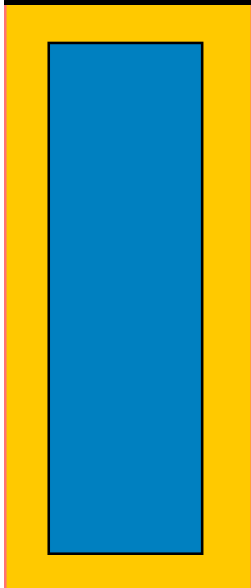


Crime Prevention News

Personal and Residence Safety

Over the past two years there have been several assaults on women in the Iowa City area. Please remember the following safety tips from the University of Iowa Police.

- Everyone has the right to live free of unwanted attention, harassment, and abuse. You will be safest in well lit areas where there are groups of people. Look and act confident while you are walking, be aware of your surroundings, trust your instincts and don't be concerned about appearing rude if you feel threatened.
- There is safety in numbers; make it a habit to walk with others.
- If you regularly jog or cycle vary your route and time. Stay on well lit roads and main paths with open spaces where you can see and be seen by other people. Avoid wooded areas and adjust your routine to daylight hours if possible.
- Recognize that the use of a cell phone or personal stereo may distract you from paying attention to your surroundings and persons acting suspiciously.
- Avoid consuming alcohol or other substances that may impair your judgment or your ability to react to a confrontation.
- Let someone know when you are intending to leave and arrive at a particular destination.
- If you think someone is following you go to the nearest place where there are other people and/or a place that is well lit. If you have a cell phone call the appropriate Police Department: **(ICPD (319) 356-5275 or UIPD (319) 335-5022)**. If you have speed dial capabilities, program these numbers into your cell phone. It is important to know your location when calling anyone for assistance so they know where to respond. Of course, in cases involving emergencies call 911.
- If someone tries to take your property from you remember, your physical safety is more important than any material object.
- Often times doing something to bring attention to the situation can deter an attack. If you are attacked yell or scream for help. Use phrases such as "leave me alone" or "call the police" it is instinctive and instantaneous.
- Although the recent assaults have not occurred on University property, the Iowa City and University Police are working together and consider each report of assault and attempted sexual assault a threat to our community and will be vigorously pursued. Anyone with information regarding these incidents is strongly encouraged to call the Iowa City Police. Any incidents occurring on University property please call the University of Iowa Police. We must work together as a community to stop these and other crimes.



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Visit our web site at: www.uiowa.edu/~pubsfty



Safety tips for your residence

- Lock your doors and windows.
- Remember that just because a door or window locks, it doesn't necessarily mean it is secure. Make sure that the door or window can't be opened if it is locked.
- Contact your maintenance person to get things fixed if they are broken.
- Keep blinds closed at night.
- If you park your car close to your residence and if you have a remote key alarm, keep your car keys next to your bed as you sleep. In the event someone breaks in; activate the panic alarm on your car. It may be enough to scare them away.
- Be aware of your surroundings when approaching your residence and when you are leaving. Call police if you see suspicious people that are hanging around.
- Report any outside lighting that isn't working to the responsible person.
- Have your door key out and ready as you approach your residence.

Things you might consider before and after choosing an apartment. This list is not exhaustive but is intended as a guide to assist with finding a safer living environment.

- Shrubbery and trees close to the apartment building parking lot(s) and walkways should be well trimmed so they do not block out light or serve as a hiding place.
- Bushes and shrubbery near ground level windows should also be well trimmed.
- Exterior lighting around the apartment building is important. Notify the building manager or superintendent when exterior lights are not working.
- Building fire escapes should be well lit, particularly at ground level.
- If the lobby exterior door is suppose to be locked, help keep it locked. Never prop this door open. If the door is propped open, un-prop it.
- At your mailbox, list only your last name and initial. Women in particular should list their name the same way in the building directory and telephone book.
- Whenever possible, avoid riding in the elevator alone with strangers. Don't hesitate to get off an elevator when you feel uncomfortable or threatened.
- When using an apartment building's laundry room, don't go there alone. Also, don't leave your clothes in the laundry room unattended.
- For your apartment door, a solid core wood or steel door is preferable.
- The door should not have glass near the door lock.
- It is advisable to have a peephole viewer on your apartment door.
- Whenever a new tenant moves into an apartment, the door locks should be rekeyed. They should also be rekeyed whenever the door lock key is lost or stolen.
- Your apartment key should be on a separate ring from your car key. You may possibly use a detachable key ring. Never place anything on a key ring that indicates your apartment or address.
- Never attempt to hide your apartment key outside the apartment. Burglars know the hiding places.
- For sliding glass doors, install a horizontal locking bar. A broom handle in the track at the bottom of the door can serve the same purpose.
- If the sliding glass doors can be lifted from its track, install two screws backed with a stack of washers at the top of the track. The screws should protrude downward just enough that the top of the door clears them.
- Secure all windows. Windows are often left unlocked or the locking hardware is easily defeated.



- If your apartment has first floor windows near a fire escape, double-hung wooden windows are the most troublesome. To secure them, drill a hole at a slight angle through the inside sash and one-half way through the outside sash. Insert a heavy nail or pin into this hole.
- When leaving your apartment, even for a short time, be sure to lock up. Lock both windows and doors and turn off all heat producing appliances.
- When leaving your apartment, turn a radio on low and take the newspaper in. Buy one or two inexpensive timers and program them to have lights in your apartment turn on and off during hours of darkness.
- If you will be away from your apartment for more than one night, ask a trusted friend or neighbor to check on your place from time to time. Also arrange to have them pick up your mail and newspapers.
- Record the description, serial number and cost of your valuables. Engrave appropriate items of value. If you have a camcorder, videotape each room with special emphasis upon items of value. If you don't have access to one, use a still camera to preserve a visual record of your valuables.
- Minimize the amount of expensive jewelry and cash you keep in your apartment. Rent a safety deposit box in a bank or open a bank account as an alternative.
- If you receive obscene or annoying telephone calls at your apartment, say nothing and hang up. Keep a record of such calls. If you are physically threatened, dial 911.
- NEVER answer personal questions from an unknown caller over the telephone. Don't give out your date of birth, social security number or PIN number to callers. Banks don't need your PIN number to access your account.
- Be cautious about maintenance or service personnel attempting to gain entry into your apartment. Don't be pressured into opening your apartment door until you have verified the service call with the apartment manager or superintendent. Always request identification and have them slip it under the door. When in doubt, leave them out.
- One of the best deterrents of apartment crime can be your neighbors. Get to know other tenants. Report suspicious people and activity to the police

Source: Loyola Dept. of Campus Safety

NITE-RIDE is now available Sunday through Thursday nights from 10:00 pm until 3:00 am. and will provide transportation for all women from any University of Iowa building, parking lot, or parking ramp with the exception of Residence Halls and University Housing. It will provide a ride to any University building, parking ramp, parking lot, residence hall, University Housing, or any residence within specific boundaries. For a map of the service area boundaries please go to: <http://news-releases.uiowa.edu/2008/january/images/012308nite-ride-map.pdf> To arrange for a ride, please call 319-384-1111 the driver will let you know how soon they will be at your location and give you a ride. The Academic Route NITE-RIDE is an alcohol free service meaning we will not cater to anyone who has been drinking any amount of alcohol.



NITE RIDE

384-1111