



Bloomingtondale Neighborhood Watch



IF I DON'T CALL THE POLICE
MY NEIGHBOR WILL

FRANK GIAMMARESE
CHIEF OF POLICE

BLOOMINGDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT
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www.villageofbloomingtondale.org

SUMMER - MAY / JUNE / JULY / AUGUST 2014

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING...

**Wednesday, September 17th, 2014, at 7:30
p.m., in the Village Hall Council Room.**

DuPage County Animal Care & Control will provide information about their facility and their work with communities like Bloomingtondale. Also, during the meeting, we will update the audience on recent activities within our community and address any questions or concerns. Please consider joining us for the meeting to discuss issues and networking with friends and neighbors. Refreshments will be served.

Hope to see you there!



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS...



At this time of year, many individuals are in "travel mode". Whether on the road or in the air, many want to enjoy their summer vacation and get away to some destination. Well, the same safety practices that you use at home should travel with you just like the luggage you packed. These safety tips are for everyone and are needed as much as your toothbrush. If you are using a hotel or resort during your trip, please review the following information.

Stop delivery or make other arrangements for newspaper & mail. Make sure all windows and doors are closed and locked. Let a trusted neighbor or the police know that you will be gone and ask them to keep an eye on your home. Give a spare key to a neighbor, friend, or relative for emergency purposes, never leave a key outside. Never discuss your trip in public places where others can hear that you will not be home. Make your house look as though you are home by: leaving the lights and a radio or TV on timers, turning down the ringer on the phone, and have lawn work maintained. Carry little cash and don't keep it all in the same place if possible; divide it between pockets and purse or wallet. Use traveler's checks. If you plan to use credit cards, carry only two cards, easier to keep track. Keep traveler's checks and credit card numbers recorded in separate places, along with the "800" numbers for reporting lost cards/traveler's checks. Carry your wallet in an inside coat pocket, on a chain attached to your belt, in a front trouser pocket, or use a money belt. Avoid purses with a shoulder strap. If an attacker grabs it, you could be injured. Keep receipts for purchases made in other countries.

Airports: There are security requirements at airports, so keep your luggage unlocked and ready for inspection. Carry medications in their original containers inside of a clear plastic bag. Take along documentation stating your need for medication or special medical conditions including metal plates and pacemakers. Watch out for staged situations, such as someone bumping into you. It may be a diversion for criminal activity.

Bus, Train, Subway: While waiting for a subway or train, wait near the ticket booth until you board. Sit in the front near the driver but not too close to the door. Hold your packages. Only ask the driver for directions. Avoid entering an empty car or elevator; choose one that has several other people in it.

On the Road: Get your vehicle a tune-up before leaving. Keep an eye on your fuel level as you travel. Study a map and know your route before leaving. Well-lit & well-traveled streets are usually safer. Have an alternate route in mind in case of detours or other problems. Let someone know where you are going, the route and when you plan to arrive. Travel in groups of three people or more, it's safer. Never travel alone at night. Know your license plate number, year, and make of your vehicle so you can report it immediately if you must give up your car. Keep rental car papers, maps, and other items of value out of plain view. Park in well-lit areas close to the building entrance. Keep luggage and packages in the trunk.

Hotel – Checking In: Make reservations ahead of time, otherwise, you may become stranded or in an unsafe room. If your room is not ready when you check in (early arrival) ask to store your luggage in a locked room. When completing the guest registry, some women prefer to sign their name using only their first initial and last name, such as M. Johnson. Register with your business address rather than your home address (if possible) & advise the front desk never to release your room number. Avoid "shortcuts" such as back stairwells when moving about the lodging area. Ask the front desk clerk about the hotel's security features, such as: If there are hotel security officers, how can they be reached? Are the outside doors at a certain hour? If they do, what is the best way to re-enter?

General Hotel Safety Recommendations: If a bell person shows you to your room, ask him or her to point out the

room's safety features, locks and exits and make sure the phone works properly. If you are not shown to your room by a bell person, conduct a quick visual check of your room to see if anything appears to be out of place. Leave immediately if it appears like someone may have been in your room. Do not let strangers show you to your room or carry your luggage if they are not affiliated with the hotel. Do not enter your room if someone appears to be watching you or loitering nearby. Walk confidently by such people, but not into a dead end. Go where there are other people. If that is not possible, enter your room quickly and report your concerns to the front desk. Never leave money, checks, credit cards, car keys or valuables in a hotel or motel room. Take them with you. Arrange your belongings so you will know if anything is missing and maintain a daily check of your belongings. Lock your empty suitcases so they cannot be used to carry your belongings out of your room.

Report missing or lost keys/keycards immediately and possibly move to a different room. Use the door viewer to identify anyone requesting entry. Open the door only if you are certain the person has a legitimate reason to enter your room, if in doubt, call the front desk. Completely close the room curtains, especially in the evening or if you will be away from the room for some time. Do not leave magazines around your room or the pool that have your home address on them. Ask the front desk staff for the safest areas for jogging, walking, shopping, etc. Ask for a map of the area you are staying in. If you feel uneasy about going to fax, photo copying, laundry, pool, or exercise facilities alone, have someone go with you or tell the front desk where you will be. Hang the "Do Not Disturb" sign on the outside door knob when you exit, and leave a light and TV or radio on. These discourage burglars.



Parking at a Hotel: Park your car in a well-lit area close to the lobby or use valet parking. Before getting out of your vehicle, check your surrounding for suspicious-looking people. When you get out, lock your vehicle. Do not leave valuables in the vehicle or in the trunk. Walk confidently and briskly from your vehicle to your destination. Be aware of loiterers when moving valuables from your vehicle to your room. Memorize your vehicle's license number so you will not have to go outside to get it when registering.

Safety Information: Many people are taking advantage of the warm weather days and enjoying the great outdoors. The Bloomingdale Police Department wants children & parents to be aware that some unscrupulous individuals may monitor the playground area and neighborhoods where today's youth gather. It is strongly encouraged that children and young adults avoid contact with unfamiliar individuals who may ask for directions, attempt to provide gifts / money, or engage in any conversation. "Stranger Danger" talks apply to everyone, no matter the age or physical size of a person. The Bloomingdale Police Department also encourages that if an encounter with a suspicious person and/or vehicle occurs; notify our agency as soon as possible once safety has been established. Any questions or comments, please contact Officer Dawn Odoi of the Bloomingdale Police Department at (630) 529-9868.



During the summer months, our community has



experienced some power outages due to weather conditions or overloaded electronic issues, which can cause the traffic control devices / traffic signals to malfunction. The Bloomingdale Police Department would like to remind drivers that traffic intersections need to be monitored at all times to make sure that the traffic signals are working properly. If a traffic signal is not working at all or has conflicting signals (example: flashing red & green lights), drivers are to treat the intersection as a four-way stop, even without stop signs posted. It is requested that drivers pay attention on the roadways to reduce the opportunity for traffic crashes.

Some residents have contacted the Village of Bloomingdale and the Bloomingdale Police Department complaining about solicitors in their neighborhoods. Solicitors are to comply with local registration procedures. Please call the police department regarding those who are not complying or any suspicious person(s), vehicle(s) or activity in the area.

Any questions or comments, please contact Officer Dawn Odoi of the Bloomingdale Police Department at (630) 529-9868.

SPECIAL EVENTS

"National Night Out Against Crime"



Tuesday, August 5th, 2014 - 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Bloomingdale Park District / Circle Park

Our annual event takes the time to thank the community and encourage further efforts from citizens to **"Take a Bite Out of Crime"**. The pool is open to all and organized games will be provided. Food (hot dogs, hamburgers, etc) will be provided free of cost and will be served from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

Also featured during the event will be.....

Heroes vs. Half Pints Softball Showdown

Tuesday, August 5th, 2014 7:15 p.m. Circle Park

Come see the Bloomingdale Park District Summer Camp Kids show the Bloomingdale Police Officers how to play softball as both teams take the field for victory. Please join us for this free, fun, family event.



Bloomingdale's Day at the Races at Arlington Park

Sponsored by

Bloomingdale Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #175

Sunday, September 14th, 2014 Noon to 5:00 p.m.



Tickets are on sale for \$30.00/person, which includes admission, food, and soft drinks. A

silent auction will take place at one of the tents near the racetrack. Please join us in this unique event for family, friends and neighbors to enjoy the weather and each other's company while at Arlington Park racetrack. For tickets or more information, please contact Det. Bruett, Ofc. Odoi, Ofc. Zeiger or Ofc. Tenerelli at (630) 529-9868.

Child Safety Seat Check

The Bloomingdale Police Department has Certified Child Safety Seat Technicians and offers free child seat checks to Bloomingdale residents. These are done by appointment only. Also, Illinois law requires you to secure any child riding in your vehicle under the age of eight in an appropriate Child Safety Seat Restraint. Contact the Police Department at (630) 529-9868 for more information. Additional child seat guidelines, information, and a list of Car seat Checkup Events are listed at www.car-safe.org and www.nhtsa.org

Remember....Buckle Up – Every One – Every Time