



# WASHTENAW COUNTY OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF



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## Situational Crime Prevention Responses to Burglary of Single-Family Houses

### I. Responses:

#### 1. Hardening Targets:

- Home Security Surveys
- Installing the following:
  - Sturdy doors with deadbolts.
  - Window locks rather than latches.
  - Double pane, storm or divided light windows.
  - Sliding glass door locks or slide bolts.

#### 2. Marking Property:

- Engraving
- Bar codes
- Labels

#### 3. Increasing occupancy indicators:

- Interior/exterior lights with timers
- Closed curtains
- Noise from televisions or stereo
- Vehicles in driveway
- BEWARE OF DOG SIGN(S)

- Leave garage door closed
- Stop mail delivery \*if gone for extended period

4. Improve visibility:

- Remove obstructions to visibility at/near the house
  - Trim trees and shrubs
  - Modify fencing to NOT BLOCK VIEW of house
  - Motion-activated lighting
- Increase street lighting \*this depends on the jurisdiction but communicate to the local officials if street lights are not working or stress the need for lighting if there currently is not any.

5. Implementing Neighborhood Watch (NW):

- Watchful neighbors are more reliable than alarms.
- Get to know your neighbor(s) and watch out for each other.