

Some safety tips---

- Do not leave property inside your vehicle. Remove stereo face-plates.
- Be cautious during night hours (9PM – 6 AM). If possible, phone ahead so a roommate or neighbor can watch out for you.
- Look around before you park. Be wary of loitering behavior.
- “Piggybackers” are waiting for a chance to get into locked entry doors. Be wary of people following you. Make certain the door closes and locks behind you.
- Use simple secondary locks on your windows and balcony doors, but nothing which might hinder escape during a fire.
- A tight fitting dowel or metal rod placed in the sliding door channel can secure that door. Screws along the upper channel prevent lifting the door out of its track.
- Make a habit of locking your doors, even if you are inside, but especially if you leave your unit even for just a few minutes.

Safety tips (continued)

- Keep landscape trimmed below window level and from around doors, porches, landings, etc.
- Trees should be trimmed up and bushes trimmed down to maximize visibility.
- Report burned out lights and dark areas in need of lighting improvements.
- Use a peephole or window to identify door knockers.
- Record serial numbers or engrave your DE driver license number on valuables.
- Socialize with your building neighbors. Watch out for one another.
- Stay alert to your surroundings and trust your instincts.
- Most property crimes are crimes of opportunity.

Administrative Offices - Monday thru Friday 8am till 4pm
Closed Holidays

If you leave a message on a Friday after 4pm it will not be answered till Monday morning.
Call 911 on Weekends and Holidays

ELSMERE BUREAU OF POLICE

11 Poplar Avenue

Phone: 302-998-1173

Fax: 302-998-9922

E-mail: christopher.workman@cj.state.de.us

Elsmere Bureau of Police
*Crime Watch for
Multi-family Communities*



Protecting and Serving
the Town of Elsmere Since 1919

Phone: (302) 998-1173

Why do apartment residents need a crime watch?

Predators enjoy relative anonymity due to large numbers of people coming and going.

Residency is usually short-term, and tenants develop no real sense of responsibility for the property.

Residents in multiple dwelling communities can develop a false sense of security. Carelessness abounds.

Residents often leave security issues to others, not wanting to get involved.

Criminals who feel unthreatened will come back for more.

Once criminals take over a community, it is very difficult for law-abiding tenants to retake control.

As an apartment or condominium tenant, your home territory includes more than just your individual unit. All share a vested interest in keeping the community property safe. Parking lots, playgrounds, pools, laundromats, mailboxes, and common areas are the responsibility of each and every tenant. The safety of a community is totally dependent upon the direct involvement of its residents.

What if I am afraid to call the police?

A caller can choose to remain anonymous. But, remain on the line and provide any other important information relevant to the call.

You may request the responding officer NOT contact you in person, but YOU must initiate that request (otherwise, our officers are required to contact you).

An officer can also contact you by phone.

To report a crime in progress or a suspicious person to the

Elsmere Police Department
Call 9-1-1.

For non-emergencies,
call (302) 573-2800



If You Don't Call, Who Will?

What can residents do to take control of their communities?

Organize and utilize an Apartment Crime Watch program.

Criminals like to blend in, but the should feel threatened surrounded by so many windows, balconies, doors, and eyes.

If residents do not take control, the criminals will! Be protective. It is YOUR HOME!

Challenge suspicious behavior by watching and reporting to police.

Look and listen out windows.

Sit on your balcony and be seen.

Be territorial!

When away, make your unit look and sound occupied.

Guests should respect the residents, the property, and behave responsibly.

Call police first to report crimes in progress, crimes already committed, or breaches of the peace.

Tell your property manager the next business day.