



STREAMWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT
Neighborhood Watch Information



March

Wow, it's March already! Winter is flying by and with spring approaching I wanted to speak with you about Burglary prevention.

We have experienced an increase in burglaries over the past month and we have spoken at length at meetings about protecting yourself. I wanted to pass along something that I came across on the internet that I found insightful.

Things your Burglar won't tell you

- Of course I look familiar. I was here just last week cleaning your carpets, painting your shutters, or delivering your new refrigerator.
- Yes, I really do look for newspapers piled up on the driveway. And I might leave a pizza flyer in your front door to see how long it takes for you to remove it. Keep your mailbox empty I might take things from there also.
- If it snows while you're out of town, get a neighbor to create car and foot tracks into the house. Virgin drifts in the driveway tell me your not home.
- If decorative glass is part of your front entrance, don't let your alarm company install the control pad where I can see if it's set. That makes it too easy.
- A good security company always should alarm the window over the sink. That's one of my favorite places to break in.
- It's raining, you're fumbling with your umbrella, and you forgot to lock your door-understandable. But understand this: I don't take a day off because of rain.
- I always knock first. If you answer, I'll ask for directions somewhere or ask for somebody who does not live there.
- Do you really think that I won't look in your sock drawer? I always check dresser drawers, the bedside table and the medicine cabinet.
- You're right I won't have time to break into that safe where you keep your valuables. But if it's not bolted down. I'll take it with me.
- A loud TV or radio can be a better deterrent than the best alarm system.
- Two things I hate the most, loud dogs and nosy neighbors.
- To you leaving the window open just a crack during the day is a way to let in a little fresh air. To me, it's an invitation.
- If you don't answer when I knock, I try the door. Occasionally, I hit the jackpot and walk right in if not I will kick it in.

Please be vigilant and pass this information on to your neighbors who cannot make the meetings.