

CRIME WARNING



Ruse Burglaries

This crime has been increasing lately in the area.

Ruse entry burglaries occur when a suspect attempts to lure the homeowner outside, to the rear of the residence or to the basement to discuss an issue with their home or neighbor's home. Once the homeowner is distracted a second suspect will enter the home to commit the burglary. These offenders tend to target homes typically owned by senior citizens. However, anyone can be a target.



Offenders use many story lines. Some include:

- ◆ Check water supply or pressure
- ◆ Offers to repair gutters, fences or tree trimming
- ◆ Advises there is an electrical problem in the area
- ◆ Asks about homes for sale in the neighborhood
- ◆ Unsolicited driveway repair or seal-coating services on the spot
- ◆ Posing as a utility worker or Village employee

Prevention Tips:

- ◆ Check credentials of anyone claiming to be a utility worker or Village employee
- ◆ Be wary of "workers" without an official vehicle
- ◆ Keep an extra watch on elderly neighbors
- ◆ Be observant of neighbors' homes for suspicious activities
- ◆ If you're not sure who is at your door, don't open it
- ◆ Keep your doors, including screen doors, and windows locked at all times



Be aware of anyone coming to your door or approaching you for unsolicited business.

Request identification from anyone who approaches and tell them you will verify any work conducted in the area with the police.

Keep jewelry, cash and other valuables in a safe place, preferably a safe deposit box.

NEVER allow strangers into your home or to distract you away from your unlocked front door.

Call 911 immediately and try to provide a license plate, and a description of the suspects and their vehicle.