

# Wisconsin Crime Prevention Practitioners Association

## 10 Simple Ways to Discourage Burglaries

*Did you know that last year in Wisconsin there were almost 140,000 property crimes investigated by law enforcement! Of those crimes, victims reported losses at more than \$117 million! Many of these crimes are preventable and by changing a few habits we can reduce these numbers!*

*Take a look at these ten ideas to discourage these criminals.*

- **Lock It Up.** A good majority of our thefts and break-ins happen without the use of force.
- **Install Motion Detector Lights.** Many of these lights are now solar and LED making installation a snap!
- **Strong Door Jamb.** Make sure that you have 3" screws in the steel strike plate. Those 3" screws will secure into the wall stud greatly increasing the strength of the door!
- **Patio Doors.** Sliding doors tend to be difficult to secure. A cut broomstick works well to prevent the door from being slid open.
- **Consider Alarms.** A simple audible door/window alarm can be picked up at any hardware store. You can also bring your cars keys to bed and hit the panic button on the remote!
- **Surveillance Cameras.** Same thing can apply with security cameras. Trail or wildlife cameras are being used more and more for security purposes.
- **Garage Door Opener.** If your car is left out overnight, remove the door opener so that the burglar doesn't have access to you home through your car.
- **See and Be Seen.** Make sure that your landscape does not afford hiding spots and allows you to see outside.
- **Be in the Know.** Consider forming a Neighborhood Watch and keep tabs with your local police/sheriff on social media.
- **Look Lived In.** Have someone check on your home and get the mail and papers, cut grass and/or shovel snow. Use lights on timers.



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