



TOWNSHIP OF METUCHEN MIDDLESEX COUNTY

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DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
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James T. Keane, Chief

MEMORANDUM

Over the last three months Metuchen has experienced a few residential burglaries, two of them were solved and the actors arrested. The successful outcome of two of the home burglaries could not have occurred without the help of alert and observant residents, these resident called in very important information to the police. Unfortunately incidents like these happen, although not too often. In order to keep burglaries to a minimum the police dept. has increased patrol practices, in the area where most of the burglaries seem to occur.

In addition we would like to suggest some crime prevention tips that would also help avert some of these incidents.

1. **Be alert for unusual activities.** If you see an unknown person in or around a neighbors yard call the police
2. Report any suspicious actions, sounds or strangers to the police.
3. Report broke streetlights in your neighborhood. Well-lit areas discourage burglars.
4. Don't give information to strangers on the telephone. Report continued wrong numbers to the phone company.
5. Secure all entrances, including cellar doors and windows, use good safe locks on all doors, use a deadbolt on all exterior doors, lock your doors when you go out, even just for a minute.
6. Use effective window locks.

Date: July 16,2008

To: Police Col

From: Chief Jam

7. Do not hide keys outside your home, such as under mats, in flowerpots, etc. If you can hide it, a burglar can find it. Leave a key with a trusted neighbor.
8. Lighting, good exterior and interior lights is the single most cost effective deterrent to burglars.
9. Keep your yard clean. Prune back shrubbery so it doesn't hide doors or windows. Cut back tree limbs that a thief could use to climb to an upper level window.
10. Clearly display your- house number so police and other emergency vehicles can find your home quickly.
11. If you go on vacation, cancel all deliveries of newspapers, have someone take your mail in or stop it at the post office, notify the police dept, we will keep an extra watch in the area of your home, put lights on timers.

These are just some suggestions, if you desire, contact the Police Dept. Detective Bureau at 732-632-8549 for a free home security survey.