

CAR/PARKING LOT

- Scan the area around your vehicle as you approach or before exiting your car.
- Don't pick up hitchhikers.
- Keep doors locked and window rolled up so that someone can't reach in.
- When approaching stopped traffic, be sure you can see the rear tires of car in front of you touching the ground to provide you with an escape route.
- Plan your route and check a map before you start out. Know an alternate route.
- Park in a well-lit, heavily traveled area if possible.
- Park next to small vehicles that you can see over and in. Avoid vans, box trucks, larger vehicles that obstruct your view.
- Don't leave valuables in plain sight inside your car.
- If you see an accident or stranded motorist, report it to police in lieu of stopping.
- Carry an emergency kit: flashlight, flares, fix-a-flat, maps, water, climate appropriate clothing, first aid kit, empty gas can, white cloth to tie to antenna to signal distress.
- Learn some basic auto maintenance.
- Keep your hands-free cell phone nearby and fully charged. Do not lock the screen.



Programs offered by The New Castle County Police Community Services Unit

The following programs are offered to community, church, civic, youth and other organizations free of charge:

- Block Watch
- Building Tours
- Burglary Prevention
- Community / Block Watch
- Halloween Safety
- Heroin Alert
- Identity Theft
- Internet Safety
- Officer Friendly/Stranger Danger
- Personal Safety
- Police Athletic Leagues
- Project Lifesaver
- Senior Roll Call Lifeline
- Youth & the Law

For more information call:
(302) 395-8050

NEW CASTLE COUNTY
POLICE DEPARTMENT

PERSONAL SAFETY



**New Castle County Police
Community Services Unit
(302) 395-8050**

PROTECT YOURSELF

- If you are out, know your risk factors.
- Alternate your routes to avoid predictability.
- When out at night try to have a companion with you and consider skipping the ATM until morning.
- Don't carry a lot of cash.
- Don't display cash or any other inviting targets such as cell phones, iPods, jewelry.
- If you think someone is following you, cross the street, move to a lighted area or to a lighted house. Don't be afraid to yell for help or use distraction techniques to attract attention.
- Develop a plan and practice, practice, practice.
- Always park in well lighted areas with good visibility, close to walkways, stores and people.
- Make sure you have your keys out as you approach your vehicle.
- Always lock your car doors, even if it is in your driveway.
- Never leave your car running.
- If someone tries to rob you, always give them your property —
Don't give up your life!
- If you are robbed or assaulted, immediately call **9-1-1**.

Promptly report suspicious person (s) or activity to the police.

GENERAL SAFETY

- Listen to and act on your intuition. It's better to be safe and risk a little embarrassment, than stay in an uncomfortable situation is unsafe.
- Avoid being distracted from your surroundings with cell phone. The call can wait until you are in a safe location.
- If you are in danger or being attacked and want to get help, yell "Call 911!" or give specific directions to onlookers; "You! Get the police!" or "Walk me to the store on the corner, I'm being followed."
- Have your keys ready when approaching your car or building.
- Do not advance money or confidential information to solicitors without authentication.
- Don't talk about your social life or vacation plans where strangers can overhear you.
- Do not post notice of specific plans on social networking sites.
- Make eye contact.



IN YOUR HOME

- Have lights in all entrances & turn them on at night.
- Have quality locks on all doors and windows and use them.
- Do not use your full name on your mailbox or voice mail. Request a non-published number.
- Do not leave a schedule of your times away from home in any public domain.
- If you live alone, do not let strangers know. Invent a roommate or big dog.
- Know which neighbors you can trust in an emergency.
- Check who is at the door before opening it and if you are unsure talk to them through the door.
- Don't hide extra keys. Criminals will look for them.
- Never give personal information to solicitors. Tell them to mail you their offer for your consideration.
- Avoid predictability.

A.D.D. P.E.P.

- **Appearance:** Walk with a purpose, appear confident and keep your head up.
- **Distance:** Maintain ample distance between you and others.
- **Distraction:** There are potential victims who report a sneezing or coughing fit has fended off an attack.
- **Prepared:** Have a plan. Practice!
- **Eye Contact:** Make eye contact with anyone near you.
- **Packages:** Do not carry an excessive amount. Keep your hands free.