

July's crime prevention newsletter will focus on bicycle theft prevention. As the weather continues to get warmer, and everyone spends more and more time outdoors, perhaps riding a bicycle- the SW Precinct wanted to provide you with some important bicycle theft prevention information. For the purposes of this newsletter- bicycle theft will refer to theft of the whole bicycle and/or the theft of bicycle parts or equipment.

When it comes to bicycle theft prevention, the most important thing to keep in mind is never leave your bicycle unlocked, even for a minute- always take time to make sure your bicycle is properly secured. We recommend that you use at least one solid steel U-lock, as these locks are very difficult to cut if properly secured. If you prefer to have a lock that is flexible, ensure that it is at least 3/8" in diameter. The majority of bicycles that are stolen are unlocked or locked with cable locks! Never secure your bicycle with a cheap lock, always secure your bicycle to a bicycle rack or a solid, unmovable object, secure both wheels and frames, when possible park in well-lit and highly traveled areas, remove quick releases altogether- bolt the parts onto the bicycle and remember that locks are only a deterrent.

Consider registering your bicycle, taking photos of you with your bicycle, recording the serial number and/or engraving identifying markings on any removable parts- as these techniques can make it easier to return your bicycle and items to you if they are stolen and recovered! Please remember to always report suspicious activity by calling 9-1-1, including suspicious behavior around bicycle racks. If you see something- say something! Report property crime not in progress by calling the Seattle Police Department non-emergency number (206-625-5011) or file a report online at: <https://www.seattle.gov/police/need-help/online-reporting>

At the end of this newsletter, there is information about upcoming events in the SW Precinct, including National Night Out Against Crime which will be held on Tuesday August 1<sup>st</sup>. Night Out is a national event promoted in Seattle by the Seattle Police Department Crime Prevention Coordinators. It is designed to heighten crime prevention awareness, increase neighborhood support in anti-crime efforts, and unite our communities. Registration for Night Out is open until Monday July 31<sup>st</sup> at 5pm. For more information about Night Out, to sign up, read frequently asked questions and/or to download printable signs- please visit the Seattle Police Department's Night Out website: <https://www.seattle.gov/police/community-policing/night-out>

Below you will find my contact information, including email and phone numbers. Keep an eye out for my newsletter next month, which will again focus on a specific crime and include important prevention techniques and ideas. Please feel free to contact me with questions, concerns and/or to request my presence at a future meeting. Also contact me if you would like more information about Block Watch, if you would like to set up a safety assessment of your home or business and/or if you would like an evaluation of your current bicycle security measures.

Email address: [Jennifer.Burbridge@seattle.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Burbridge@seattle.gov)

Desk phone number: (206) 256-6820

**Work cell phone number: (206) 471-2849**

Upcoming events in SW Precinct-

- National Night Out Against Crime
  - Tuesday August 1<sup>st</sup>, various locations

Other resources-

- Seattle Police Department's Website: <http://www.seattle.gov/police/>
- Seattle Police Department Non-Emergency Number: (206) 625-5011
- Contact information for other SPD Crime Prevention Coordinators:
  - North Precinct- Mary Amberg- [Mary.Amberg@seattle.gov](mailto:Mary.Amberg@seattle.gov)
  - East Precinct- Felicia Cross- [Felicia.Cross@seattle.gov](mailto:Felicia.Cross@seattle.gov)
  - West Precinct- Terrie Johnston- [Terrie.Johnston@seattle.gov](mailto:Terrie.Johnston@seattle.gov)
  - South Precinct- Mark Solomon- [Mark.Solomon@seattle.gov](mailto:Mark.Solomon@seattle.gov)