

Safer Seniors

Crime prevention is everyone's responsibility, not just a job for the police. Crime can be reduced by simple measures like remembering to lock a door, knowing about common con games, and watching out for your neighborhood. You can reduce opportunities for criminals to strike by being careful, alert, and a good neighbor.

When you are out :

- Carry your purse close to your body.
- Never carry your wallet in your back pocket. Put it in an inside jacket pocket or front pocket.
- Tell someone when you are going out and when to expect you back.
- Whenever possible travel with friends or use an escort service.
- If using public transportation, sit by the driver.
- Don't carry a lot of packages that could make it hard for you to react.
- Have the key in your hand as you approach your vehicle or home.
- Carry mace or a shriek alarm.
- If a friend takes you home, have them wait until you are safely inside.
- Work out a "buddy" system with a friend to check on each other daily.

When you are on a walk :

- Be alert to people and surroundings.
- Do not walk alone at night.
- Wear clothes that give you freedom of movement.
- If you suspect someone is following you, go into a store or knock at a house door.

If you are attacked or assaulted :

If the attacker is only after your purse or wallet, do not resist. Your life and safety are worth more than your possessions.

Protect you money :

- If you receive checks in the mail, arrange for them to be sent directly to the bank instead.
- Avoid carrying large sums of money with you.

Do not be conned :

- Always investigate before investing money or signing a contract. Be skeptical about any proposal that sounds too good to be true or has to be kept a secret.
- Do not rush into anything. Check it out with family, friends, lawyers, police, or the Better Business Bureau.
- If you are a victim of fraud, Call the Police...Call 9-1-1.