



River Forest Crime Prevention Unit



A Summary of This Year's Crime Prevention Tips

Crimes Against Persons

Carjacking: Park in well-lit, visible areas • Keep windows up & doors locked • Equip vehicles with anti-theft/GPS • Drive in center lane • Trust your instincts • Give yourself room to maneuver (don't get boxed in) • Create A smart 911 profile with your vehicle information • Keep your cell phone in your pocket • Don't leave valuables in plain sight • Avoid traveling alone • Check surroundings when getting in/out of your vehicle.

Crimes Against Property

Package Theft: Opt for curbside pickup at a local store or have packages delivered to your workplace • Install security cameras near delivery areas • Reroute or reschedule deliveries to fit your schedule • Ask a neighbor to keep an eye out for deliveries (offer them the same courtesy) • Add delivery instructions to your order to place them somewhere more discreet.

Motor Vehicle Theft: Always lock vehicles • Do not leave keys inside a vehicle • Keep garage doors closed and locked overnight • Remove valuable items from vehicle.

Residential Burglary: Use your residential alarm system, if you have one • Light up the area • Use the RFPD Vacation Watch Program • Make your home look occupied with indoor lighting and timers • Install video surveillance and video doorbell systems • Lock all outside doors and windows before you leave your home • Keep your garage doors closed and locked • **Contact RFPD for a free Home Security Inspection.**

Fraud, Scams and Ruses

Slow down! Despite what scammers may tell you, time is on your side. Scammers prey upon your fear and ignorance to convince you that the clock is ticking, hoping to force you to make a rash decision. They may also prey upon your fear, misplaced trust or even your own greed.

Phone, Mail & Email Scams: Do not answer if the sender is unknown • Never trust a name or number at face value • Never share personal information online or over the phone • Do Not click links before verifying the sender • Do not send money or buy pre-paid cards • Report scams to the IRS, FTC Consumer Helpline, Treasury Inspector General, IL Attorney General's Office, etc.

Home Repair Fraud: Obtain estimates for proposed work and compare • Avoid supplying strangers with personal information • Never allow unsolicited work on the spot • Obtain a written contract • Do your own research before hiring (Consumer Reviews, Better Business Bureau, etc.).

Ruse Burglaries: Always keep your doors locked • Do not open doors for strangers • Don't let strangers convince you to step outside • Verify the business they work for • If you are unsure, have a police officer check their credentials • See "Residential Burglary" above for more tips.

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING. For any questions or information, please contact RFPD at 708-366-7215