



Mettawa Security Reminders

HOME ADDRESS AND FIRE DISTRICT IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS should be posted and clearly visible at the public roadway access to your property and at the actual entry point to your residential property. It is also recommended that address numbers be posted on the residence itself. Clear/unobstructed posting of an address will improve law enforcement, fire and rescue service and public safety response time, should emergency services be needed.

(Recently, new red vertical fire protection address signs were installed in the Libertyville Fire Protection District. This was the result of the actions taken by the Safety and Security Commission.)



Page | 6

"NO SOLICITORS" SIGNS should be posted at the entry points to your property; they must be positioned to be clearly visible. Signs that are covered by foliage can make enforcement action more difficult and provide a defense challenge for solicitors or trespassers. *(Standardized wood engraved Village "No Soliciting" signs are available for purchase through the Village Clerk provided you live on a property with a long driveway.)*

IF YOU HAVE A BURGLAR ALARM SYSTEM FOR YOUR RESIDENCE, make sure that it is in proper working order. Posted signs warning that your home is protected by an alarm service are meaningless for intruders if the system does not activate when a breach occurs or the system is not used. Contact and key holder information should be on file with the alarm company and the Lake County Sheriff's Office.

IF YOU LEAVE YOUR RESIDENCE FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME, take measures to make it appear that someone is home.

- Have someone pick-up your mail, newspapers and delivered packages.
- Placing interior lights on timers that correspond with your normal household routine.
- Have someone take care of your garbage pick-up and trash container retrieval; per regular schedule.

All residents are encouraged to utilize house watch services by the Mettawa Public Safety Patrols (847) 404-6272. Request your neighbors to keep an eye on your property while you are gone is also recommended. Neighborhood Watch programs often deter suspicious persons and activity before crimes are actually committed.

RUSE TYPE BURGLARIES are on the rise across Lake County and the Chicago-land area. You can protect yourself and family:

- Refuse to open your door to strangers.
- Communicate with strangers from behind a locked door or from a window.
- Refuse to allow anyone to lure you away from your residence.
- If they approach you while you are outside your home, call the Lake County Sheriff's Office (911) immediately.
- After calling the Sheriff's Office you can also call Mettawa Public Safety Patrol **(847) 404-6272**. Carry your cellular telephone with you when you are outside of your home so that your communication is not delayed.
- Allow the Sheriff's Office and Mettawa Public Safety to determine if unexpected visitors to your property have a legitimate reason for being there.

REMEMBER RUSE BURGLARS AND REPAIR FRAUD CON- ARTISTS WILL:

- Try to coax you out of or away from your home to look at property boundaries or trees around your residence that may or may not need to be repaired.
- Try gaining entry into your home by stating that they need to read a meter, check a utility device or obtain hot water for a repair.
- Promise services for prices that are too good to be true.
- Claim to need money for a family emergency or serious incident.
- Claim to work for a utility company or local contractor. (Legitimate utility employees and contractors will be able to produce appropriate identification.)
- Park their vehicle where it will be difficult for homeowners to view the make and model or license plate number.
- Have other burglary suspects hiding in their vehicle that will exit when the homeowner walks away from their residence or is distracted.
- Usually exit property abruptly when asked to produce identification, a work order or when a homeowner states that they are calling the police.

HORSE OWNERS AND THOSE WITH EQUESTRIAN PROPERTIES should check their fence lines regularly for openings and weakened areas. Unsecured horses and livestock present a serious safety concern for the horse from motorists travelling on Village roadways. *(The Mettawa Security Team has received training to harness a loose horse and secure them in a nearby paddock.)*

Kind regards,

Casey Urlacher, Mayor

Village of Mettawa

1-847-573-1460