



## Columbus Police Department Home Safety



As October marks the recognition of National Crime Prevention Month, the Columbus Division of Police offer the following Home Safety tips to help prevent crime in your home:

- 1) Make sure all entry ways into your home have sturdy, metal or solid wood doors and that sliding glass and similar doors are properly secured.
- 2) Install and use well-made deadbolt locks (1.5 inch throw or greater) on all exterior doors.
- 3) Make sure all exterior doors have wide-angle viewers that can be used by everyone in the house. Install two viewers at different heights if necessary.
- 4) Trim shrubs and trees that might give criminals a place to hide or climb to second stories.
- 5) Make sure entry door areas are well lighted so you can tell who's there. Motion detector lights, floodlights, or similar lighting can help brighten up the property so crooks can't hide.
- 6) Make sure everyone – adults, teens, and younger children – knows house rules for answering the telephone and the door.

Criminals choose their targets based on opportunity. Taking opportunities for criminal to enter your home away greatly decreases the odds of your home being targeted by a would-be criminal. Following the above tips will help decrease the odds of becoming a target.

Visit the Columbus Division of Police website at [www.columbuspolice.org](http://www.columbuspolice.org) for information on forming a block watch in your community and for safety tips to keep you and yours safe!