

TIPS

- ◆ BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS
- ◆ Provide friends/family with a trip itinerary.
- ◆ Luggage tags should not provide personal information to the casual observer?
- ◆ Avoid parking close to bushes, try to park under a light.
- ◆ If you take the bus, sit near the driver.
- ◆ Never pick up hitchhikers.
- ◆ When driving, keep your purse on the floorboards, not the seat.
- ◆ Do not appear too affluent.
- ◆ Be alert in crowds, where pick-pockets do their best work.
- ◆ Instruct babysitters and children not to give out information about who is home, who is out and for how long.
- ◆ Leave emergency information with the baby/house sitter.
- ◆ Don't act like a tourist.
- ◆ Obtain a room between the 3rd and 7th floor.
- ◆ Determine availability of hotel security...24/7?

CRIME PREVENTION PRESENTATIONS AVAILABLE ON:

- ◆ PERSONAL SAFETY
- ◆ HOMELAND SECURITY
- ◆ HOME AND PROPERTY SECURITY
- ◆ INTERNET SECURITY
- ◆ IDENTITY THEFT
- ◆ COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION
- ◆ AUTOMOBILE SAFETY
- ◆ TRAVEL SAFETY
- ◆ INTERNET SECURITY / TELEPHONE / CELL PHONE SECURITY
- ◆ CHILD SAFETY
- ◆ DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

To schedule presentations contact:
Pierce County Sheriff's Department
253-798-3624



PIERCE COUNTY
SHERIFF'S
DEPARTMENT
CRIME
PREVENTION
253-798-3624

BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS

HAVE A PLAN...

- ◆ **AWARENESS** IS YOUR KEY TO SECURITY.
- ◆ **INTUITION** IS PART OF YOUR DEFENSE.
- ◆ **LIMITS**—KNOW AND ENFORCE YOUR PERSONAL LIMITS!
- ◆ **KNOW WHAT TO DO—THEN DO IT!**

CARRY

- ◆ **CELL PHONE**
- ◆ Flashlight, new batteries
- ◆ Flares
- ◆ Fire Extinguisher
- ◆ First Aid Kit
- ◆ Blanket and Emergency Water/Food
- ◆ Sturdy shoes, warm coat

PARKING LOTS

- ◆ **BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS**
- ◆ Keep your keys out and ready.
- ◆ Park in a well lit area. Remember where you parked.
- ◆ Check the vehicles nearby **BEFORE** you exit your vehicle.
- ◆ Look in and under your car **BEFORE** you unlock the door.
- ◆ Be prepared to drop your packages, **RUN** and **YELL** — “CALL 9-1-1” or “FIRE”
- ◆ Get in, lock the door, **THEN** secure children in their seats.
- ◆ Ask for an escort from the mall or store if you feel uneasy.
- ◆ Have a grocery clerk accompany you to your car.
- ◆ Place your shopping items in the car first, then your children.
- ◆ Do not bring your purchases to the car, place them in the trunk and return to the mall for additional shopping.

DRIVING

- ◆ **BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS**
- ◆ Before you leave, plan your route carefully. Travel well-known and well-traveled streets. Have an alternative route planned in case of detours or traffic delays.
- ◆ Always drive with the gas tank half full or more
- ◆ Keep car doors locked and windows closed
- ◆ Do not stop for a stalled motorist, instead call for help for them.
- ◆ Use maps; get clear directions prior to travel.
- ◆ Have your car serviced and tires checked before leaving
- ◆ Avoid traveling at night



WHEN YOU TRAVEL

- ◆ **BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS**
- ◆ Make a copy of your travel check register, tickets, passport, and other important documents. Keep them separated from the originals.
- ◆ Learn about the culture, customs, and laws of the place you are visiting.
- ◆ When in unfamiliar surroundings, get clear directions **BEFORE** leaving a safe environment.
- ◆ Stay on main thoroughfares
- ◆ Learn some of the language. Learn to ask for help and to call the police.
- ◆ If something doesn't feel right, it probably isn't.
- ◆ Do not expect your American values to be shared by those of your host country.
- ◆ Give the right of way to impatient drivers
- ◆ Do not expect your culture to be accepted in the host country.
- ◆ Never pick-up hitchhikers.
- ◆ Cover your VIN
- ◆ Before you leave, plan your route carefully. Travel well-known and well-traveled streets. Have an alternative route planned in case of detours or traffic delays.

PREVENTING CAR PROWLDS

- ◆ Secure your vehicle. Roll up all windows, lock all doors, trunk, hatches, bed-mounted tool boxes, and canopies.
- ◆ Do not leave the following items in your car:
 - Credit cards
 - Checkbooks
 - Bank/ATM statements or receipts
 - Wallets/purses
 - Keys (even if they are not for the automobile)
 - Vehicle title/Proof of Insurance
 - Garage door openers
 - CDs and removable/portable players
 - Cell phones
 - Scanners
 - Day planners
- ◆ When you exit or enter your parked vehicle, stop and take a look around the area.
- ◆ Make a habit of locking your garage door and car doors.
- ◆ If you park in a carport leave your exterior lights on at night. Consider adding a motion-sensor light.
- ◆ If you park on the street, add lighting and trim back bushes and landscape.

If you witness a vehicle prowler in progress

- ◆ **DO NOT CONFRONT THE PROWLER**
- ◆ Call 9-1-1
- ◆ If it is safe to do so, get good suspect information:
 - Height
 - Weight
 - Build/age
 - Sex
 - Clothing (hat, shirt color and fit, pants color and fit, gloves shoes)
 - Items that would make him/her stand out (facial hair, hair style/color)
 - Direction of travel
 - Mode of travel (description of vehicle, color, make, model, license plate, number of occupants, damage, etc.)

