to your car. Do not start the car until you are behind the steering wheel.

Traffic Collisions

If you are involved in a traffic collision:

Move your vehicle so as not to obstruct traffic.

Exchange name, phone number, driver's licence number and plate number with the other persons involved. Provide a business phone number if concerned about privacy. Home address is not required.

Report the collision to Manitoba Public Insurance at **204-985-7000**.



***Never leave children
or animals in an
unoccupied
vehicle!***

SAFE STREETS

Our Goal is Simple

A priority for the Winnipeg Police Service is Public Safety.

Surveys and public forums tell us that people have a substantial concern about traffic safety. We all realize that bad driving, whether intentional or not, results in property damage, injury and too often death.

In other cities, combining an aggressive public education initiative with a more credible deterrent to bad driving has been seen as an effective formula for reducing collisions.

This is where photo enforcement comes in. The majority of Winnipeggers are strongly behind photo enforcement if the Police Service can demonstrate that it is both fair and effective. We believe our six-month pilot project at Sherbrook Street and Broadway did just that.

Our goal is simple - to reduce collisions and injuries by reducing red light and speeding infractions.

To achieve our goal we intend to make known the real and sometimes heart breaking consequences of bad driving. By doing this we believe most drivers will adjust their driving behaviour where necessary. For those who just don't get the message and insist on driving dangerously, jeopardizing the safety of all who use our roadways, our message to them is clear. Your chances of getting caught have just gone way up.

Together we can all picture safe streets.

The Plan

Following the success in other cities, the Winnipeg Police Service believes that a three pronged approach will be successful in saving lives and preventing injuries. They are:

Education: Believing that once most drivers understand the consequences of driving at dangerous speeds and running red lights they will modify their driving. To that end a major public education program has been launched.

Engineering: Using the technology available with photo enforcement the City of Winnipeg will be able to establish a comprehensive data base that will allow our engineers to change speed zones where required and change road configurations to move traffic more freely. Photographs are not required for this process.

Enforcement: For those hard core drivers who just don't get the message a regulated system of photo enforcement has been implemented. As of August 2005 there are 30 cameras rotating through 48 intersections in the city.

Intersection Safety Cameras: Two digital loop sensors are installed in the roadway at a precise distance apart. The loops are connected to a camera/computer on a fixed pole at the side of the intersection. When the traffic light turns red, a signal is sent from the control box to the furthest loop, arming it. If a vehicle drives over this loop at a predetermined speed, the computer prepares for an infraction. If the vehicle continues over the second loop, a photo is taken showing the vehicle's position outside the intersection and that the traffic light is clearly red. Another photo is then taken a second later showing the vehicle within the intersection on the red light. Excessive speed is also enforced by intersection safety cameras.

Mobile Speed Enforcement: In addition to the intersection safety cameras, Winnipeg Police Service operates mobile speed enforcement vehicles. When a vehicle exceeding the speed limit passes the enforcement vehicle at an excessive speed, the radar unit obtains the speed and the camera takes a photo of the rear of the vehicle. These mobile speed photo enforcement units are set up near playgrounds, schools and construction areas.

If you would like further information on photo enforcement, contact us by:

Web Site: winnipeg.ca/police/safestreets/

PROBLEM DRIVERS

Impaired Drivers

Drinking and driving do not mix. That is well known. What is less well known is that it is not necessary to be drunk or to have taken several drinks to commit an offence under the Criminal Code of Canada. Drinking and driving offences are crimes, and the consequences are serious.

Driving with blood alcohol over 80 milligrams percent

This means driving a motor vehicle with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) exceeding 80 milligrams of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood. The law says it is a crime to operate a motor vehicle with a blood/alcohol concentration that exceeds 80 milligrams percent.

The alcohol you have in your body is evaluated by testing breath samples, and sometimes by blood analysis. Two different types of breath tests may be taken by the police:

Roadside testing: If you look as if you have had a drink, or if you tell the police you have had a drink, you may be required to blow into a small instrument called a Roadside Screening Device. This instrument will indicate a “pass”, “warn”, or “fail”.

Breathalyzer testing: A police officer who believes that you have committed a drinking and driving crime (for example, because you failed a Roadside Screening Test) may require you to blow into a device commonly called a Breathalyzer. This instrument, usually located at the police station, gives a reading of the exact level of alcohol in your blood.

It is a crime for you to refuse, without reasonable excuse, to provide a breath sample. It is also a criminal offence to refuse to give a blood sample in certain circumstances.

Impaired Driving

This crime is separate and distinct from that of driving with a blood alcohol concentration over 80 milligrams percent. You can commit this crime even if your BAC is not over the statute limit.

Generally, impairment is determined by police observation. A variety of signs and behaviours may indicate to a police officer that you are impaired: smell of liquor on the breath, erratic driving, lack of coordination, glassy eyes, slurred speech, or clumsiness in presenting documents, to name a few.

The court will decide, after hearing evidence, if you were guilty of driving while impaired.

Impaired Driving Causing Bodily Harm; Causing Death

Impaired driving causing injury and impaired driving causing death are each very serious crimes. The strictest drinking and driving penalties apply to these crimes. The impaired driving must be, of course, a cause of the injuries and death.

Care and Control

You can be convicted of a drinking and driving crime regardless of whether the vehicle was in motion or not. Police must prove that you had the care and control of a motor vehicle, and that your ability to drive a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol or a drug. The simplest example of this is someone “passed out” behind the wheel of a vehicle.

Aggressive Drivers

These high risk drivers climb into the anonymity of an automobile and take out their frustrations on anybody at any time. For them, frustration levels are high and level of concern for fellow motorists is low.

They run stop signs and red lights, speed, tailgate, weave in and out of traffic, pass on the right, make improper and unsafe lane changes, make hand and facial gestures, scream, honk, and flash their lights.

They drive at speeds far in excess of the norm, which causes them to follow too closely, change lanes frequently and abruptly without notice or signals, pass on the shoulder or unpaved portions of the roadway, and leer at and/or threaten verbally or through gestures any motorists who are thoughtless enough to be in front of them.



When Confronted by an Aggressive Driver

First and foremost, make every attempt to get out of their way.

Put your pride in the back seat. Do not challenge them by speeding up or attempting to hold your own in your travel lane.

Wear your seat belt. It will hold you in your seat and behind the wheel in case you need to make an abrupt driving manoeuvre and it will protect you in a crash.

Avoid eye contact.

Ignore gestures and refuse to return them.

Report aggressive drivers to the appropriate authorities by providing a vehicle description, licence number, location, and, if possible, direction of travel.

AUTO THEFT PREVENTION

Manitoba has one of the highest rates of car theft per capita in Canada. Auto theft is a widespread crime that affects the whole community. Higher insurance rates, property damage and possible injuries and loss of life from accidents are the result. It's a billion-dollar-a-year crime. The thieves' motives are joyriding, transportation, or profit by either selling the vehicle or stripping the parts.

You can reduce the risk of theft of your unattended vehicle, its parts or contents, by observing certain precautions.

What a Thief Looks for:

1. Vehicles not protected with auto theft devices
2. Particular make and model. Is your vehicle in the top 10?
3. High volume parking area with easy entry and exit
4. Vehicles parked in poorly lit locations away from public view
5. Keys in the vehicle ignition or in plain view inside the vehicle
6. Vehicles left unlocked and/or windows open
7. Valuables left in plain view inside your vehicle
8. Vehicles left running

What You Should Do:

1. Use an anti-theft device. For the device to be effective remember you must use it properly
2. Equip your vehicle with an Electronic Immobilizer, Car Alarm or Steering Wheel Club
3. If you have a garage use it
4. Install a power disrupter switch (kill switch)
5. Remove or disconnect the battery in your vehicle if you will be parking it for prolonged periods. Travelers and Snowbirds should do this to reduce the risk
6. Remove licence plates from vehicles that are parked for prolonged periods of time on your property. Offenders often steal these plates to deter police, thus being able to keep stolen vehicles for longer periods of time.

Top 10 Stolen Vehicles:

For an up to date list refer to our web site at winnipeg.ca/police

Under Crime Prevention click on Auto Theft Prevention.

Discourage the Thief:

The use of anti-theft devices are highly recommended. Remember, for the device to be effective you must use it and use it properly.

Engine Disabler or Kill Switch

This well hidden switch cuts power to your starter.

Steering Wheel Lock

This attaches to the steering wheel and blocks the ability to steer the vehicle. They can also prevent or reduce theft of the air bag. This tool can be enhanced with the use of a shield that makes it more difficult to cut the steering wheel and remove the bar lock.

Alarm System

Anti theft alarm systems can be installed in your vehicle. Alarms can be wired to go off when any door, hood or trunk is opened and to detect any movement of the car. Most automobile car stereo installation dealer sell alarm systems.

Anti-theft Immobilizer

An expert installer connects the immobilizer into your car's wiring system. It's completely hidden. The immobilizer arms itself automatically when you shut off your ignition and remove your keys. If a thief tries to start your car, the immobilizer automatically shuts down three key electrical circuits: engine, ignition and fuel supply. The result – your car won't start.

Check Manitoba Public Insurance website at:

www.mpi.mb.ca

for approved dealers, financing and discounts on Autopac premiums.

POLICE SERVICES

Non-Emergency/General Inquiries . . .204-986-6222

Hearing Impaired Non-emergency
(TTY System)204-942-7920

POLICE STATIONS AND SERVICE CENTRES

Downtown

Public Safety Building
151 Princess Street204-986-6246

West

Division 12 Police Station
210 Lyle Street204-986-6060

North

Division 13 Police Station
260 Hartford Avenue204-986-6313

East

East District Station
1750 Dugald Road204-986-6262

Henderson Service Centre
1400 Henderson Highway204-986-7684

South

Division 16 Police Station
1350 Pembina Hwy.204-986-6042

Dakota Police Service Centre
1086 St. Mary's Road204-986-7686

Alarm Coordinator204-986-3406

Child Abuse204-986-6378

Commercial Crime204-986-6231

Community Relations204-986-6322

Crime Prevention204-986-6322

Crime Stoppers204-786-TIPS
.204-786-8477

**Criminal Records Check
and other Services**204-986-6073

Cultural Diversity204-986-6322

Drug Tip Line204-986-3411

Evidence Control Unit204-986-6280

Executive Offices204-986-6037

Firearms Control Unit204-986-6345

Harbour Master204-986-6268

High Risk Offenders Unit204-986-6091

Homicide Unit204-986-6508

Identification Unit204-986-6218

Major Crimes204-986-6219

Missing Persons204-986-6250

Museum - 130 Allard Avenue204-986-3976

Organized Crime204-986-3916

Professional Standards204-986-6079

Pawn Detail204-986-5621

Public Affairs204-986-8356

Recruiting204-986-4654

School Education204-986-6322

Sex Crimes Unit204-986-6091

Stolen Auto Reporting204-986-6246

Traffic Division204-986-6282

Training Academy204-986-3639

Victim Service Unit204-986-6350

Vulnerable Persons Coordinator204-986-6287