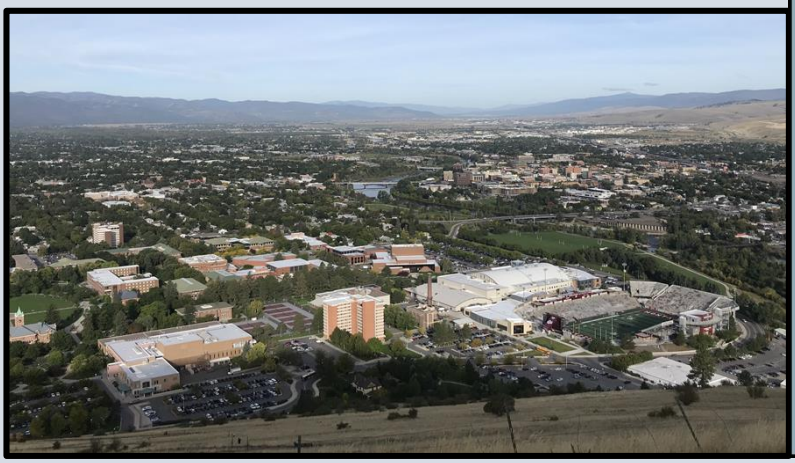
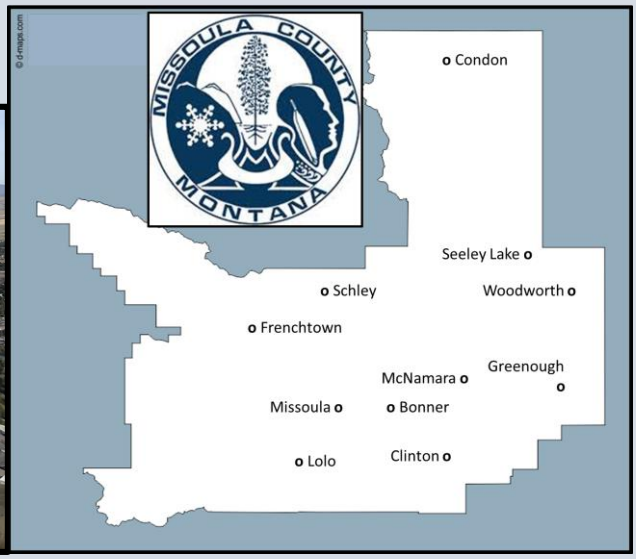
Missoula Neighborhood Watch Quarterly Newsletter

March 31, 2020





Contents

PG. 2

Coronavirus and COVID-19: web links to general information and videos

PG. 3

Coronavirus and COVID-19: web links to more specific information

PG. 4

Coronavirus and COVID-19: phone numbers and web links for more information and a COVID-19 screening tool

Neighborhood Watch: Proactive Crime Prevention

'Neighborhood Watch' is an organization of concerned citizens who look out for their neighborhoods and each other. Initiated in the 1960s, Neighborhood Watch is one of the oldest and most effective crime prevention concepts in the USA. Today's Neighborhood Watch focuses on observation and reporting of suspicious activity, not engagement with suspicious individuals.

Missoula Neighborhood Watch (MNW) is a county-wide organization that consists of General Members and a Board of Directors. Membership in MNW is open to all Missoula County citizens. Missoula Office of Neighborhoods, the Police Department and the Sheriff's Office play active roles in MNW.

Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) & COVID-19*: web links to general information and videos

Type of Information	Source	Web Link (either click or control-click on link below)
Updated information and guidance – National scope	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html
EPA resources for the coronavirus disease (COVID-19)	United States Environmental Protection Agency	https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus
Joint Governmental Website - Coronavirus (COVID-19)	White House, CDC, FEMA	https://www.coronavirus.gov/
Community Resources and Videos – Missoula County	Missoula County Joint Information Center	http://covid19.missoula.co/
Guidance and Information including FAQs	Missoula City-County Health Department	missoula.co/cvirus
Missoula County daily videos (enhanced daily messaging and answers to questions from the communities)	Missoula County	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMSaD72zOA3eGjXC-5xSd4Q/featured

*Coronavirus and SARS-CoV-2 are names for the virus. COVID-19 is the disease caused by the virus.

Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) & COVID-19: web links to more specific information

Type of Information	Source	Web Link (either click or control-click on link below)
How does the virus spread?	Missoula City-County Health Department	missoulacounty - how it spreads
How to protect yourself	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html
People who are at higher risk for severe illness	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-at-higher-risk.html
Detailed Planning Guidance for Getting your home Ready	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/get-your-household-ready-for-COVID-19.html
Cleaning and Disinfecting your Home (includes disinfectant recommendations)	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/disinfecting-your-home.html
Recommendations for U.S. Households with Suspected or Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cleaning-disinfection.html

Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) & COVID-19: phone numbers and email links

Organization / *Purpose*	Phone Number or website
Missoula County Coronavirus (COVID-19) *Hotline*	**406-258-4636 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday)**
United States Environmental Protection Agency - *link for sending questions to EPA via email*	**Send questions to EPA via email: https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/forms/contact-us-about-coronavirus-covid-19**
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - *link to receive updates on coronavirus by email*	**Click on link below, go to bottom of webpage, and enter your email address: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html**
Apple, CDC, White House, FEMA: *link to a COVID-19 screening tool and resources to help people protect their health*	**The COVID-19 screening tool can be found here: https://www.apple.com/covid19**

Missoula Neighborhood Watch
General Meeting, Oct. 29, 2019

Officer Ethan Smith

Crime Prevention Officer

Missoula Police Department

smithe@ci.missoula.mt.us

406.552.6335

Combating bike theft

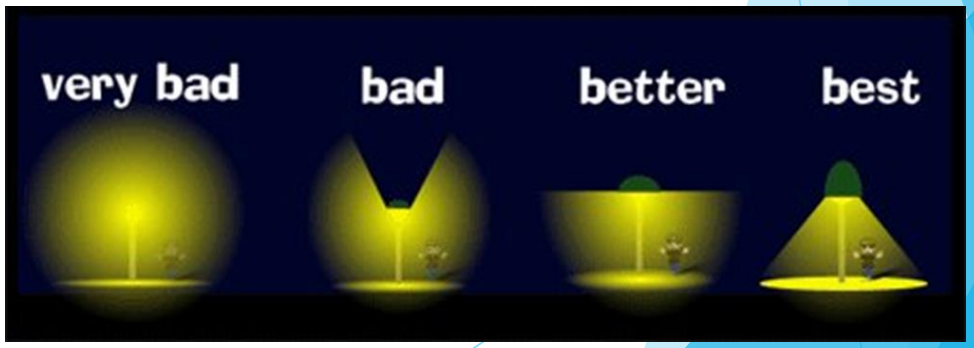
- City is implementing Project 529 for bike registration
- Project 529 app allows people to register bikes themselves
- Developed by creator of Xbox after his bikes were stolen
- Can upload pics, list bike as stolen, notify others in area
- Existing registered bikes will be added to database with city information
- You can check to see if a bike is stolen before buying a used one
- Order a “shield” to attach to your bike
- Go to www.project529.com

Making your home safer – outside the home

- Make sure shrubs are trimmed to less than 3 feet high
- Tree branches should be at least 6 feet off the ground
- Are branches blocking exterior lighting?
- Plant shrubs and bushes at base of windows that a prickly or difficult to hide in, and that don't grow very high
- A maintained residence tells thieves that someone cares about this property

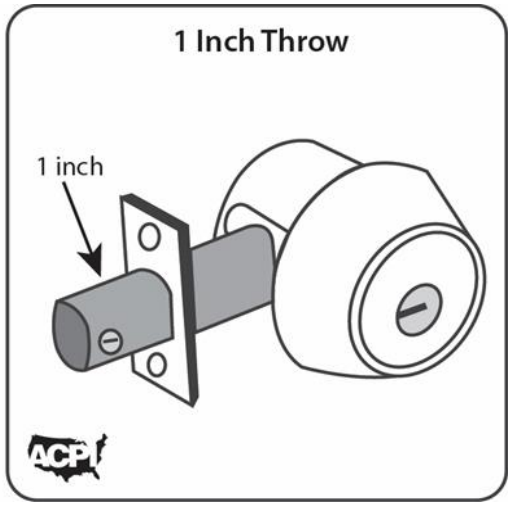
Making your home safer – outside the home

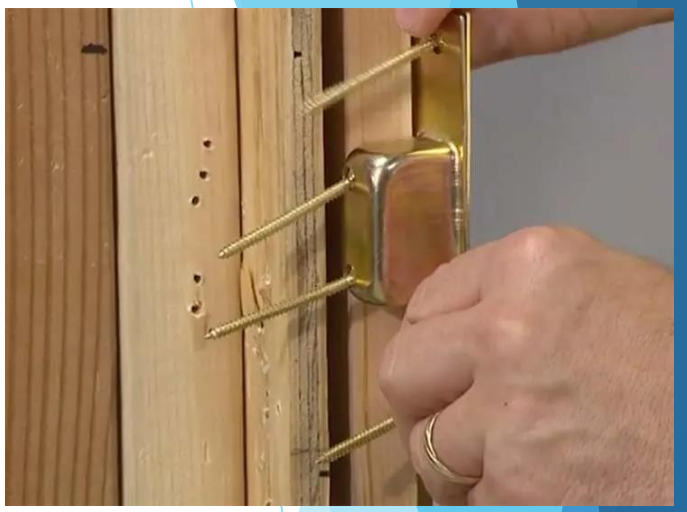
- How's your exterior lighting?
- Get ride of those incandescent bulbs!
- LED lights are great – save energy, last forever
- Make sure lights are focused downward
- Use motion sensors – easy to install, save energy
- Are exterior lights out of reach?
- Is each entryway well lit?



Making your home safer – from the inside

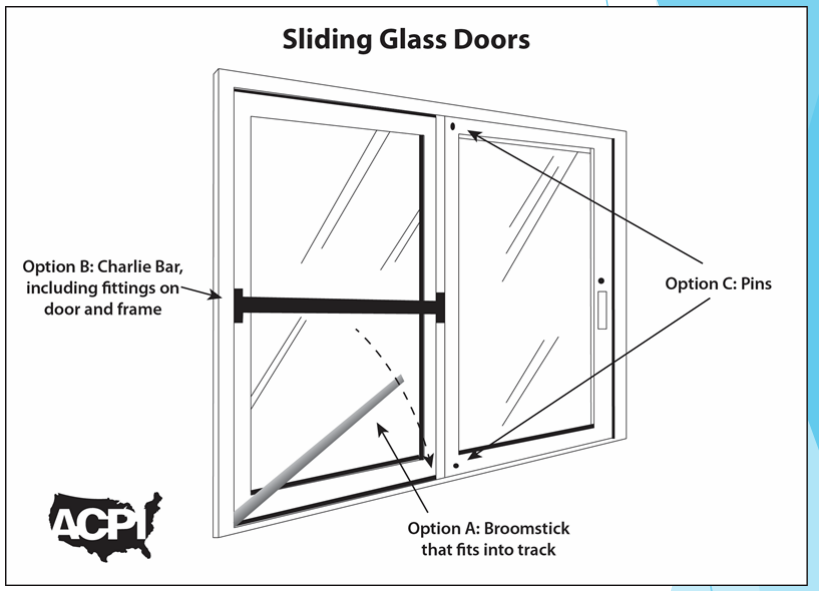
- Check your door frames for cheap, thin door jambs
- Are your door hinge pins removable from the outside?
- Was your door frame secured with 3-inch screws?
- Do you have a high-security strike plate?
- Do you have a dead bolt? Does it have a 1-inch ‘throw’?





Making your home safer – from the inside

- Do you use dowel rods or broomsticks to secure sliding glass doors
- Do you have secondary locks on your ground-level windows?
- Most garage door openers can be disabled while you are gone
- Did you know you can put a lock in your garage door track?
- Do you have a door leading into your garage, or house? How strong is it? What about the lock?



Miscellaneous items…

- Are your house numbers at least 4 inches tall and reflective? Are they covered by a bush, hidden under an awning, or poorly lit?
- Do you have a peephole in your front door?
- Do you have a safe that's secured to wall or floor?
- Have your priced outdoor security cameras lately?
- When was the last time you inventoried your valuables, especially those with serial numbers (hint: use your cell phone)