

**Burlington Police
Department**

Reporting Contacts

**Emergency:
911**

Telephone:

(802) 658-2704

Fax:

(802) 865-7579

TTY (802) 658-2700

Address:

**1 North Avenue
Burlington, VT 05401**

www.bpdvt.org

**CRIME PREVENTION
RESOURCES**

**The National Crime Prevention
Council (NCPC) – Home of
McGruff – the Crime Dog
<http://www.ncpc.org/>
Multiple brochures are
available from NCPC.**

Crimestoppers

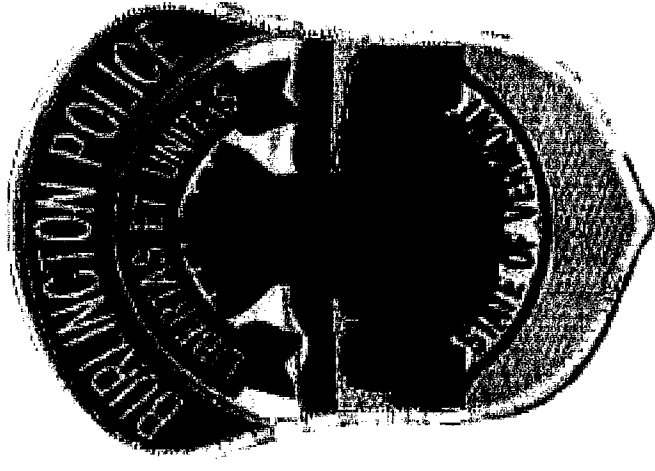
**<http://www.crimestoppers.org>
TipLine 864-6666**

**National Center for Missing
and Exploited Children
<http://www.missingkids.com>
1-800-THE-LOST**

Burlington Police Department

**One North Avenue
Burlington, VT 05401
Phone (802) 658-2704**

Citizen's Guide to Crime Prevention



CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

The following are some general tips for safety in varying situations.

HOME SAFETY

Have a home safety and evacuation plan. Ensure everyone in your home knows it. Practice it.

Be sure children know whether or how to answer the phone and the door as well as what information to give out.

Ensure you have sturdy entry doors and sliding glass doors are secured.

Install deadbolt locks and use them consistently.

Install motion sensor floodlights on the exterior of your house or building.

Trim trees and shrubs to ensure that criminals do not have a place to conceal themselves and cannot climb to second floor windows.

Use timed lights, radios, or televisions when away from home.

If possible, lock or secure windows on the first floor. For example, secure windows open only as much as needed.

Get to know your neighbors and have them check on your residence when you are away.

Lock outdoor items such as grills, bicycles, or lawnmowers at all times.

Be alert in your neighborhood. Call police if something appears out of place or suspicious.

AUTO SAFETY

Always lock your car and take your keys with you, even when away from the car “for just a minute.”

Do not leave valuables in your car, even momentarily.

Park in well lit and well traveled areas if possible.

If shopping, secure parcels in the trunk.

If someone appears to be following you, drive to a well lit and well traveled area – or to a nearby police station or store. Take down a license plate number if you can.

PERSONAL SAFETY

Always be aware of your surroundings and “play heads up” – have a safety plan in case something happens.

If a situation makes you feel uncomfortable or you get “a funny feeling,” trust your instincts and leave.

Stick to well traveled, well lit streets and avoid shortcuts, wooded areas, parking lots, or alleys.

When walking to your car, have your keys in your hand and look into the car before getting in.

Walk in the middle of the sidewalk, not to the side adjacent to shrubs and walls.

If you think someone is following you, turn in the opposite direction or cross the street. If they persist, move quickly to the nearest group of people and ask for help.

Keep purses, bags, or parcels close to your body and do not walk with too many items.

If someone tries to rob you, give up your money or valuables readily. Property is not worth compromising your safety.

If you choose to carry a defensive device, ensure that it is one that cannot be used to permanently harm you. Do not use edged weapons or firearms. Whistles (without moving parts that could fail), air horn devices, or pepper spray may be suitable alternatives.

Beware of confidence schemes (cons). If an offer or situation seems too good to be true, it probably is.