



## Neighborhood Watch

# APARTMENT SAFETY TIPS

**Know Your Neighbors:** The Woodlands Township Neighborhood Watch Program is designed around the concept of *neighbor knowing neighbor*. The better you know your neighbors, the better equipped you will be to recognize suspicious persons and activity in your apartment community.

### Secure Doors and Windows:

It is important to secure all points of entry into your residence, even if you are only leaving for a few minutes. Secondary blocking devices, such as a wooden dowel, are recommended for sliding doors.

**Lighting:** Keep your porch light on at night. Notify your property management promptly when lighting repairs are needed. This includes lighting in common areas such as laundry rooms, mail boxes, pools and playgrounds.

**Remove Valuables:** Do not leave items of value on a porch, patio or balcony. If you keep valuables such as your bicycle on the balcony be sure to lock it up. Remember to remove all valuables and securely lock your vehicle.

**Parking Lot:** Be aware of your surroundings. Scan the parking lot before you exit your vehicle. Have your keys out and ready as you approach your building. Appear focused, aware and strong.

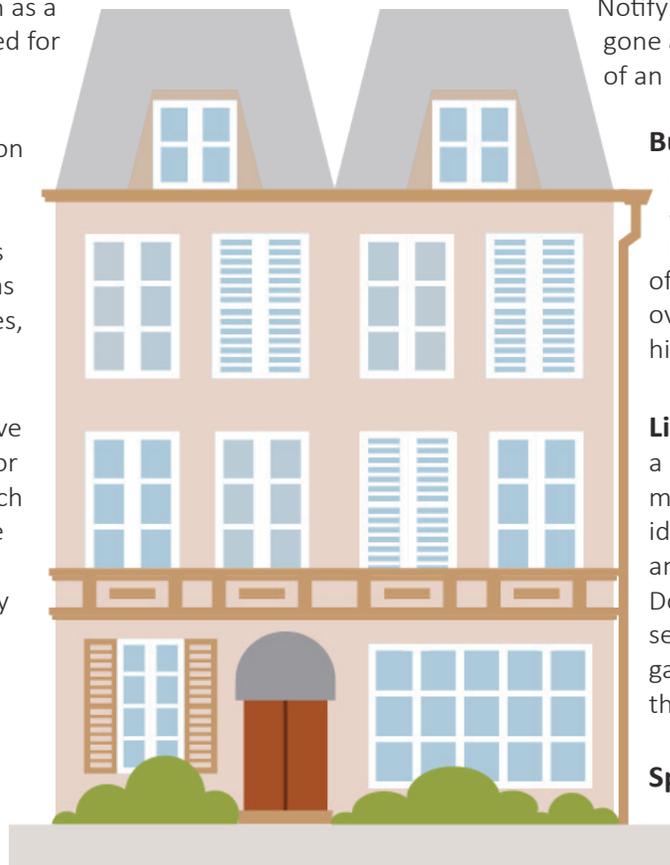
**When You Are Away:** Have someone remove door hangers, notifications and newspapers at your door. Use interior timed lighting devices to make the apartment appear occupied.

Notify a trusted neighbor that you will be gone and provide a contact number in case of an emergency.

**Building Maintenance:** Notify management promptly when repairs are needed on security gates and landscaping in the common areas of your community. Poor lighting and overgrown shrubbery can create a hiding space for a criminal.

**Limit Access:** Never open your door to a stranger. Require all utility or maintenance personnel to provide identification before opening the door and allowing entry into your apartment. Do not prop open doors or gates to secured areas in your community. In a gated community, limit access to cars that enter through the gate behind you.

**Spare Keys:** Never leave a spare key in a hiding place outside the home. Instead, leave your spare key with a trusted neighbor.



**Report Suspicious Activity:** Trust your instincts! Do not hesitate to report suspicious activity while it is occurring to the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office at 936-442-7797.

To learn more, please call 281-210-3800 or visit [www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/neighborhoodwatch](http://www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/neighborhoodwatch)