



Cranbury Township Police Department

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Burglars and thieves will take the path of least resistance. Cranbury residents and the Cranbury Police Department must work together to stop crime in Cranbury. We must show the criminals that we are standing together and we will not allow them to victimize our family and friends.

The fall season is upon us. Soon the sun will set earlier and the burglars will take advantage of the dark. Now more than ever residents need to be vigilant.

We all must be on alert for suspicious persons and vehicles in our neighborhoods. Upon seeing a suspicious person or vehicle, it is imperative that the Cranbury Township Police Department be notified **immediately**. When calling the Cranbury Township Police Department please relay the following information to the communications officer:

- A physical description of the suspicious person(s)
- The approximate age of the suspicious person(s)
- A clothing description of the suspicious person(s)
- A direction of travel of the suspicious person(s)
- A detailed vehicle description including dents, decals or other identifiers.
- A license plate number and issuing state.

It is important to stay on the line with the communications officer until told otherwise. An officer will respond to your location to obtain additional information when they have checked the area for the suspicious person(s) and/or vehicle.

Watching your neighbor's home and having your neighbors watch your home is one of the most important actions you can take to prevent crime in your neighborhood. Some other tips are:

- Purchase and **use** an alarm system.
- Train all your family members how to use the alarm system.
- Register the alarm system with the Cranbury Township Police Department (alarm forms are on the Cranbury Township web page).
- Make sure your alarm system is equipped with a battery backup and an external alarm.
- Install low voltage lighting in your yard to deter prowlers.
- Lock and alarm your vehicle.
- Keep your garage doors closed and secure.
- Make sure your house number is visible at all hours of the day to ensure a swift response from all the Cranbury Township emergency services.

- Photograph all your valuables and keep the photos or video in an off site location.
- Record the serial numbers of all your electronic equipment.
- Obtain the identification of persons working in your home and make sure a family member or friend supervises them.
- Be aware of your surroundings and check for someone who may be watching you leave the house.
- Don't be lured outside your home by people who say they are utility workers or that they are looking for a lost animal.
- Lock your doors at all times.

Thieves do not have to break into your home to commit a crime. They are using the internet and the mail system to lure unsuspecting victims into surrendering their money or personal information. The most common frauds involve a claim that the victim has won a 'free' prize. The scammers will attempt to solicit a fee or obtain personal information from the victim. Remember the old adage; if it sounds too good to be true, it usually is!

The Cranbury Township Police Department provides free home security surveys for Cranbury residents. The home security survey provides residents with suggestions for purchasing or upgrading alarm systems, locks and improving external security. Please contact Chief Kahler, Lieutenant Varga or Officer Wetzel at (609) 395-0031 to schedule a home security survey.

