



# ***Spring Break Crime Prevention***

While students & families may take time off during the period of Spring Break, criminals do not take a break. Some actually see this as a period to “work” harder.

Here are some **Spring Break Crime Prevention Tips:**

- **Burglaries**

- Most burglaries in 2019 during this period occurred on Mondays & Fridays.
- Most burglaries in 2019 during this period occurred between 8am-11am & 1pm-5pm.
- Keep all doors, garage doors & windows locked & closed. An open door, garage door or window is seen as an open invitation by thieves.
- Make sure your home is well lit to prevent hiding & ambush dark spots. Invest in bright, high lumen, white LED lighting on photocell to ensure lights are always on during dark hours. Keep bushes & trees trimmed so they do not block your sight from windows.
- Secure your doors by replacing every screw in your doorways with 3”-4” screws.
- Always answer if someone knocks on your door. Don’t feel pressured to open the door, but let potential thieves know the home is occupied & someone may call police.
- If you’re going out of town, you can ask a trusted person to watch your home.
- Take a walk through your local hardware store & see what items they offer to further secure your room.

- **Auto Burglaries/Thefts**

- Most auto burglaries/thefts in 2019 during this period occurred on Wednesdays.
- Most auto burglaries/thefts in 2019 during this period occurred between 6am-9am.
- Lock all doors & fully roll up all windows. Thieves will test doors to see if they’re open for an easy grab and if doors are locked they may move on to an easier target.
- Remove all items from your vehicle, including garage door openers. Thieves know people cover important items left in a vehicle & they look for that as well.
- Never leave a vehicle running for even a “second”, that’s all the time needed for someone to steal your vehicle.

- **Petit Larceny**

- Most petit larcenies in 2019 during this period occurred on Fridays & Sundays.
- Most petit larcenies in 2019 during this period occurred at 10am & 12pm-2pm.
- Greet everyone who enters the business. Have employees walk around the store greeting customers again & seeing if they need help. Let potential thieves know they've been seen & eyes are on them.
- Keep the most expensive or stolen items in the back of the store. Make thieves have to pass through & be seen by multiple cameras, employees & potential witnesses. Place displays to break up a direct & clear line from the back of the store to an exit.
- Invest in high quality & definition cameras. Make sure there are no blind or hidden areas of a business. From entry to exit, cameras should be able to record every step of a person. Cameras in high areas & angles are great to cover a wide area, but will not capture a face if they are looking down or have a hat. Place front facing cameras at lower angles as well, especially in entrances & exits. You should be able to fully & clearly capture the face of every person who enters your business. Help police by placing a height strip on the side of entrances & exits.
- Teach employees to never run after or attempt to stop a shoplifter. Employee's lives cannot be replaced & are more important than any item that's been stolen.

Crime Prevention: *"The anticipation, recognition & appraisal of a crime risk & some action taken to reduce or eliminate that risk."*

