



Chanhassen Crime Prevention



Neighborhood Watch

Dear Neighborhood Watch Member:

Designed to reduce the risk of crime, the Neighborhood Watch Program is a cooperative effort between law enforcement and citizens. Neighborhood Watch promotes neighborhood networking. Neighbors who know each other are more likely to watch out for each other and take an active interest in their neighborhood. The program also serves as a reminder to establish daily crime prevention practices.

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952-227-1601
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Carver County Sheriff's Office
952-361-1231
(24-hour non-emergency)

Chanhasseen Annual Statistics Crimes Reported

Part I Crimes	2008	2007	2006
Arson	0	5	0
Assault – Aggravated	3	4	4
Burglary	29	50	59
(Residential)	(18)	(24)	(22)
(Non-residential)	(11)	(26)	(37)
Homicide	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	1
Sex Crimes - Felony	3	4	1
Theft	306	325	385
(From Vehicle)	(53)	(55)	(76)
Vehicle Theft	10	10	19
Total Part I Crimes	351	398	469

Part II Crimes			
Abuse/Neglect	0	1	7
Assault	51	49	80
Court Order Violation	19	15	19
Disturbing Peace	77	101	77
Drug Violation	42	46	36
Gambling	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violation	26	43	43
Misc. Criminal	42	32	50
Property Damage	177	272	276
Runaway	16	26	21
Sex Crimes	2	10	16
Theft-Related	113	117	106
Traffic -Alcohol	78	79	85
Traffic – Other	14	13	11
Weapons	5	0	1
Total – Part II Crimes	662	804	828

Total Crimes	1013	1202	1297
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Email Crime Alerts – A Free Chanhassen Service

Register to receive crime alerts directly from the City of Chanhassen by visiting our website:
www.ci.chanhassen.mn.us/crimemail.html

As a crime alert recipient, you would receive notices regarding increased crime activity affecting Chanhassen residential areas. We can not anticipate how often crime alerts will be sent; however, you will NOT be inundated with numerous emails. Your personal information will be used ONLY FOR CRIME PREVENTION/PUBLIC SAFETY purposes and will be held confidential.

Crime Alert Benefits:

- Generates public safety awareness and crime prevention recommendations.
- Assists law enforcement by reminding citizens to report suspicious activity.

Home Emergency Preparedness

General Emergency Preparedness

Write down phone numbers and contact information for your family. Keep one copy by the phone and provide others to family and friends.

Evacuation Plans

- Develop a home evacuation plan and practice it with your family and neighbors. Know what to do if you are instructed to evacuate your home or community.
Every child and other member of your family should know exactly how to get out of your home in case of fire or other emergency.
 - Find at least two ways out of each room in your home if possible.
 - If you live in an apartment building, know the evacuation plan.
 - Agree on a place nearby to meet once everyone gets out of the house or apartment.
- Plan how to take care of pets. With the exception of guide dogs, shelters do not allow pets.
- Learn how to shut off utilities such as gas, electricity, and water.
- Make a neighborhood directory and plan. Include emergency contact information and plans for children and seniors who may be home alone during emergency situations. Identify neighbors who need additional help, such as young children, seniors, and those with disabilities, and develop a plan to assist them in an emergency.
- Make your house easy to find. Make sure your street address number is large and well lighted so that emergency personnel can find your home quickly.
- Organize an emergency preparedness kit. Check batteries, change the stored water, and rotate the food supplies every six months. Your kit should contain the following supplies.
 - A three-to-five-day supply of water (one gallon per person per day)
 - Food that will not spoil and requires no cooking
 - A first-aid kit and needed medicines (consult your physician or pharmacist about storing medications and keep copies of your prescriptions)
 - Emergency tools like a battery-powered radio, cell phones, flashlight, and extra batteries
 - Personal items like toilet paper and plastic garbage bags
 - A portable emergency generator if possible.

Reporting Suspicious Activity

Law enforcement depends on concerned citizens to report all suspicious persons and actions in your neighborhood.

We encourage you to immediately report suspicious by calling 911. **DO NOT** worry about bothering the police. **DO NOT** worry about being embarrassed if your suspicions prove unfounded. While some, if not all of the following situations could have innocent explanations, law enforcement officers would rather investigate a potential crime than be called when it is too late. This list is not intended to be complete. Use your own judgment when reporting other suspicious activities.

- Someone trying to enter a neighbor's home by a door or window
- Someone shouting for help
- Gun shots, alarms sounding or the sound of glass being broken
- Someone peering into or tampering with a neighbor's car or house window/door
- Someone seen with a weapon
- Someone carrying items of value from a neighbor's home
- Someone who appears to be moving household items late at night
- Unusually heavy vehicle or human traffic from a particular residence
- Parked vehicles containing one or more persons for an extended period of time
- Apparent business transactions being conducted from a vehicle

Carver County Juvenile Curfew

Juveniles under the age of 12:

9:00 pm – 5:00 am Sunday – Thursday

10:00 pm – 5:00 am Friday – Thursday

Juveniles 12 – 14 of age:

10:00 pm – 5:00 am Sunday – Thursday

11:00 pm – 5:00 am Friday – Saturday

Juveniles 15 – 17 years of age:

11:00 pm – 5:00 am Sunday – Thursday

12:01 am – 5:00 am Friday and Saturday

Reduce Your Risk of Burglary – Daily Procedures

A simple and effective first step to preventing home burglaries is to lock doors and windows. Criminals are opportunists, and look for easy targets. Between 2007 and 2008, 71% of Chanhassen's home burglaries were non-force entries.

- Close and lock garage doors when not in use (including service doors). *An open garage door can create temptation and allows for easy access into your home.*
- Keep exterior doors locked (including patio/deck doors which are a common entry point in home burglaries).
- Close and lock ground floor windows before leaving the house or retiring for the evening.
- Remove garage door openers from vehicles parked in the driveway.
- Use automatic timers on interior lights when leaving for a trip, or even when you're gone just for the evening.
- Use motion detectors and/or timers for outdoor lights.
- Document valuables by recording serial & model numbers, and take pictures of unique items such as jewelry and artwork.
- Be careful with whom you share your travel plans. Limit who has information as to when your house will be unoccupied.
- Secure personal information, such as checking accounts, credit cards and social security numbers, especially if others have access to your home (such as service workers or roommates).

Reduce Your Risk of Theft from Vehicle

One of the most common crimes is theft from a vehicle. Any vehicle having items left in plain view will tempt a thief. A gym bag, backpack or CDs left in view could be enough of a temptation for a thief to break the window. Identity thieves will frequently target vehicles looking for purses and wallets.

Property commonly stolen from vehicles

- Purses/wallets & checkbooks
- Lap top computers
- GPS units
- Cell phones
- MP3 Players
- CDs
- Stereo equipment

Prevention Reminders

- Always lock your vehicles.
- Always remove valuables (even when a vehicle is parked in a garage or driveway).
- It is never recommended to leave valuables in your vehicle (*especially a purse or wallet*); but if there is no other option, place items out of sight, preferably in a trunk, before arriving at your destination.

Reduce Your Risk of Identity Theft

- Never leave a purse/wallet or any item containing personal information in an unattended vehicle, locker room, hanging on the back of a chair at a bar/restaurant, or shopping cart.
- Never give your personal information to someone who has contacted you. Any company that you've previously conducted business with (or a fraud investigator) will already have your personal information.
- Secure personal information in your home, especially if you employ outside help, are having work done in your home, showing your home for sale or have a roommate.
- Never e-mail your financial information. Email is not a secure method of transmitting financial account information or a Social Security Number.
- Carefully monitor your bills and other accounts, and immediately report any discrepancies.
- Never place your outgoing mail in your mailbox; especially mail containing personal information. Promptly retrieve incoming mail.
- Never carry your Social Security Number (SSN) card in your wallet; always store it in a secure place. Give your SSN only when absolutely necessary; and when possible, ask to use other types of identifiers.
- Regularly review your credit history. Go to www.annualcreditreport.com

Reduce Your Risk of Scams

Tips from the Office of Minnesota Attorney General

- If you receive correspondence claiming that your financial institution, or account has been jeopardized, do not immediately disclose your account or other information. Contact the company at a telephone number or address that is listed in the telephone book, or one that you know to be an accurate contact for the company.
- Do not send payment or wire money to a third party in response to a cashier's check or personal check "overpayment" in connection with your sale of a vehicle, product or service. Remember, just because the bank may make funds from a cashier's check available quickly does not mean the check is good. Financial institutions can take up to a week or longer to verify that a given cashier's check or personal check is legitimate.
- Never respond to correspondence regarding a foreign lottery. These lotteries are illegal!
- Do not believe claims that you need to pay in order to "collect your winnings" from a contest or to obtain a line of credit.
- Don't be rushed. People often make poor decisions when they are hurried. Most victims of scams later realize that if they had taken their time and thought it through, they would not have agreed to disclose their information or send money to a given scam operator.
- If it sounds too good to be true, it is.

Internet Resources:

www.ftc.gov

www.fbi.gov

www.ag.state.mn.us

Door-To-Door Solicitors

All for-profit organizations are required to register with the City and must display a Chanhassen solicitor photo ID badge when soliciting in the city.

The following are exempt from having to register with the City and are not required to carry a Chanhassen solicitor photo ID badge:

- Children age 17 or younger, soliciting for school sponsored activities.
- Religious, charitable, or non-profit organizations.

Door-to-door solicitation hours are between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m.

The solicitor photo ID badge issued by the City of Chanhassen is not an endorsement of the solicitor's product. The objective of the ordinance is to aid the City in managing the activity of door-to-door solicitation.

Recommendations:

- Immediately report the following violations:
 - A solicitor selling **for a profit organization** who does not display the Chanhassen solicitor photo ID badge.
 - A solicitor refuses to leave property after you have asked them to leave.
- Take caution when letting strangers into your home.
- Remind your teenage children on how to deal with strangers and rules of safety, as they may answer the door when you're not home.
- If you do not wish to receive solicitors, posting a sign stating "Peddlers and Solicitors Prohibited" is enforceable per the Chanhassen ordinance. The sign must be at least 3 ¾ inches long by 3 ¾ inches in height and the printing shall not be smaller than forty-eight-point type.

