

SUMMER 2014



Mayor Virg Bernero

# SUMMER CRIME PREVENTION



Mike Yankowski, Chief

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Preventing Bicycle and Lawnmower Theft
- Securing Your Home
- Curfew Ordinance
- National Night Out 2014
- Fireworks Safety (Special Insert)

## MOTOR VEHICLE LARCENIES ARE PREVENTABLE

Most thefts from motor vehicles are preventable. There are just a few things you need to do to prevent them. Once you realize the steps you need to take, we are counting on **you** to do them on a daily basis!

### Practice T.L.C. :

**Take Out Valuables** If you can leave your valuables at home, do so. Otherwise, upon reaching your destination, take your valuables with you. If you must leave them in your vehicle, place them in the trunk **before** you get to your destination.

**Lock Your Vehicle** *Enough said!!*

**Close Doors & Windows** An open door or window or window allows a thief a quick and quiet way to enter your vehicle. Take the time to ensure you closed everything.



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## COMMON ITEMS STOLEN FROM VEHICLES

You might be surprised by what victims make available to thieves:

- Cameras, Laptops, Cell Phones
- Car Stereos, Mail, CD's, Purses
- Vehicle Registrations, Money, Jackets
- Gym Bags, Luggage, Briefcases
- Garage Door Openers, Etc.

## LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION!

You can often choose where you park your vehicle. It is important to be **aware** of where you park. Thieves are looking for vehicles they can enter with the least possibility of someone watching and alerting the police. Ideally, the best place to park is in your **locked** garage. Otherwise please consider these important factors:

- ⇒ **Don't** park where others cannot see your vehicle
- ⇒ **Do** park in well-lit areas
- ⇒ **Don't** park in all-day untended parking areas
- ⇒ **Do** join a Neighborhood Watch
- ⇒ **Do** park in clearly visible areas



## PREVENT BICYCLE AND LAWNMOWER THEFT

- \* Be sure to lock your bicycle to a stationary object. The best locking device is a hardened steel u-shaped lock. (**Avoid** locks, chains or cables that can easily be cut or broken)
- \* Keep mower in a locked garage
- \* Make sure **both** wheels are locked and remove any accessories that can easily be taken
- \* Record the makes, models, serial numbers and descriptions of your bicycles and lawnmowers. Store this information in a safe place.

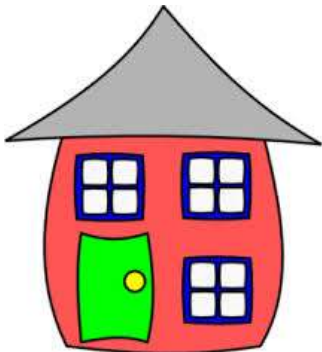


“Reduce crimes of opportunity and secure the easily-accessed items on your property”

## TIPS TO INCREASE THE SECURITY OF YOUR YARD

- If you are working in the front yard, lock the back door and garage. If you are working in the backyard, lock the front door and garage.
- **Don't** keep ladders or other equipment in the yard that could be used to gain access to your home.
- Keep shrubs, bushes, hedges, and fences to a height of three feet or less.
- Solid fences can prevent neighbors from watching out for each other. Consider chain link or picket-type fencing.
- Residential lighting should be used to light up home entry points. Motion detector lights are an inexpensive deterrent for areas where continuous lighting is unnecessary.

## SECURING THE INSIDE OF YOUR HOME



We are entering the season of leisurely activities and relaxing in the nice weather. **Don't** be lulled into complacency when it comes to securing your home! If you leave your windows open for ventilation when during the hot days, learn how to “pin” your windows. “Pinning” your windows al-

lows ventilation, but prevents a burglar from forcing it open further.

While on that well-deserved vacation, either stop your mail or ask a trusted neighbor to pick up your mail/papers and maintain your lawn. Use light timers which turn multiple

lights on and off at predetermined times (copying your normal schedule).

When leaving on vacation, please contact the [Lansing Police Department at 517-483-7665](#) to arrange for a “Vacation House Check”!



## ORGANIZE A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

By getting to know your neighbors and forming connections, you make your community safer. You do this by learning to recognize what is normal and what is not. This can help you in protecting your property and family as well as that of your neighbors. Watch groups are also great social gatherings and may be used to form networks to help each other with home improvement projects which can raise property values. This is also a

great forum to discuss concerns and share ideas. Close friendships have been formed between members of a watch program.

If you would like to learn more about how to improve your community with Neighborhood Watch, contact the Lansing Police Department's Community Service Officer at 517-483-4469 or e-mail [lpdcsu@lansingmi.gov](mailto:lpdcsu@lansingmi.gov). The Community Service Officer can guide you on how to organize an initial meeting to introduce and begin organizing a



program with your neighbors.



## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2014

It's that time again to start preparing for National Night Out!! The City of Lansing will be celebrating National Night Out 2014 on Tuesday, August 12. If you are planning on participating this year, please plan on turning all necessary paperwork in by **Friday**,

**July 18, 2014.** This can be completed one of three ways: *e-mail, mail or in person.*

Please send any necessary Street Closure-Noise Request Waiver Forms to Roxanne Estell in the Planning & Neighborhood Development Department. Her contact information is below:

Planning & Neighborhood Development Department, Office of the Director  
316 N. Capitol Avenue, Suite D-1,  
Lansing, MI 48933  
Phone: (517) 483-4060  
Fax: (517) 483-6036

[Roxanne.Estell@lansingmi.gov](mailto:Roxanne.Estell@lansingmi.gov)

The department **must** receive the request at least **three (3)** weeks prior to the event.

## HELP PROTECT OUR KIDS



Have your child observe the City of Lansing **Curfew Hours** (Ordinance 650.01). No person as listed below shall be upon any public street, highway, alley, park, vacant lot, or other public place between the following hours:

**Under 12 years old:**

10:00pm—6:00am

**13 - 16 years old:**

12:00am—6:00am

Help keep our kids safe by adhering to the Curfew Law. This helps reduce children becoming victims of crimes, in addition to

the accessibility of children to **commit** crimes. We must all join together to look out for our children and our neighborhoods! Work with parents to monitor curfew hours in your neighborhood and call **911** to report any youth disturbances after curfew.



# WHAT IS "OPERATION IDENTIFICATION"?P



- ✦ Nationally recognized citizen's burglary prevention program in use for over 30 years
- ✦ Allows law enforcement to detect, identify, and return stolen or lost property to its rightful owner
- ✦ Operation ID involves marking or engraving property with an identifying number and displaying a window decal on your property.
- ✦ Mark property with identifying mark, preferably your state abbreviation followed by Driver's License number.
- ✦ Inventory the marked property on a form with descriptions including brand, model and serial numbers.
- ✦ Display Operation ID decals on house windows

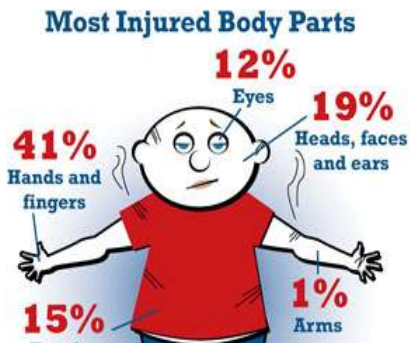
Contact Officer Elton at 517-483-6812 to get your Operation ID decals

## FIREWORKS SAFETY TIPS

Fireworks are synonymous with our celebration of Independence Day. Yet, the thrill of fireworks can also bring pain. 200 people on average go the emergency room every day with fireworks-related injuries in the month around the July 4th holiday.

Follow these safety tips when using fireworks:

- \* **Never** allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks.
- \* Always have an adult supervise fireworks activities. Parents don't realize that young children suffer injuries from sparklers. **Sparklers burn at temperatures of about 2,000 degrees - hot**



enough to melt some metals.

- \* **Never** place any part of your body directly over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse.

Back up to a safe distance immediately after lighting fireworks.

- \* **Never** try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not ignited fully.

\* **Never** point or throw fireworks at another person.

- \* Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy in case of fire or other mishap.
- \* Light fireworks one at a time, then move back quickly.

### FIREWORKS ORDINANCE (1615.02)

Consumer fireworks **shall not** be used in the City of Lansing without a license:

1. On any day except the day preceding, day of, or day after a national holiday.
2. Between the hours of 12:00 midnight and 8:00 am on the day preceding, day of, or day after a national holiday.



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