

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

CLALLAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



Be Alert, Be Aware and don't hesitate to call Dispatch 24/7 either 9-1-1 or for **non-emergencies 360-417-2459**

Steps you can take to minimize your risk of becoming a victim:

- Organize a Neighborhood Watch Group so your neighbors are aware that if they see something suspicious they need to call Dispatch immediately!
- Order Neighborhood Watch signs which are a major deterrent to criminals – they don't want to commit a crime where they might be seen
- Lock **ALL** doors and windows on vehicles, garages, sheds and homes.
 - Unlocked vehicles are the most common targets of vehicle prowls and almost all stolen vehicles had the keys in the ignition or in the vehicle.
 - Thieves look for easy targets so making your home or vehicle difficult to enter will deter criminals
- Light up their homes using motion sensor lighting, indoor timers for lights so thieves think someone is home.
- Purchase surveillance cameras which are pretty inexpensive so law enforcement can use the photos to prosecute the burglars (great evidence!)
- Identify valuables!
 - Take a digital photo of every wall in the home and the individual items with serial and model numbers.
 - Photograph jewelry on a white towel with a ruler so it can be identified and have valuable jewelry appraised so the thieves can be prosecuted for the amount they stole as well as made to pay restitution for that amount. It also helps immensely when trying to get insurance companies to reimburse the victims for the proper amounts.
 - Write your WA DOL number on anything you want recovered, ie: T.V.'s, Laptops, Cameras, Weed eaters, Chain Saws, etc. There are so many items auctioned off each year that should be returned but no way to identify the owner.
 - Use Safe Deposit boxes for valuables – don't let your priceless heirloom jewelry be stolen!
- Get a Post Office box or locking mailbox! The holiday season is here and the mailbox thieves are at it again.
 - Check your mail immediately after it is delivered and don't have packages delivered to your home if you're not there.
 - The thieves will follow the UPS and FedEx trucks and take the items off your porch.
- Dogs are a great deterrent and you can buy motion sensors that emit dog barking if you can't get a dog.
- Get an audible alarm system so if the thieves break into your home they will leave before taking your items.

Neighborhood Watch signs are an inexpensive crime prevention tool and have proven to deter crime.

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Sheriff's website: <http://www.clallam.net/Sheriff/>
9-1-1 Cell Phone Bank:
Anonymous Tips:
Map Your Neighborhood:
Code Enforcement:
CrimeReports.com:
Project Lifesaver:
Clallam County Alert System:

Phone Numbers of Interest:

Dispatch (Non-Emergency) 360-417-2459

OPNET (Drug Task Force) 360-565-7350

CrimeNet

As of August 2013, CrimeNet has yielded 547 anonymous tips on everything ranging from drug issues, suspicious activity, code enforcement issues and animal control issues. This was an increase in a 7 month period of 226 anonymous tips from 2012. This database has proven to be very successful in opening up the communication lines between citizens and law enforcement in our community.

Facebook

The Sheriff's Facebook page was created to increase our ability to communicate with the public and provide information on the programs and services offered by the CCSO. As of August 2013, there are 750 citizens that subscribe to the CCSO Facebook page. We continue to promote our FB page in our community meetings to enhance communication.

Command Central

In October 2012 CCSO purchased CommandCentral, crime analysis software developed by Public Engines, the company that developed CrimeReports.com. This software allows Crime Prevention Staff, Deputies and Command to access information used to initiate Proactive Policing. The CommandCentral database provides accurate, up-to-date information on crime trends and data related to when and where crimes are occurring.

This data has been used in several community meetings as well as in meetings with Sequim PD and Port Angeles PD to provide information on the types of crimes occurring in the County, as well as when and where they are occurring.

The software allows our agency to compare crime rates year to year, compare geographic locations as well as analyze time and day of week when crimes are occurring. This allows us to allocate our limited resources in the most effective manner possible. CommandCentral provided us with the data that Burglaries have increased 32% in Clallam County in 2012 as compared to 2011, while at the same time, Felony Assaults decreased 50%. The result of this crime analysis allows our department to focus our efforts on reducing Property Crimes in Clallam County which have become a concern for the entire community.