

THE SUMMERFIELDS

A COMMUNITY WHERE DIVERSITY
IS VALUED, COMMUNICATIONS
ARE ENCOURAGED AND AN
ATTITUDE OF LEARNING FROM
ONE ANOTHER IS RESPECTED



SPOTLIGHT

FOCUS ON THE NEIGHBORHOOD

A Publication of the Summerfields Neighborhood Association

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Citizens on Patrol Volunteers Make Our Community Safer

In 1993 then Fort Worth Chief of Police Thomas Wyndham created a Community Policing Program called Code Blue. One of the key elements of that program was using trained citizen volunteers to patrol their communities. This volunteer program is called Citizens on Patrol (COP). The Fort Worth Police Department's COP program has become the benchmark for such programs nationwide. They've even had foreign police departments come to Fort Worth to learn about the program. Summerfields has a very active COP group. In 2019 Summerfields COP volunteered almost 3,000 hours to the program.

Since it's inception in 1993, this program is credited with being a major factor in reducing Fort Worth's crime rate by 63%. This is especially remarkable when you think how much the City has grown in the last 27 years. The City has almost tripled in population, making it the third largest city in the nation. Yet we still show a 63% reduction in crime! The COP program is one of many programs funded by the Crime Control Prevention District (CCPD) 1/2% sales tax which was just overwhelmingly renewed by Fort Worth's citizens.

The program currently has hundreds of trained volunteers city-wide. They have been trained by the Fort Worth Police Department on how to safely patrol and report suspicious activity to the police dispatchers. Their role is passive, they do not confront anyone, don't carry any weapons, and are equipped only with City-provided ID Cards, uniforms, car signs and a police-issued radio. They is no fixed patrol schedule, they simply sign in with a base monitor and go out when their schedule permits. (continued at bottom of page 4)

SNA Presidents Corner



As you all know, I am very pleased with our neighborhoods diversity. I can't tell you how pleased I was when the Crime Control Prevention District was recently overwhelmingly renewed by Fort Worth voters. I strongly felt the Defund the Police movement was ill-advised and, if successful, would produce results that were counter-productive to what it's proponents wanted to achieve. Having no police force leads to anarchy, and if the police need to identify and implement changes, they need the resources to do so.

I empathize with the concerns of the minority communities. For too long many have been denied access to the institutions and opportunities I take for granted. That culture must change. I simply believe that targeting the police, while garnering attention, was aimed at the wrong target. I have worked closely with the Fort Worth Police Department for over 25 years and have found the vast majority are good, hardworking folks who take their job very seriously. It is such a shame that a few bad eggs, which exist in every element of society, have tainted these fine public servants. The George Floyd incident was a travesty. The officers involved are charged with murder. That is justice. But painting all police officers with the same brush strikes me as profiling, and I thought that was a bad thing to do. We need to stop fixing the blame and start fixing the problems.

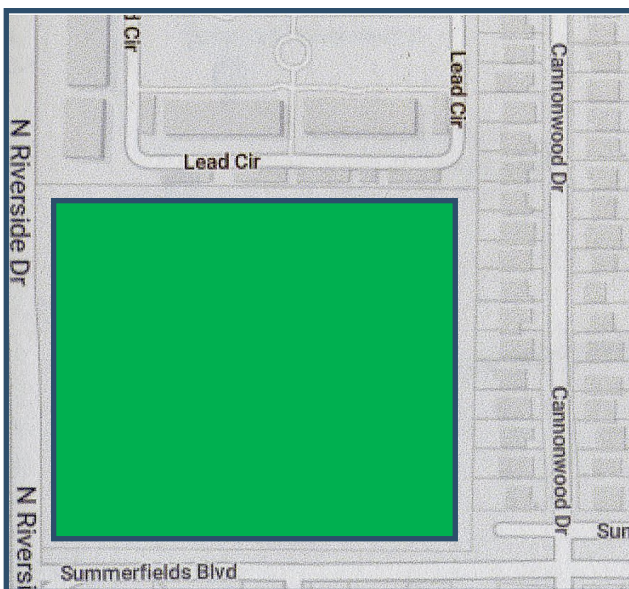
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KELLER ISD SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION HAS BEGUN

They are clearing the land just west of Heritage Elementary School on Thompson Road. We have also observed drilling trucks taking soil samples at Parkview Elementary School, probably to determine its weight bearing capability. This apparently is the start of extensive school updates passed in the recent Keller Independent School District (KISD) Bond election. Both Heritage and Parkview Elementary schools will be taken completely down (date TBD) and new facilities will be built on the same land. Depending upon the available acreage, it is unknown at this time if these two schools will be one or two-story structures.

Fossil Hill Middle school is also slated for major upgrades. All the schools in KISD will receive varying degrees of improvements, such as enhanced digital learning and building enhancements/renovations. Like all far north Fort Worth entities, KISD has had to contend with our exponential growth over the last 20+ years. This growth shows no signs of abating. Kudos to KISD for planning for both the present and the future.



The SNA is supporting the development of a seniors only (55+) multi-family facility on the vacant land located at the northeast intersection of Summerfields Blvd. and N. Riverside Drive. This land is currently zoned commercial and we feel this development is superior to the most probable options than what would be built on a commercially zoned site. The zoning change request for



this facility was approved by the City's Zoning Commission in July and goes to the City Council in August for final disposition.

Concept Drawing

Area Road Construction Update

As everyone is probably aware, construction is going full bore on widening N. Riverside Drive to a four lane road from N. Tarrant Parkway south to Basswood Elementary school. This project will also install two traffic circles at the Summerfields Blvd. and Thompson Road intersections with N. Riverside. When completed this will make N. Riverside a four lane road up to North Tarrant. Construction is proceeding well and should be finished, weather permitting, by the fall of 2021.

A second road improvement project will continue widening N. Riverside Drive from N. Tarrant Parkway up to the existing traffic circle/four lane road at Shiver Road. It is funded and in the design phase. This project will not begin until the current N. Riverside project is complete. This means we have a couple of years before N. Riverside is a four lane road in our area.

Other road improvements are planned for the Basswood Blvd. and N. Beach intersection. This project was funded in the last Capital Improvement Program and will install two turn lanes in every direction to help alleviate traffic congestion at this busy intersection. No start date is known.



New Eating Establishment Will Open Soon

Lisa's Chicken and Seafood is opening a new location in our area. They are currently renovating the old Wendy's building at the intersection of Sandshell Drive and the North Freeway access road, just south of the Braum's. Lisa's has been a fixture in the Stockyards and other areas for years. The Stockyards location is primarily a takeout facility offering fried chicken and catfish. We do not know as yet if they will have dine-in services at our location. We are pleased to welcome them to the area. It is also good to see a new business open in one of our vacant buildings, especially in these pandemic-induced difficult economic times.



Standard Multi-Family Apartments Being Considered In Our Area

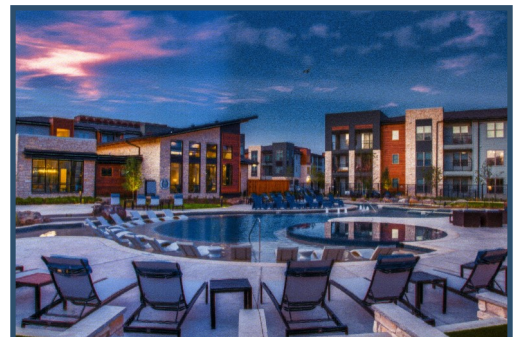
A developer has been working with Councilman Cary Moon and area neighborhood organizations, including the SNA, to construct a 200 unit apartment complex on the land bordered by Fossil Bluff, Hartnett, and Sandshell Blvd. This is the land just to the south of the Carriage Place townhomes who's Association we are supporting.

While the SNA has traditionally opposed new standard multi-family zoning changes, this is not a normal situation. This site is currently zoned G, high intensity commercial. This type of zoning allows several large non-residential facilities such as the

Main Event bowling and gaming center in the Presidio Shopping area. Because of the risk of such G-zoned facilities building on this land, we are leaning toward supporting this multi-family development.



Concept Drawings from the Developer. Final design is yet to be determined.



Police Perception Survey

Taken from the City of Fort Worth's web site on July 31, 2020

The City of Fort Worth has published a survey that seeks opinions on community-police relationships. People who live, work and visit Fort Worth are encouraged to share their perceptions of law enforcement and race relations in an anonymous survey. The [Community Perception Survey](#) is **open through Aug. 7**. Responses to the survey will help evaluate and improve community-police relationships in Fort Worth.

All survey responses are strictly anonymous. No individually self-identifying information (including name, address, phone number, email, etc.) will be recorded. Survey participants must be 18 years old.

The survey is being administered by the city's Office of the Police Oversight Monitor, which is responsible for leading the effort to finalize the model to be used for independent review of the Fort Worth Police Department. The office's establishment stemmed from a recommendation made by Fort Worth's Task Force on Race and Culture.

To learn more, contact the office [by email](#) or call 817-392-6535

West Nile Virus Warning

Information taken from the City of Fort Worth's Website

As if the COVID-19 pandemic is not enough to deal with, positive West Nile virus mosquito activity is now at record-high levels in Fort Worth. This activity has led Tarrant County Public Health to issue a public health warning. Residents should take the proper measures to protect themselves against West Nile virus. The Summerfields area had a positive test result from a trap located on Longstraw.

The City is also experiencing rapid increases in mosquito infection rates and is implementing control measures to reduce the mosquito population, including increased mosquito surveillance and ground spraying in areas where the spread of West Nile virus is most likely.

So far this season, the city has had 57 positive tests, with 19 positives this week alone. In conjunction with its partners, the University of North Texas Health Science Center and Tarrant County Public Health, the city has decided to spray high risk areas this weekend. Summerfields is not included in the spraying schedule.

It's extremely important that people remember to always use an EPA-approved repellent and to wear long sleeves and pants when they go outside. Other prevention tips include dumping standing water, inspecting yards after every rain event, cleaning out gutters and repairing holes in window and door screens.

Citizens on Patrol (continued from page 1)

COP volunteers work closely with their Neighborhood Police Officers, who provide crime trends for their beats. The patrollers then concentrate their efforts in those areas.

They also work with their NPOs when a major spike occurs in the area, forming teams of officers and volunteers to set up and discretely saturate the area having problems. These special details are supported by COP volunteers from all North Division COP groups and have been very successful.

COP is always looking for new volunteers. If you think this is a program you would be interested in, call the SNA number at 817-808-4604 and leave a message and contact number. We will return your call as soon as possible and get you in touch with someone who can get you started.

At this time all formal COP training is shut down due to the pandemic. However, if you are interested we will work to find an alternative to the formal training process.

Our main issue in Summerfields is solid waste incorrectly placed curbside. Not following the guidelines usually results in waste not picked up, which detracts from the street's appearance and can lead to fines. No one wants to live in a neighborhood with trash sitting by the street for too long. It detracts from the neighborhood's appearance, makes selling homes more difficult, and eventually lowers property values. Because of this the SNA aggressively monitors waste disposal violations and reports them to Code Compliance. We do not like reporting violations that can result in fines, but there is often no alternatives left to us, We much prefer that residents become educated on the City's waste disposal processes, but will not stand idle while trash accumulates in our neighborhood.

The following are the most common violations we observe:

- Plastic bags containing solid waste (including leaves) placed curbside. **Anything in a plastic bag must be placed in the brown garbage cart to be picked up.** Hardware stores sell acceptable paper yard bags for disposing of yard recyclable waste such as clippings, leaves and small branches
- Bulk waste placed curbside too early, sometimes up to three weeks before the next scheduled pickup. Doing so detracts from the street's appearance and could impact neighbors trying to sell their homes.
- Placing bulk waste too close to objects in the yard. Many of the trucks use hydraulic arms to load waste, and if you place it too close to objects such as mail boxes or light poles it may prevent them from picking it up.
- Different types of bulky waste mixed together. Brush and paper-bagged leaves should be separated from furniture and other bulk items. They are picked up by different trucks and go to different locations. Brush and yard clippings are taken to a City facility where along with the paper bags are converted into mulch. This is the main reason they will not pick up yard waste in non-recyclable plastic bags.
- Mixing waste and recyclable items in the Recycle container. Waste and recyclables are picked up by different trucks. Contaminating the Recycle container with household waste will result in the bin not being emptied.
- Placing household and yard chemicals in the recycle or trash containers. These items should be taken to the Environmental Collection Center (ECC) on Bridge Street. You simply drive though, show your driver's license to show you are a Fort Worth resident, and they empty your vehicle for you. See details on the City's web site.
- Placing any electronic item or major appliance curbside for pick up. All electronics should be taken to Brennen Street for disposal. Electronic items such as TVs have integrated circuitry that contain hazardous chemicals such as arsenic. They are disposed of separately so as not to contaminate the landfills.
- Overflowing Waste and Recycle bins. Called "snow cones" because the lid cannot be closed, they can result in the bin not being emptied. Again, the trucks are automated and if the operator feels they cannot empty the container without spillage they will usually bypass the container, thus leaving the resident with another week before it is again eligible for pick up.
- Trash bins left on the street for days after the scheduled pickup date.

Also remember that small limbs (less than 8 feet in length and four inches in diameter) can be placed curbside for pickup with your scheduled weekly trash. Only larger limbs have to wait for the monthly bulk pick up..

BULK WASTE GUIDELINES

Note: Bulk pickup week for Summerfields begins on the second Monday of each month and runs through the following Saturday. Bulk waste should not be placed curbside until the weekend before your scheduled week. For more information we urge our residents to visit the Solid Waste webpage on the City's website (see the link at the end of this article).

The following information was provided by the City of Fort Worth Solid Waste Department:

Bulk collection is once a month. The New guidelines are in place, so brush up before your next monthly collection

The city's Solid Waste Services has new easy-to-follow steps to make residential bulk collection safer and more effective for pickup. (continued on page 6)

BULK WASTE GUIDELINES—Continued from page 5

The goal is to not only collect the waste, but to dispose of it in a safe manner and, when possible, keep it out of the landfill. For example, tree limbs, branches and yard waste are turned into mulch.

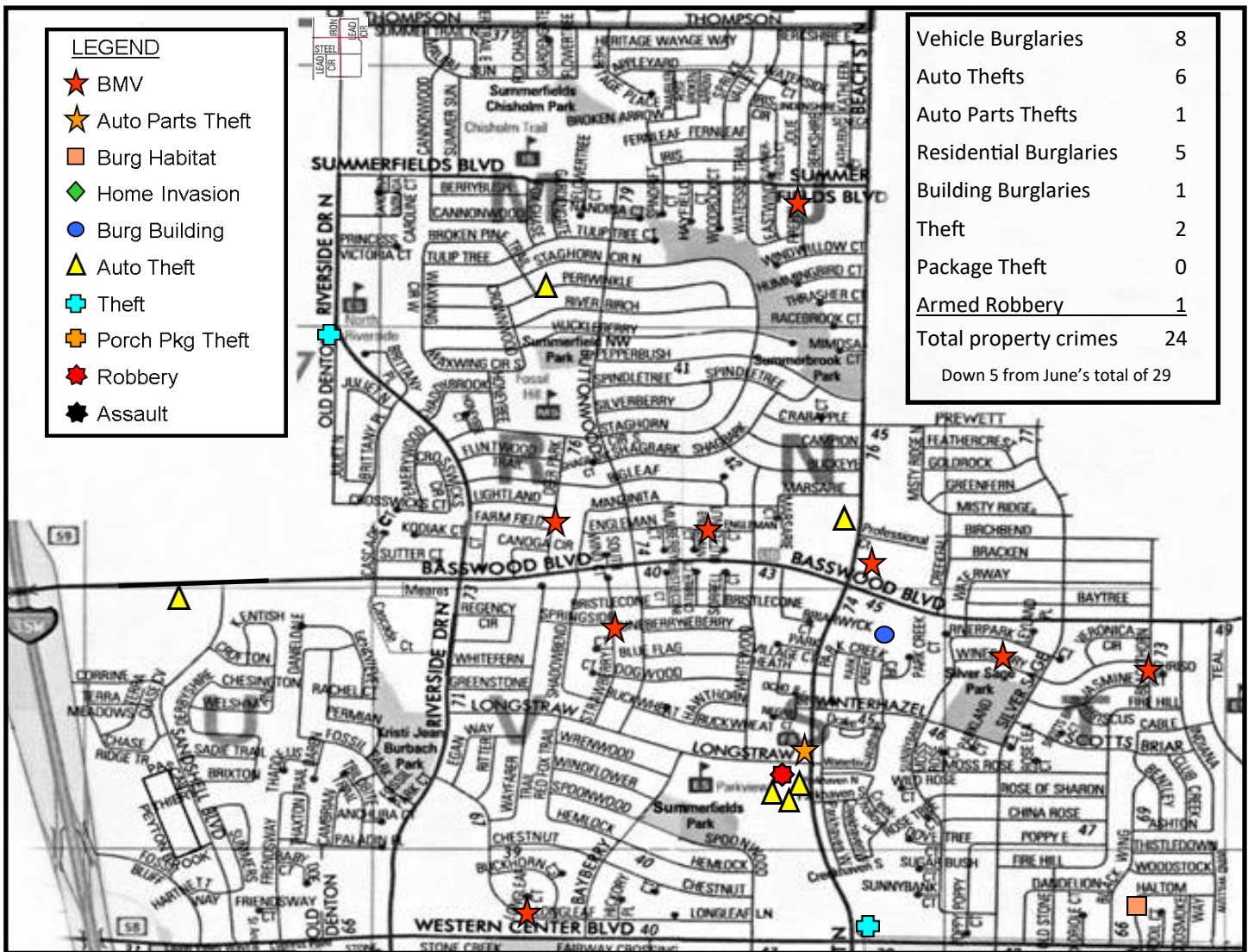
To help curbside pickup go as smoothly as possible, follow the program directions and avoid incurring fines. Here are some best practices and program guidelines:

- Bulk items must be placed on the curb by 7 a.m. Monday of your scheduled collection week. Make sure the pile is not blocked by a vehicle.
- Bulk piles are limited to 10 cubic yards (6 feet by 8 feet by 6 feet), the size of a Volkswagen bug car.
- Plastic bags are not allowed; residents may incur fines if plastic bags are placed curbside.
- All piles, paper yard waste bags and carts must be separated by at least 2 feet to be collected and to avoid extra fees. No materials can be placed between piles since this creates one large, out-of-compliance pile.
- Any items that fit in the brown garbage cart are not considered bulk and should be put in plastic bags and the placed into the brown garbage cart.
- Large limbs refers to those more than 4 inches in diameter and over eight feet long. Brush smaller than this is considered yard waste and can be collected on your weekly trash pickup day as part of the yard waste collection. It must be separated from carts, large limbs and any bulk pile.

To learn more about the program details, including what materials cannot be set out for bulk collection, check the Solid Waste webpage. <http://fortworthtexas.gov/solidwaste/bulk/>

Solid Waste Services At-A-Glance					
Questions? Download the Fort Worth Garbage & Recycling App					
	WHEN	HOW	AMOUNT/SIZE	DETAILS	NO
YARD	Weekly on pickup day; set out by 7 a.m.	In paper bags, or optional purchase of green yard cart	Unlimited paper yard bags - 30 gallon size	Place 2 ft. from carts or other objects (cars, trees, mailboxes, water and gas meters.)	No plastic bags or trash
Yard Trimmings Leaves, twigs, grass, shrubs					
Brush, Tied Small Branches	Weekly on pickup day; set out by 7 a.m.	Bundled, tied with string or twine	Unlimited bundles, 8 ft. long, 40 lb. max	Place 2 ft. from carts or other objects	No nylon or plastic straps, ties or wire
Brush, Untied Large Branches	Weekly on pickup day; set out by 7 a.m.	Stacked branches only. All branches should be in one pile	Limited to 10 cubic yards (8 ft. long x 6 ft. wide x 6 ft. tall) max, about size of VW Beetle car. Branches no longer than 8 ft. and up to 4 inches in diameter	Place 2 ft. from carts or other objects. More than 10 cubic yds. collected within 72 hours billed to resident	No stumps, plastic bags, trash, fencing, lumber, or household bulk items
RECYCLING	Weekly on pickup day; set out by 7 a.m.	Unbagged items. Close cart lid completely. Clean, dry and empty items.	As much recycling as can fit with the blue cart lid closed. Second blue cart available on request - free.	May take extras to a drop-off station. Only put acceptable items in the cart. Place 2 ft. from carts or other objects	No plastic bags, Styrofoam, paper towels, food, plastic wrap, electronics, clothes, medical waste
Visit website or app for all items that can be recycled. Blue Cart	Can set cart out after 6 p.m. the day before your pickup day				
GARBAGE	Weekly on pickup day; set out by 7 a.m.	In tied plastic bags inside brown cart. Close lid completely. Place 2 ft. from carts or other objects.	Your choice: a -32, 64- or 96-gallon cart (price varies with size). As many bags as can fit in brown cart with lid closed	Options for extra garbage: 1. Take to drop-off station 2. Upgrade cart size 3. Purchase city-authorized Pay Bags	No unbagged items; no bags outside cart or stacked on cart
Household waste only. Brown Cart	Can set cart out after 6 p.m. the day before your pickup day				
BULK ITEMS	Monthly on pickup day; set out by 7 a.m. the Monday of your assigned week; pickup will be any time between that Monday and Saturday	Stacked on curb in one pile. Acceptable items that are too large to fit in the garbage cart. Separate household bulk and large brush piles	Limited to 10 cubic yds. (8 ft long x 6 ft. wide x 6 ft. tall) max; size of a VW Beetle car. More than 10 cubic yds. billed to resident.	Can be set out after 6 p.m. the Friday before your assigned week. Includes fencing, stumps, lumber in bulky pile. Take extra to a drop-off station	No plastic bags, tires, glass, business waste, electronics, sheet-rock, or appliances with coolant or gas
For items too heavy/bulky for the cart. Visit the website or app for more details. Place 2 ft. from carts or other objects.					
DROP-OFF STATIONS	Open: M-F 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sat 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. (Hours subject to change) Free for Fort Worth Residents	Drop-off Station #1: 2400 Brennan Ave. 76106 Drop-off Station #2: 5150 Martin Luther King Jr. Frwy 76119 Drop-off Station #3: 6260 Old Hemphill Rd. 76134 Drop-off Station #4: 301 Hillshire 76052		Bring a recent water bill, drivers license or other official ID to prove Fort Worth residency	No commercial waste, no rock or concrete
Fort Worth Residents Only. Accepting recyclables, brush, electronics, items for Goodwill and more!					

Summerfields Area Crime Map for July 2020



Summerfields Crime Trends for July 2020:

- The majority of car burglaries were of unlocked vehicles. Two of the eight had broken driver's side windows. Unlocked car burglaries remain our most common crime.
- Auto thefts rose significantly in July. A suspect has been identified.
- All BMVs were in residential areas, a change from the usual prevalence in the apartment complexes.
- The auto parts theft was of a catalytic converter.
- The one armed robbery was a rare violent crime in our neighborhood

Crime Prevention Recommendations:

- If you park your car in the driveway or on the street, make sure it's locked. Most residential car burglars are juvenile "door pullers" who walk the street at night looking for unlocked vehicles which they enter and rummage through.
- Do not leave anything viewable from outside the vehicle. Doing so could motivate a burglar to forcibly enter.
- Close and lock your garage door. Remember, the door from your garage into your house is usually very flimsy.
- Install motion detector LED lights to illuminate your property - criminals like it dark.
- Report juveniles walking the residential streets after midnight., especially if the wear hoodies and have backpacks.