

CITY-WIDE CRIME NOTES FROM NOVEMBER:

Overall, November's Part One Crimes were down by 8.6% when compared to 2020 and down 19.3% when compared to the five-year average. Property Crimes were down by 8.6% when compared to last November. We saw increases in the following areas: Residential Burglary, Bike Theft (this area had the highest increase), Pickpocketing, and Shoplifting.

- Based on conversations with many of you over the past few weeks, residential burglaries seem to be top of mind, so I will address that in depth below.
- For information on registering your bikes & bike security, please check out the resources on our website: <https://www.nbpd.org/what-we-do/information/crime-prevention-safety/bicycle-information>

NOTES ON RECENT RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY TRENDS

- Residential burglaries have recently occurred in Areas 2, 3 and 4.
- These burglars usually target what they believe to be empty houses. On the occasion that someone is home when they attempt to break in, the burglars flee immediately once they realize the house is occupied.
- Houses that back up to golf courses, trails, hillsides or other open areas are often targeted since burglars can go over a back fence without being easily detected by neighbors.
- The entry points are usually windows or doors leading to the backyard or sides of a house.
- Shattering a window or glass door to get into the home is the most common method they use to force entry into a house.
- When arrests have been made, we have not found weapons on them. This (along with the fact they flee from occupied homes) lends us to believe that these burglars don't want to have any kind of confrontation & they don't intend to use violence. They simply want to get valuables from a home and get out without being caught.
- Most incidents are occurring around dinnertime hours – around approximately 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- We also had some recent instances where suspects appeared to be casing houses or made attempts to break into homes that had motion detector lights, cameras and/or alarm systems. These security measures caused the suspects to leave the victim's property and look

for another target or flee the area completely. I understand that these “close calls” are scary/concerning, but the good news is that the basic home security layers were effective in deterring these burglars!

- **Security measures to implement:**

- o Create the appearance that your home is occupied.
 - § Use timers to turn on & off interior lights when you’re away.
 - § If you’re going out for the evening, leave a television or a radio on in the house.
- o Keep the exterior of your house well-lit.
 - § Motion sensor lights for sides & back of house
 - § Front of house should have lights on from dusk to dawn
 - § Use landscape lighting to eliminate dark hiding places in front & backyards
- o Secure all windows & doors every time you leave the house. Don’t forget to set your alarms if you have them as well.
- o More in depth home security recommendations are available at this link (*under Home Security Tips & Home Security Checklist*): <https://www.nbpd.org/what-we-do/information/crime-prevention-and-safety>