

# City of Lynchburg Police Department

## Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

### Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

Newsletter Date  
Jan. 5, 2015

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For more information  
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## Night Year, Old News

As we begin 2015 here are a few scams to keep in mind.



Scammers are sure to keep trying to trick you into paying money -- usually via MoneyPak, Pre-Paid Cards, or Western Union -- to:

- avoid fines and prison because of overdue tax payments
- avoid jail time for skipping jury duty
- help your grandson or other relative get out of jail
- pay for a car on a phony version of eBay Motors
- pay for any product, listed on Amazon.com, but the third party seller wants to accept payment in a way that's not Amazon Payments
- pay fees associated with a lottery or sweepstakes it says you've won

Be sure to regularly check your bank and credit card statements regularly. Make sure you know what charges appear. If you're not sure, contact your financial institution.

Also check your credit report regularly. You can get copies of your reports from the three major credit bureaus for free once a year at [AnnualCreditReport.com](http://AnnualCreditReport.com).



**Crime Prevention - (434) 455-6070**

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## Volunteer! Lynchburg

Share your special gifts, skills, abilities, and talents with your local government.

How? By joining Volunteer! Lynchburg

... a network of citizens who donate time and energy in a broad range of community services.

From coaching and mentoring to neighborhood cleanup campaigns to companionship and advocacy for the elderly and youth, volunteers are making a difference in Lynchburg. Here are just a few areas you can help in:

- Tree Stewards
- Adopt-A-Street and Litter Control (434) 455-6087
- Library Volunteer Opportunities (434) 455-6306
- Parks and Recreation Volunteer Opportunities (434) 455-5858
- Museums Volunteer Opportunities (434) 455-4424
- Juvenile Detention Home (434) 455-7878
- Neighborhood Watch (434) 455-6070
- AND, if you don't see something with the City of Lynchburg, visit the United Way of Central Virginia's volunteer page (lots of opportunities in our community!)  
[www.unitedwaycv.galaxydigital.com](http://www.unitedwaycv.galaxydigital.com)

For more information visit: [www.lynchburgva.gov/volunteerlynchburg](http://www.lynchburgva.gov/volunteerlynchburg) or call (434) 455-3803



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## Crime Prevention Unit Staff

Lieutenant M. Booker 455-6165

Officer R. Gonzalez - School Resource Officer Heritage High School

Officer L. Brooks - School Resource Officer E.C. Glass High School

Officer A. Johnson - School Resource Officer Dunbar School for Innovation

Officer D. Dill - School Resource Officer Linkhorne Middle School

Officer J. Petersen - School Resource Officer Sandusky Middle School

Officer P. Doss - Community Resource Officer 455-6302

Cindy Kozerow - Crime Prevention Specialist 455-6145

Steven Wood - Community Services Coordinator 455-6158

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# Winter Crime Prevention

## Vehicle Security

Everyday law enforcement agencies take crime reports from victims of thefts of property from their vehicles as well as stolen vehicle reports.

Though nothing can prevent you from ever being a victim of such a crime, there are things you can do to lessen the odds of your being victimized.

Many thieves are opportunists and will look for the vehicle that is unlocked or the one that may be locked but has valuables left inside. Even if your vehicle is locked and alarmed, if there are valuables in sight (even covered up) a window may be smashed to gain entry. This all can occur in a matter of seconds.

Don't make it easy for them:

- Never leave the keys inside the vehicle.
- Make sure that all windows are up all the way before locking your vehicle.
- Lock your vehicle even if you are only going to be away from it a short time.
- Lock your vehicle even if it is parked in your driveway, inside your garage or on the street in front of your residence.
- Make sure your vehicle alarm is activated whenever you exit/lock your vehicle.
- Do not leave valuables, (i.e. purses, wallets, cellular phones, cameras, laptop computers etc.) inside your vehicle, even if it is locked.
- Even if your vehicle is locked and alarmed, do not attempt to "hide" valuables under the seat or under an item of clothing in the vehicle.
- Please report any theft from your vehicle immediately to your local law enforcement agency. It is up to you whether or not you chose to report this to your insurance company.
- If you observe anyone acting suspiciously in the area of your vehicle, report it immediately to law enforcement by dialing 911 on your cellular phone

## Winter Traffic Safety

Don't be like this guy...

Remove snow and ice from your vehicle before driving. It will be safer for you and other drivers.



## On the Lighter Side...



*Happy  
New  
Year!*

**2015**



[www.lynchburgva.gov/police-department](http://www.lynchburgva.gov/police-department)  
Crime Prevention Section

