



City of Albemarle



North Carolina

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Home Safety Tips

1. Make sure your address is visible on the house or mailbox, so emergency workers can locate your house quickly.
 2. Report any suspicious activity in or around your neighborhood.
 3. Don't let anyone in your home without proper identification.
 4. Many burglars will spend no more than 60 seconds attempting to break into a home. Make sure every external door has sturdy, well-installed deadbolt locks.
 5. Sliding glass doors offer easy access if not properly secured. You can secure them by installing commercially available locks or putting a broomstick or wooden dowel in the inside track to jam the door.
 6. Avoid hiding a key under a door mat, rock or flower pot near your door. If you must hide an outside key, be creative. A relative or trusted neighbor would be the preferred choice to maintain an extra key.
 7. When you move to a new house or apartment, have a competent locksmith rekey the locks.
 8. All outside doors to your home should be metal or solid wood.
 9. Install a peephole in all entry doors so you can see who is outside without opening the door.
 10. Don't use door chains; they break easily and don't keep intruders out.
 11. Prune back shrubbery and trees so that they don't obscure windows or doors.
 12. Install outdoor floodlights or motion-sensor lights to eliminate any areas where someone might hide especially around entrance and garage doors.
 13. When you go out of town, give your house that "lived-in look" by putting a few of your lights on timers. Also, stop your mail and newspaper delivery or have a trusted neighbor pick it up for you.
 14. Record the serial numbers of all of your valuables. This allows us to return your property if recovered after a larceny.
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