

Richland County Sheriff's Department

LEON LOTT

Sheriff



Personal Safety

Below are a few safety suggestions for you, in hopes to make you and your family safer and happier.

- 1) Report all suspicious activity, persons and cars to the police immediately. Nothing is too small to be reported.
- 2) Do not open your door to anyone you do not know.
- 3) Put your address (numerical #s) on your mailbox or at the street for emergency personnel.
- 4) Do not leave valuable items in plain view of windows (either in your home or cars).
- 5) Do not "Flash" cash, credit cards or your wallet contents when making purchases. Know what you are going to pay with before you go to the counter.
- 6) Leave a radio or TV on when you leave the house.
- 7) Put lights on alternating timers when you leave home and do not disconnect them when you are home.
- 8) Cut all bushes and trees back from around windows and doors to avoid hiding spots and shadows.
- 9) Outside floodlights should be left on from dusk to dawn. REMOVE motion detectors and put in timers.
- 10) If you arrive home and find an open window or door, or see a suspicious person or vehicle, call 911 from a neighbor's phone. Don't go inside!
- 11) Do not give personal information out over the phone. Be aware of scams.
- 12) Do not stop Delivery of your mail and newspaper when you travel.
- 13) Always park in well-lighted locations and go shopping with a friend.
- 14) **Be alert at all times!!** Be aware of who is watching you. Get to know your neighbors. **Get involved in a neighborhood watch.**

Please remember that crime is an opportunity and it can be avoided. While we make every effort to deter these crimes and to capture those responsible, we need the help of the community:

- * Be vigilant
- * Be a nosey neighbor
- * Join a neighborhood watch
- * Report all suspicious activity.

If you would like to receive free crime prevention training or a free security analysis of your home, please contact the Richland County Sheriff's Department Community Services Division at 576-3118 or www.rcsd.net.

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