

Crime Prevention Tips

Courtesy of the Wooster Police Department

RECOGNIZING SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

Suspicious people usually take part in suspicious activity. What is suspicious activity? Anything that looks like it could be connected with criminal behavior.

- A person or group of people loitering on a corner for an unusual length of time could be an indication of drug dealing, burglary or other crime.
- People behaving strangely could indicate drug use.
- Someone concealing something under clothing could be a sign of a burglar carrying stolen property.
- Someone looking into parked cars could be looking for items or cars to steal.
- A person going door to door could be looking for houses to break into.
- A person with a weapon could be planning any number of crimes.
- A person selling items for extremely low prices could be disposing of stolen goods.
- Someone loitering around a park, school or street could be a mugger, sex offender or a rapist.
- Someone running, especially at night, could be fleeing a crime scene.
- Someone creating a disturbance could be covering some other illegal activity.

As you can see, this list could be endless. All of these activities need to be observed for a short time to determine if they are criminal activities or not. Sometimes something that starts out looking suspicious has a very normal explanation. Usually though, if you trust your instincts and watch for a moment, you will be able to tell.

If you think the activity is threatening to people or property, contact the Wooster Police Department immediately. Call the EMERGENCY 911 number. Time is critical in criminal apprehension. It is better to be overly suspicious than let a criminal get away.