

I want to thank each and every one of my neighbors who attended our 'kick-off' for the Neighborhood Watch program. Although Officer Pickett was not in attendance, many ideas and experiences were shared, and although I can only speak for myself, I came away with a greater appreciation for my neighbors and their visible efforts to make Willow Wood a safer community.

As quickly as we can get a time scheduled with Officer Pickett we will let everyone know. In the meantime, one of our neighbors, Karen Pierce, was kind enough to share with the group, and it is included below, the results of a walk-through performed by Officer Pickett in her home. The recommendations that were made for her are shown below, and I am sure many of us can apply these suggestions to our own residences.

I was not aware of the service, but Officer Pickett can provide the same security survey for you in your own home and there is no charge for that survey. I anticipate that he will elaborate on this when we meet the next time.

The general consensus was that we have to look out for one another. Simply placing a sign at the entrance to the community will not suffice. Get to know your neighbors. Let them know when you are away from home. Don't let your mail or papers pile up. Be aware of strange persons or vehicles in the neighborhood and make a note of it if possible.

It was also discussed, and preliminary plans are in place to put up "No Solicitation" signs in the neighborhood. Our by-laws call for no solicitation, however; many individuals and companies continue to perform door-to-door canvassing. The idea with this is not to prevent legitimate enterprises such as girl scouts, etc. but is specifically designed to prevent those with ulterior motives from going from house-to-house.

Again, thanks to all those in attendance, as well as those who couldn't attend but have expressed their support for this important program. I am embarrassed to say I know many more of my neighbors than I did just from the meeting. I look forward to the progress of our Neighborhood Watch program.

Respectfully,

John

### **Home Safety from walk through with Officer Pickett**

Basement – install bars on window. Also get a motion adapter install in light in unfinished part of basement you screw this in 1<sup>st</sup> then screw the light in it.

Bells on interior doors good idea.

Cash – store it in stove, refrigerator in Tupperware or freezer.

Daytime- keep a small radio playing in kitchen during the day (I can turn the music on outside).

Deck – small light on corner put a switch or chain in it. Install dawn to dusk light on corner by swing.

Fire Safe Box – get at Lowes keep Birth Certificate, charge card numbers, pictures of household belongings TV etc in here, jewelry etc. hide it in house or attic.

Garage door – replace the lock on door from laundry room into kitchen.

Keep garage door closed if I'm working in the yard for hours & when people are over. Lock the door every night from garage into laundry room.

Keep dawn to dusk light operating over my garage door.

Keep garage door opener outside of car or hidden in car.

Keys – don't store them in deadbolt locks as w/front door they can break the glass panel & turn the key to open the door.

Lighting outside of house - it's important to keep lights on at night and throughout the night. Dawn to dusk lights are a good choice.

Nighttime – In the kitchen keep a light on.

Outside for dawn to dusk lights use spiral bulbs more energy efficient.

Purse – remove it from car at night.

Photos – take photos of inside of home & outside & garage items in case those items are stolen or in case of fire.

Shrubs – keep them trimmed below windows, never let a large shrub grown on the driveway side.

Vacation – have lawn cut, snow removed, paper & mail stopped and notify police when I'll be gone for a week to drive by.