

Steps to Protect Your Home During the Summer Months

Don't be a home burglary victim. Take the time and effort to make it tough for anyone to get in. Better safe than sorry.

Protect Your Home When You Are Away

- Use light switched timers to realistically simulate occupancy
- Leave shades and blinds as you usually do
- Light up the porch and yard with a time controller
- Connect an old, analog type television or radio (modern, electronic ones come on in standby mode -- not in playing mode), or burglar deterrent CD recordings with a schedule-able player with timers
- Have lawns mowed, sidewalks swept, hedges clipped on schedule
- Lock all exterior doors securely -- such as, using thick cylinder locks on outside entrances. If you are worried about someone picking or forcing the lock -- which is generally easy to do -- use more secure locks including ones considered pick-resistant.
- Safety latches on the windows to keep "below-average crooks honest" and preschoolers in-/out-
- Try keeping screens fastened from within, but it is "child's-play" to slit them open before pushing window glass in with a pad of some kind.
- Form a neighborhood crime watch with the assistance of your local police department. Team work, cooperation, common sense can help make or break a neighborhood. Report anything suspicious. Survive Mischief Night as a Prankster Step. Ask a trusted neighbor to watch your property when you are away. Do the same for them!
- Check all nearby streetlights to be sure they are functional. If not, contact your electricity company to request a repair. Would-be intruders are not as fond of well-lit areas.
- Arrange to have a neighbor pick up your mail, circulars and newspapers when you are on vacation. If that isn't possible, cancel all deliveries, including newspapers. Arrange with your post office to hold your mail or leave it with a neighbor.
- Never advertise your departure. This may be easier said than done, especially for those who often share personal information on social networking sites (such as [Keep Safe on Facebook and Twitter, other social media outlets.
- Replace any exterior hollow doors with solid ones. You can purchase an exterior door quite cheaply. Light gauge steel-clad doors can cost as little as \$175-\$200, but heavy duty or special door designs, or with features such as impact-resistant glass (or bullet proof Plexiglas), can increase the price to \$1500 or more.
- Install locks that wedge and bolt in sliding doors and double hung windows
- Invest in a good alarm system. At the very least, buy one of those alarm company signs. Protect Your Home When You Are Away Check with your police department, you may be able to have a direct connection from your house to the police, but false alarms may cost you a fine. Do that, if and only if your police are stringently honest and secure. People going on vacation who have notified police have had their addresses hacked, stolen or sold and circulated on lists for "enterprising" thieves and robbers. Many websites are no longer recommending notifying police, but only a good neighbor, when you are away
- You can purchase an exterior door quite cheaply. Light gauge steel-clad doors can cost as little as \$175-\$200, but heavy duty or special door designs, or with features such as impact-resistant glass (or bullet proof Plexiglas), can increase the price to \$1500 or more.



August 3, 2013

A community on the rise!

Volume 1 Issue 10

MorningSide

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Greetings MorningSide

I would encourage you to get to know your board. The board has been assigned two streets in MorningSide as Ambassadors. Please write down their names and contact information. They are as follows:

- Scotty Boman - 313-247-2052 - Outer Drive E./Whittier St.
- Jackie Grant - 313-720-9304 - Audubon Rd./Courville St.
- Eric Dueweke - 313-231-1114 - Three Mile Dr./Bedford St.
- Zelda Anderson - 313-657-7152 - Devonshire Rd./Haverhill St.
- Beverly Brown - 313-505-8355 - Buckingham Ave./Berkshire St.
- Claudia Meeks - 313-610-4674 - Chatsworth St./Balfour Rd./Waveney St.
- Paul Phillips - 313-598-6601 - Somerset Ave./Nottingham Rd.
- Ulysses Jones - 313-717-8115 - Beaconsfield St./Barham St./Linville St.
- Pastor Darrell Reed - 313-742-7928 - Lakepointe St./Maryland St.
- Robert Lavoy - 313-354-4369 - Wayburn St./Alter Rd.

Call them and allow them to be accountable for your streets growth. Let's get to work building our community. Thank you.

O'Dell Tate ~ MorningSide-President

Gateway Project

We are asking for volunteers to spruce up our beautiful Gateway located on the corner of Mack and Alter Road.

If you can donate supplies, use your creativity to beautify it, pull weeds, plant flowers, or **whatever** you can do to assist in this effort, please contact Bob Lavoy @ 313 354-4369.

Advertise in your MorningSide Newsletter

Contact Zelda Anderson@ 313 657-7152
or Bob Lavoy 313 354-4369

Our Next Meeting

Saturday, September 7, 2012
12:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.
Peace Lutheran Church
15700 E. Warren Ave.
Detroit, MI 48224

August/September 2013

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Block Clubs

By Zelda Anderson (Vice President)

There are many benefits to organizing a block club. Taking collective actions, sharing information, and raising awareness among your neighbors will also improve the safety of your block. With just a little time and work from you and your neighbors, you can make a big impact on your community. Who has time? No one has time! What's more important than your community? It starts with you.

Throw a Block Party

Host a neighborhood get-together this summer and create lasting friendships!



The Setup

- **Four Weeks Before:** Hold a planning meeting and select the event date and time. Some cities allow temporary permits to block car traffic on streets. Recruit a volunteer to contact your town for information. Also ask neighbors to sign up to help with event setup, decorating, activities, and food. Don't forget cleanup duty!
- **Two Weeks Before:** Ask a volunteer in charge of food to contact families to confirm which dishes they'll bring and determine how many people plan to be there.

The Look

- This party is casual, colorful, and kid-friendly. Buy balloons for neighbors to tie to mailboxes, lampposts, fences, and trees. Arrange food tables in a central location. Have children make table coverings with butcher paper and chalk. For a festive glow after sunset, set up garden torches and strings of lights.

The Activities

- Kick it off with a parade. Let kids and their pets dress up and wear silly hats, and decorate tricycles and wagons.
- Invite the local police or fire department to visit and ask them to give safety demonstrations and tours of their vehicles.
- Play front-yard mini golf. Let families create their own holes and award inexpensive prizes for best designs.
- Rock the street with music. Hook up a CD player outside or splurge on live music that everyone will enjoy.

The Food

- A potluck picnic is the best way to share good eats with friends. Invite neighbors to bring their favorite appetizers, entrees, salads, and desserts.

In case you didn't know, several new businesses have opened in the Detroit area:

Family Dollar opened May 31
15200 East Warren Avenue
Detroit, MI 48224
Store Hours
8am-9pm M-Sat.
9am-9pm Sun.

Family Dollar opened June 23
17241 E Warren Avenue
Detroit, MI 48224
Store Hours
8am-9pm

Whole Foods opened June 5
115 Mack Ave.
Detroit, MI 48201
Store Hours
8am-9pm seven days a week

Meijer opened July 25
1301 W. Eight Mile Rd.
Detroit, Michigan 48203
Store Hours
6am-11pm, daily

Our Appreciation ...

...for their tireless efforts...

Ray Latham Group – Midwest Auto Pros – Jerry's Garage – Blue Pointe Restaurant – McDonald's – M&M Pet Supply – Wine Basket – Energy Alliance Group – Eastside Locksmith – Hammertime – BP Gas Station on Mack – BP Gas Station on Harper – State Rep Alberta Tinsley-Talabi – Councilwoman Brenda Jones – Councilman Andrew Spivey - State Rep Brian Banks – State Rep Coleman Young - Wayne County Commissioner Tim Killeen – Pastor Darrell Reed of Spirit of Love Church – Pastor Charles Lassiter of Greater Pentecostal Church – Pastor Ron Cross of Metro Central Church of Christ – Anthony Jackson of Emerging Industries Training Institute

...and a special thanks to

- Congressman Gary Peters for providing important information on the PetCoke problem on the Detroit River particularly for Southwest Detroit and the continuing issues with mortgages in the country –
- State Rep Brian Banks for recruiting volunteers to do board ups in Morningside July 13
- Metro Central Church of Christ @ 4455 Barham for hosting the marvelous Morningside Brunch Meeting on Saturday July 13,

Seven Super Steps to Safe Food in the Summer

During warm weather, it is especially important to take extra precautions and practice safe food handling when preparing perishable foods such as meat, poultry, seafood and egg products. The warmer weather conditions may be ideal for outdoor picnics and barbecues, but they also provide a perfect environment for bacteria and other pathogens in food to multiply rapidly and cause food borne illness. Follow the suggestions below to Fight BAC! (food borne bacteria) and reduce the risk of food borne illness this summer.

1. Wash, Wash, Wash Your Hands. Always wash your hands with warm water and soap for at least 20 seconds before and after handling food. Sing Row, Row, Row Your Boat twice to get a sense of how long you should wash.
2. Marinating Mandate. Always marinate food in the refrigerator. Don't use sauce that was used to marinate raw meat or poultry on cooked food. Reserve a portion of the unused marinade to use as a sauce.
3. Hot, Hot, Hot. When grilling foods, preheat the coals on your grill for 20 to 30 minutes, or until the coals are lightly coated with ash.
4. Temperature Gauge. Use a food thermometer to ensure that food reaches a safe internal temperature.
5. Where's the Beef? Chicken and Fish? Hamburgers should be cooked to 160 °F, while large cuts of beef such as roasts and steaks may be cooked to 145 °F for medium rare or to 160 °F for medium. Poultry must reach a temperature of 165 °F. Fish should be opaque and flake easily.
6. Stay Away from that Same Old Plate. When taking foods off the grill, do not put cooked food items back on the same plate that held raw food, unless it has been washed with hot water and soap first. And in hot weather (above 90°F) foods should never sit out for more than one hour before going in the refrigerator.
7. Icebox Etiquette. A full cooler will maintain its cold temperatures longer than one that is partially filled so it is important to pack plenty of extra ice or freezer packs to ensure a constant cold temperature. Keep the cooler out of the direct sun. Keep drinks in a separate cooler from foods. The beverage cooler will be opened frequently while the food cooler stays cold.

Resources

If you have more questions or concerns about food safety, contact:

- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854). TTY 1-800-256-7072.
- The Fight BAC!® Web site at www.fightbac.org
- Gateway to Government Food Safety Information at www.foodsafety.gov

COMING VERY SOON

Calendar Fundraiser

Prepare to put your best face forward!!

Nine Things to do When your Electricity Goes Out

With the strong storms in our area the last few weeks, DTE has been dealing with high volumes of power outages from downed trees and power lines. Here's what you need to know before the lights and the heat go out.

1. Call your power company. If you're a DTE customer, call (800) 477-4747. Do not call 911, unless you see wires down.

2. Dress in layers to stay warm. Wear a knit hat and gloves.



3. Avoid opening your refrigerator and freezer as much as possible. Your food will stay cold for hours, if the door is left closed.

4. If you're cold, take a warm shower. Your hot water heater, even if electric, will stay warm for a few hours.

5. Unplug some of your major appliances. When the power comes back on, a power surge could damage those appliances.

6. If you have a generator, do not connect it to your home's power system unless it has been properly installed and disconnects you from the main power grid when it is operating.

7. Check on your elderly neighbors. Make sure they are dressed appropriately warm.

8. If you have a regular wood stove or fireplace, you can use it for heat. Do not use kerosene heaters, BBQs, or any outdoor type heater inside. They can create dangerous gases, like carbon monoxide.

9. If you have to go out, drive carefully. Remember that traffic signals may be out during a power outage.

Become Aware of Your Surroundings – Look Out for Downed/Low Hanging Wires

Whenever your power is interrupted, remember that a downed wire might be the cause. During storms, tree branches bring down numerous wires that become an immediate safety hazard. Wires also burn free due to overheating. No matter what the cause, use some common sense steps to protect yourself and your family.

1. Do not touch metal fences if you see or suspect a wire is down...
2. Make sure that you can see where you are stepping, and do not step, touch or get close to a downed or low hanging wire.
3. Unless you are a trained professional, you will not be able to determine if a wire is alive and dangerous. Just because it is not "jumping" or "arcing" or "sparking" does not make it safe.
4. Do not allow your children outside if you see (or suspect) wires are down.
5. If you spot a downed wire or a low hanging wire (within reach), do not attempt to touch or move it. Keeps people and pets away and call DTE at 1-800-477-4747 and 911.

