

If you enjoy the fresh air with open windows; then burglars may see it as an invitation...



**York-Poquoson
Sheriff's Office**

301 Goodwin Neck Rd.
Yorktown, VA. 23692
(757) 890-3630
(757) 890-3649 (fax)
sheriff@yorkcounty.gov

**Community Services
Division**

Crime Prevention Unit

Deputy A. Bartnikowski
Bartnikowski@yorkcounty.gov
(757) 890-3639



10 Tips for Burglary Prevention:

1. Keep ALL windows and doors locked. Exterior doors should have deadbolt locks with at least a one inch throw and reinforced strike plates with 2—3 inch screws. Windows should also have locks.
2. Keep the door leading from the garage into the residence locked at all times. Do NOT depend solely on the security of the garage door to keep intruders out.
3. Secure sliding glass doors with a Charlie Bar. If a Charlie Bar is not an option, at least secure your sliding glass door with a metal or wood rod along the bottom track and install vertical bolts along the top track.
4. Landscaping—Keep shrubbery trimmed and away from entrances and walkways. Typically, “limb up” tree branches at least 4 feet from the ground and “trim down” bushes to no taller than 3 feet high.
5. Turn on porch lights and exterior lights. Can install motion sensor lights or dual level lighting to enhance the exterior lighting. Intruders do not want to be seen.
6. Create the illusion that someone is home by leaving on the TV or radio. Can use timers for lights to turn on and off to assist in creating with the illusion that someone is home.
7. If you are going out of town, do NOT leave clues that you are not home. Stop your mail and newspapers during the time that you are gone. You can always ask a trusted neighbor to park in your driveway to give the illusion that you are still home.
8. Fill out the York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office House Check Form when you are going to be out of town. A deputy will check your residence while you are out.
9. Do NOT leave a message on your voice mail that you will be out of town. This invites burglars to your home. On the same token, do NOT post on any social media platforms that you are going out of town. Wait until you return home and post how much fun you had while you were gone.
10. Organize a Neighborhood Watch Program to protect you and your neighbors. Contact the York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit for assistance at (757) 890-3639 or (757) 890-3630.