

EAST CENTRAL
2116 E. 1ST AVE. 99202
509-625-3330

SOUTHEAST
2809 E. 29TH AVE. 99223
509-625-3326

SOUTHWEST
1403 W. 3RD AVE. #B 99201
509-755-2677

LOGAN
2927 N. PERRY ST. 99207
509-625-3333

WEST
1901 W. BOONE AVE. 99201
509-625-3340

NEVAWOOD
4705 N. ADDISON ST. 99207
509-625-3353

NORTHWEST
2215 W. WELLESLEY AVE. #D 99205
509-625-3336

NORTHEAST
5124 N. MARKET ST. 99217
509-625-3343

NORTH CENTRAL
806 W. KNOX AVE. 99205
509-625-3348

C.O.P.S. ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
1720 N. ASH ST. SPOKANE, WA 99205
509-625-3300

HOW TO AVOID BEING A VICTIM



SPOKANECOPS.ORG

**THIS BROCHURE SHARES
WAYS THAT YOU CAN
IMPLEMENT EVERYDAY
ACTIONS TO REDUCE
THE CHANCES OF
BECOMING A VICTIM
OF CRIME IN YOUR HOME,
VEHICLE, ONLINE AND IN
PUBLIC SPACES.**

INSIDE THE HOME

- Keep doors and windows locked.
- ALWAYS use an in-the-door viewer.
- Even if alone, have lights on throughout the home.
- Check ID with door closed or window locked.
- If solicited, ask to see a business license.
- NEVER allow a stranger in your home.
- Keep a phone by the bed.
- If you hear a suspicious noise outside, let the potential intruder know someone is home in some way.
- If you hear noises inside the home, it is best to remain silent, but call 911! If need be, call 911 and hang up. They will call back immediately.
- Keep an eye out for any suspicious vehicles or persons in the area.

HOME SECURITY

- Home should ALWAYS appear occupied.
- Outside lights should be on at dusk, off at dawn EVERY day.
- Shrubbery should be kept trimmed to a height of 3' or less and tree foliage up to 7' to prevent concealment.
- Entranceway to doors should be kept visible from street.
- Light bulbs should be checked often.
- Don't rely on dogs for protection; consider them an alarm system.
- Contact your local C.O.P.S. Shop to inquire about our Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) program



ARRIVAL

- Enter the garage with car doors locked.
- Check garage interior before getting out of your vehicle.
- Have your house key ready.
- Don't leave the house door open when carrying in packages between house and car.
- Act as though someone is home: "Hi, I'm home!"

WALKING

- Walk assertively.
- Make eye contact with strangers.
- Keep purse/wallet inside your coat, if possible.
- Walk down the center of the street. If possible, avoid areas that provide cover to potential muggers.
- Be aware of your surroundings at all times.
- Avoid walking in non-lit areas.
- Avoid talking on your phone while walking.



PHONE

- Obscene call? Hang up immediately! Disconnect phone or turn off ringer. Crime Check at 456-2233 to file a report.
- Do not give out information for surveys, contests or any type of solicitation. Most are phony.
- If you use an answering machine, always say "we"; "We are not taking calls right now..." Never say "We are not home."

BUS STOPS

- Stand where you can be easily seen.
- Walk to the next stop if you feel threatened.
- Don't go through your purse; have your money/pass ready.
- Sit close to the driver.
- Don't get off at a lonely stop if you feel threatened.
- Be careful who you talk to.

PARKING LOTS

- Park in areas with adequate lighting.
- Check the area; if nervous, repark in another area.
- Leave NOTHING visible inside the car. Put anything of value in the trunk before you arrive.
- Leave only ignition key with attendant.
- Keep keys in hand - they can be used as a weapon.
- Do not put purse in shopping cart.
- With a child, get in, lock the doors and then secure the child.
- Ask someone to check the parking lot or accompany you to your car.
- Check around: is someone else being victimized? REPORT IT!



INTERNET

- Guard your personal information.
- Don't provide your credit card or bank account number unless you are actually paying for something.
- Your social security number should not be necessary unless you are applying for credit.
- Be especially suspicious if someone claiming to be from a company with whom you have an account asks for information that the business already has.
- Be cautious about unsolicited emails. They are often fraudulent. Instead of responding to the email asking to be removed from their email list, the best approach may simply be to delete the email.
- Think twice before entering contests operated by unfamiliar companies.
- Beware of "dangerous downloads". In downloading programs to see pictures, hear music, play games, etc., you could download a virus that wipes out your computer files.

VACATIONS

- Leave travel information with a trusted neighbor.
- Postpone delivery of mail and paper.
- Use timers on lights
- Leave curtains partially open.
- Have a neighbor occasionally park in your driveway.
- Have someone put your trash container out.



FIREARMS

The decision to carry a firearm has significant implications for citizens. Washington State laws are very specific about who may have a permit for a weapon, where and how they may be carried, and places where a citizen may NOT carry a weapon even with a permit.

Spokane Police strongly advise citizens to take a certified gun safety course. There are civil and criminal liability concerns that affect anyone with a weapon.

**For information, contact the
concealed weapon permit desk at
the Spokane Public Safety Building,
1100 W. Mallon Ave. Records
Information is available
at 625-4030.**

