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<http://www.cityofdaytonmn.com>

The Dayton Police Department has implemented a Neighborhood Watch Program. Officer McAlpine, our Community Crime Prevention Specialist, will be working with each neighborhood separately to organize their Neighborhood watch and inform them on how to notify Police of any concerns. The following are some tips that will help to keep your neighborhood safe: Lock out crime. Keep your garage doors down and the doors to your home vehicle locked.

Sensor and/or other strategically placed lighting is always a "bright" idea.

Shrubbery should be trimmed below window level and the pricklier the foliage the better for you!

Know who your neighbors are and what cars they drive. Being this kind of "nosey" neighbor may keep them and you safe.

If you walk or run at night, wear white or light colored clothing. Reflective tape or reflective garments are a great addition to your workout wardrobe. Also, tell family members your route and always carry identification with you - and, if possible, carry a cell phone.

While away for extended periods, set timers to turn lights on at the end of the day.

While away on vacation, or a business trip, have someone pick up your papers and mail or have the service interrupted while you are away.

When using 9-1-1, be calm. Be clear and concise with information and fact. This will help the police a great deal.

Program 9-1-1 into your cell phone so that if you are involved in an accident it will be easier to call for assistance. Be aware of where you are at all times because your cell phone does not give an address on 9-1-1 screens.

When going to your vehicle in a parking lot or other location, always have your keys ready. Be aware of your surroundings and who might be around.

Dayton prides itself on being a great place to live and raise a family. While the City does not have the crime rate of a big city, residents can help keep their neighborhoods safe by taking the proper precautions to decrease their chances of becoming a victim of a crime. The Dayton Residents are the eyes and ears of the Dayton Police Department. The Neighborhood Watch Program is a great tool for Police Departments and residents to work to together to keep those crime rates low. Please contact Officer Dane McAlpine at dmcalpine@daytonpolice.org or 763-427-2017 if you are interested in joining a neighborhood watch group in your area.