



# NATIONAL NIGHT OUT SAFETY TIPS

**NATIONAL NIGHT OUT** began in 1984 to promote involvement in crime prevention activities, police-community partnerships, and neighborhood camaraderie, as well as to send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Crime Stoppers of Houston is proud to support all of our communities on **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**.

## How to Report a Tip



Call 713.222.TIPS (8477)



Text TIP610 plus your tip to CRIMES (274637)



Use our **Mobile App**  
Download app name: Crime Stoppers Houston



Go to [crime-stoppers.org](https://www.crime-stoppers.org)

Tipsters will remain anonymous and could be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$5,000.

## Did you know?

- Every 15 seconds a burglary occurs, with the average dollar loss being \$2,251.
- Homes without security systems are up to 300% more likely to be broken into.
- Most break-in occur during the day when you are at work.
- 95% of burglars surveyed would run if they met a large, unwelcoming dog face-to-face.
- Your local law enforcement department provides home security checks.
- Getting to know your neighbors is a great defense to keep your neighborhood safe.
- A neighborhood with mowed lawns, flowers, and freshly painted homes looks like it's cared for, and this alone can help deter crime.



### Tips for Parents:

- Know the location of your children. Create a system of communication for knowing where they are or when they reach their destination.
- Set limits on where they can and cannot go in the neighborhood. Consider potential dangers such as busy roads, abandoned houses, railroad tracks, registered sex offenders, etc.
- Familiarize your child with the neighborhood. Show them safe places they can go if they need help such as a neighbor's home, the fire station, police station, trusted stores or business offices.
- Be sure your child has memorized your home address and phone number along with the phone number of another trusted adult.
- Remind your child to "check first" before they leave the house.



## KEEP YOUR HOME SAFE: Prevention is key!

Most neighborhood crimes that occur are crimes of opportunity. Unlocked cars and easy access to your home are a burglar's dream. We cannot take for granted how safe we feel in our homes and community. Anything from running a quick errand and leaving your purse or briefcase in the car, forgetting to turn on your alarm or forgetting to lock your windows could put you at risk.

- 1.** Entrust a neighbor or a friend who lives close by with an extra key to your home in case of emergencies. It is not recommended to hide a key around your home.
- 2.** Keep shrubbery trimmed away from windows. It will add to your curb appeal and won't allow someone to hide. Maintain outdoor lighting and landscaping.
- 3.** Install security cameras and make a habit of using your alarm and locking windows and doors, including interior doors to an attached garage.
- 4.** Use timers on lamps in your home; it will appear as someone is home and will provide lighting if you arrive home after dark.
- 5.** Postpone your social media travel updates until you return. Updating in real-time alerts others of an empty house.
- 6.** Have packages delivered to an alternate address such as a work address if you are not going to be home during a delivery.
- 7.** Alert your local law enforcement department if you plan to be away from your home for an extended period of time.

## Do Something Tips

- ✓ Being aware of your neighbors' habits can assist in noticing if something does not seem right.
- ✓ Work together with your neighbors by looking out for suspicious and/or unusual behavior in the neighborhood.
- ✓ Create an email chain for your street/neighborhood to help keep the neighborhood abreast of safety tips and crime trends.
- ✓ Get outside and be visible by hosting block parties, going for walks, playing in the front yard to show potential criminals that you live in a tight knit community where neighbors look out for one another.
- ✓ If something seems questionable or to report suspicious activity, call the non-emergency line of your local police.
- ✓ Don't enter your home if doors or windows are open that you don't recall leaving open. Call the police from a safe distance.
- ✓ Call your neighbor if you see a service vehicle at their house while they are gone.