Vehicle Burglaries. LOCK YOUR DOORS!!

Both Normal and Bloomington Police Departments are investigating a rash of vehicle burglaries. These burglaries are happening in single-family home neighborhoods, apartment building parking lots and retail establishments. The stolen items include laptops/tablets, cash, sunglasses, and miscellaneous documents.

There is no set time of day in which these burglaries are occurring. Most residential burglaries are occurring overnight.

From January 1 to March 31, there were 72 reports of vehicle burglaries. Research of these burglaries show 65 of the vehicles had their doors left unlocked. In a college apartment parking lot 2 vehicles had windows broken to gain entry, 2 construction trucks were forcibly entered, 1 truck had the driver’s door “jimmied” and 2 reported they had locked their doors, but there was no sign of force.

Please be vigilant for your neighbors who are not at home and others in your neighborhood. If you see suspicious activity on your street such as persons or vehicles that do not belong, report it to police as soon as possible. If it looks suspicious, IT IS SUSPICIOUS!

Normal Police Department has an App for that!

The Normal Police Department launched our Normal Police Department App. The NPD APP is free to download and it is the first of it’s kind in the state of Illinois. The APP is available on all Apple, Droid and Windows products. I have included the QR Code in the lower right corner, or you can search Normal Police Department in your device’s app store.

Some of the App’s capabilities include:

1. Filing a Report.
2. Provide crime tips.
4. Attempt to ID
5. Daily Log
6. Quick links
7. Connections to our Facebook and Twitter

Normal Police Department • 100 E. Phoenix Ave. • Normal, IL 61761
Business Phone 309.454.9535 • Non-Emergency Dispatch 309.888.3050

What Neighborhood Watch is:

Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention program that enlists the active participation of residents, in cooperation with law enforcement, to reduce crime, solve problems, and improve the quality of life in your area.

What Neighborhood Watch is not:

It is not a program designed for participants to undertake personal risks to deter crime.
Problem Oriented Policing (POP)

In October of 2015, the Normal Police Department implemented the Problem Oriented Policing Unit. Officer's Jon McCauley, Will Konovsky, Jason Parmenter, and Beth Seeley make up the Problem Oriented Police Unit. The department adopted this unit as an innovative way to deal with problems within the Town of Normal. The Problem Oriented Police Unit’s approach requires the officers to be proactive in identifying the underlying problems which can be targeted to reduce crime and disorder at their roots. Officers of this Unit place emphasis on research and analysis, crime prevention, community and private interaction to cause a reduction in calls for service.

Park/Constitution Trail Hours

A REMINDER THAT THE CONSTITUTION TRAIL HOURS ARE ONE HOUR BEFORE SUNRISE TO ONE HOUR AFTER SUNSET YEAR ROUND. USE OF THE TRAIL OUTSIDE OF THESE HOURS CAN NOT ONLY BE DANGEROUS BUT CAN RESULT IN A FINE.

Solicitors

The Normal Police handle complaints of solicitors within the Town. In many cases these businesses are providing a legitimate service or product. In other cases these businesses are less than scrupulous and use high pressure sales tactics and intimidation to make sales.

All solicitors operating in the Town of Normal are required to register with the police department. As part of this registration information on the employer is obtained. Through this process, anyone approved to solicit is issued a Solicitors Permit. All solicitors are required to carry the permit and display it upon request while conducting business within the Town.

In addition to registering solicitors, this process also hold solicitors to a code of conduct. Should a solicitor violate the ordinance adopted by the Town, they will have their permit revoked. Continued soliciting without a permit would subject the offender to a fine.

Persons unwilling or unable to show a solicitors permit or violating the solicitors ordinance may be reported to Normal Police using the non-emergency dispatch number 309/888.5030.

The complete ordinance is available online at: http://www.normal.org/DocumentCenter/View/7772 Chapter 22-4.1
There were 33 residential burglaries reported in the Town of Normal from January 1 - March 31 2016. The following list includes burglaries of private residences organized by date. Burglaries from apartment complexes in the Illinois State University campus area are not included in this information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Report Date</th>
<th>Report Time</th>
<th>Block</th>
<th>Street</th>
<th>Mode of Entry</th>
<th>Estimated Loss Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01/03/16</td>
<td>9:42PM</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>S. ADELAIDE</td>
<td>no force - door</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/07/16</td>
<td>3:35PM</td>
<td>1500</td>
<td>HUNT DR.</td>
<td>no force - door</td>
<td>$648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/10/16</td>
<td>7:19PM</td>
<td>1500</td>
<td>HUNT DR.</td>
<td>ATTEMPT</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/14/16</td>
<td>5:58AM</td>
<td>1300</td>
<td>WEST</td>
<td>no force - door/ARREST</td>
<td>$226.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/07/16</td>
<td>11:18AM</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>FOXWOOD CC</td>
<td>No force-door</td>
<td>$280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/07/16</td>
<td>1:58PM</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>IRONWOOD</td>
<td>No force-sliding door</td>
<td>$2413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/14/16</td>
<td>12:07AM</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>HOWARD</td>
<td>Force-back door</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/17/16</td>
<td>8:37AM</td>
<td></td>
<td>BROOKWOOD</td>
<td>no force - unknown</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/23/16</td>
<td>11:21AM</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>KENNEDY</td>
<td>Force-front door</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/07/16</td>
<td>3:45PM</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>HILLCREST</td>
<td>No force-back door</td>
<td>$230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/15/16</td>
<td>5:21AM</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>ORR</td>
<td>No force-garage</td>
<td>U/K change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/20/16</td>
<td>5:29AM</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>APPLE</td>
<td>attempt - window</td>
<td>unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/20/16</td>
<td>9:01PM</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>MIDWAY</td>
<td>Attempt-front door</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/29/16</td>
<td>3:15AM</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>PLUMAGE CT</td>
<td>no force - garage</td>
<td>$16,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/29/16</td>
<td>8:54AM</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>PLUMAGE</td>
<td>no force - garage</td>
<td>$410</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Please note: Of the 15 burglaries represented here, 10 residences were entered by way of an unlocked door, window, or open garage. The loss value represents the total dollar amount of damage caused added to the total dollar amount of stolen items as reported by the victims.
Which number do I call?

There are several ways to contact the Normal Police Department, depending on what type of situation or question you may have. The following is a guide to help you choose the correct contact number.

If you have a question that requires an immediate answer, the Normal Police Department front desk can be reached 24 hours-a-day at 309.454.9535. If you require non-emergency police assistance within the Town of Normal, please use the non-emergency dispatch number - 309.888.5030.

In case of an emergency, call 911.

Scam Alerts

- Normal Police continue to receive reports of various telephone scams. A recurring scam mentioned in this newsletter before involves a phone call claiming to be from a grandchild or other relative who is out of the country and in need of money because of an emergency. Please do not send money to anyone who calls with these claims. Instead, ask for a number to call them back, or call other relatives to make sure the story is true.

- The IRS scam. As this newsletter is published, Tax Day will be hovering over us. There is a scam involving the “IRS” in which they claim to have an arrest warrant for you if you do not call them and give them money. PLEASE KNOW THE IRS WILL SEND SEVERAL LETTERS TO YOUR RESIDENCE PRIOR TO CALLING. Never give anyone your social security number. Contact the IRS if you are a victim at www.irs.gov if you have become a victim. The local police departments are unable to assist.

- The scam: Instead of sending you a phishing email, scammers send you a cell phone text message, supposedly from your bank, asking you to visit a website whose address looks genuine. It isn’t, and once keyed in, takes you to a bogus site that asks for personal details so the bank can “unlock” or “verify” your account. Currently making the rounds. Solution: As with phishing emails, never follow a link, even one you have to manually key in, that you don’t know for sure. And never provide confidential information unless you know the site is secure — with an “s” in the “https” part of the address line and/or a padlock icon in the message area of your browser. If you or someone you know is a victim of a scam in the area you would like included in this newsletter, please contact the Normal Police Department at 309/888.5030

The Normal Police Department has been a nationally accredited agency with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies since July, 1994.

CALEA Accreditation is an ongoing process that signifies the Normal Police Department has met specific standards of excellence and operates according to national law enforcement standards.

The Neighborhood Watch Newsletter is compiled and distributed quarterly by the Community Services Unit.

If you have concerns about problems in your neighborhood or ideas for this newsletter, please contact:

Officer Greg Leipold
Desk Line: 309.433.3440
Email: gleipold@normal.org