

THE CRIME WATCHER



Our Crime Watch Program began in 1994 and easily reaches 3,000 homes in Fishers. I encourage you to become active in your neighborhood and support the Crime Watch Program. When neighbors look out for each other, everyone benefits.

Chief George G. Kehl



Cold weather is coming!

Please remember the following tips:

- Give yourself extra traveling time when driving in winter conditions .
- Slow down – it takes almost ten times as long to stop on a snow or ice covered road as it does on a dry road.
- Create distance between your car and the car behind you and in front of you. Where someone is tailgating, put that lost distance in front of you between you and the car you are following.
- Avoid standing water on roads. If you drive through water that is too deep you can soak your brakes and greatly reduce your braking ability.

Please drive safe and defensively!!

DROP IT, LOCK IT, STOP IT!!

In an effort to prevent thefts from Fishers garages, the Fishers Police Department is urging residents to follow the “drop it-lock it-stop it” philosophy of crime prevention. These easy steps can protect your property and that of your neighbors. As “Crime Watchers” you are essential to stopping these crimes!

Drop It

- Dropping your garage door is the first line of defense against unwanted entry in to your home.
- It will reduce your opportunity of becoming a victim of a crime.
- 30% of all burglaries are

committed through open garage doors.

Lock It

- Locking the door that leads from your garage into your home reduces unwanted entry.
- Doors should be equipped with 1-inch deadbolt locks.
- Strike plates need to be reinforced with screws that go in to the doorframe.

Stop It

- Let’s not make crime easy!
- It only takes a minute to secure your home. 99% of all crimes are reported by citizens.

- You are the eyes and ears of the Police Department; we depend on you to report criminal activity in the community.
- Participate in your Neighborhood Watch today. Tell a friend who lives in a neighborhood without Neighborhood Watch to contact Fishers Police to organize!



4 Municipal Drive
Fishers, Indiana 46038



For more information on the Fishers Police Department Crime Watch Program— Please call or email Sergeant Gerry Hepp at 317-595-3300 or heppg@fishers.in.us



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FISHERS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Phone: 317-595-3300
Emergency: 911
Non-Emergency: 317-773-1282

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At this home, the configuration of the house, the fencing and vegetation makes the vehicles

observable only from the street. The light above the garage could help as well as following the rules listed in this month's newsletter to lock your vehicle and avoid leaving valuables inside!

**Lock your car doors
and
take your valuables inside!!!**



Theft *from* parked cars is one of the most common complaints received by police in residential neighborhoods. According to U.S. Department of Justice statistics, these types of crimes make up some 36 percent of all larcenies reported to the police. Crimes in general and property crimes in particular tend to be underreported to authorities. As a result, the problem may be worse than it appears in statistics reported by police. Numerous larcenies may be reported during the early morning hours when one or more thieves have passed through a neighborhood looking for property to steal. In general, two kinds of property are stolen: personal items and car components. Personal items that owners may leave in their cars include loose change, laptop computers, portable music players, and wallets or purses. (U.S. Dept. of Justice, 2007).



CRIME PREVENTION TIPS FOR FAMILY AND HOME

General Safeguards

1. Always keep your garage door, interior door and front door closed and locked, even when at home. It only takes a moment for a burglar to enter your home and take something.
2. Lock your windows, doors and use your alarm system when both home and away.
3. If you park your vehicle outside overnight, remove your garage door opener from view. Burglars could use it to enter your home while you sleep.
4. Place your purse/wallet in a location that is out of view. Burglars are known to look into homes prior to break-

ing in to see what they can take.

5. Record the serial and model numbers to your electronics, remove any irreplaceable items from your home and place them in a safety deposit box if applicable.
6. If going on vacation, have a neighbor watch your home and pick up the mail and newspapers.
7. Report suspicious activity when you see it without delay. Fishers police officers are on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to respond to your call.

Avoiding Crimes Involving your Vehicle

1. Think about where you park. Thieves prefer dimly lit places with few passers-by, so choose a brightly lit

street or a properly managed car park

2. If you have a garage use it, but make sure you lock your car too
3. Check your windows and doors are locked, even if you are only leaving your car for a couple of minutes
4. Remove any valuables from view, or better still take them with you
5. Don't leave bags and boxes on display
6. If you have a removable radio take it with you
7. Use a steering wheel lock as a visual deterrent
8. Have your windows etched with your registration number
9. Fit an engine immobilizer and a car alarm
10. Never leave your keys in the car - not even for a few seconds.