



UNIVERSITY of  
DAYTON



**Important Numbers**

- Emergency (from on-campus phone) .....911
- \*Public Safety..... 229-2121
- Student Escort (Mom's Limo)..... 229-2124
- Parking Services..... 229-2128
- Health Center ..... 229-3131

**\*Program Public Safety's number  
into your cell phone**

Streetwise  
and Safe



*Don't walk  
alone!  
Use the buddy  
system.*

**The University of Dayton  
Department of Public Safety**

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Streetwise and Safe

You can do a great deal to reduce your risk of becoming a victim of crime. The most effective weapons against crime are common sense, alertness, and involvement. Armed with these, you may protect yourself by reducing the opportunity for muggers, purse snatchers, and other criminals to strike. By following these suggestions, you join other members of the University of Dayton community in making the campus area safer for everyone.

### **Elementary Street Sense**

- Wherever you are, be alert to what's going on around you. Don't daydream or become distracted. Look to see who is ahead, beside, and behind you.
- Communicate visually that you are a calm, confident individual. Walk purposefully. Make quick eye contact with the people around you so that you give them the impression of awareness.
- Always trust your instincts. If you feel uncomfortable in a place or situation, leave as soon as possible.
- Remember, crime knows no boundaries! Don't drop your guard just because you are on or near University property.

### **Walking Smart**

- Plan the safest route to your destination and use it!
- Walk with a companion whenever possible.
- Take time to learn the neighborhood. A few minutes to notice what stores are open, type of street lighting, and the locations of telephones may be important if you need help later.
- Keep purses close to your body and maintain a firm grip on them. Wallets should be carried in the front trouser pockets.
- Don't overburden yourself with books, backpacks, or packages.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Leave valuables, such as expensive jewelry and clothing, at home.
- Don't give money to strangers. Your "loose change" is not really going to help their situation. Instead, volunteer your services to local programs designed to help the needy.
- Have your path go by the (blue light) emergency phones if possible.
- When walking, take note of potential hiding spots

and use caution as you approach them.

- Be aware that headphones played at an increased volume reduce your ability to hear sounds which may alert you to danger.
- Consider using a personal alarm.
- Call for an escort during evening hours.

### **Elevator Sense**

- Familiarize yourself with the emergency buttons and phones of the elevators you ride frequently. Always stand near the controls.
- Get off the elevator if someone suspicious enters. Don't get on the elevator with someone you feel uneasy about.
- If you are attacked while on the elevator, hit the alarm button and as many floor buttons as possible.

### **Jogging, Biking and Other Outdoor Activities**

- Go with a friend. It's more fun and safer, too!
- Choose your route in advance and vary it. It's not a good idea to always travel the same route at the same time of day.
- Avoid isolated areas. Try to schedule your activities with others and where others are present.

### **Vehicular Safety**

- Always lock your vehicle doors, even when driving. Don't place valuables on the seat next to you in plain view. Keep items in the trunk.
- Consider using a steering wheel lock.
- Have your key in hand when approaching your vehicle to allow for quick access. Remember to look into the back seat area before entering.
- Park in well-lit areas which are visible to other people.
- Keep your vehicle in good condition and always have enough gas to get where you are going and back again.
- If you experience car trouble, raise the hood and remain in your vehicle with the doors locked. If someone offers to help, ask them to call the police for you.

### **Tips for Buses**

- Use well-lit, busy bus stops. Wait with other people when possible.
- Sit near the front of the bus, close to the driver.
- Don't fall asleep!
- If someone is harassing you, tell them firmly and loudly, "Leave me alone!" Persistent persons should be reported to the driver.
- As you prepare to get off the bus, take note of suspicious persons who are exiting with you. Consider remaining on the bus; if necessary, ask the driver for assistance.
- Be alert to who gets off the bus with you. If you feel uneasy, walk directly to a place where there are other people.

### **If you become the Victim of a Crime**

- Remain calm and do not panic.
- Try to obtain a helpful description of the assailant. Age, sex, race, height, weight, type of clothing, and distinguishing marks will be valuable to the police when searching for the assailant. If a vehicle is involved, try to remember its make and license plate number.
- Don't resist if the assailant has a weapon and is only after your valuables. Property can be replaced!
- If resistance is an option, don't get scared, get mad! Shout "NO!" "Stop!" "Fire!" or "Call the police!" loud and forcefully.
- Do what you can to distract the assailant long enough to escape safely.
- After you have become the victim of a crime or have witnessed a crime, call the police immediately. Identify yourself and your location.

### **Think Safety**

Remember, any crime is a traumatic experience. We can help. The Department of Public Safety is willing to aid, support, and advise you in any manner necessary.

Our officers can provide you or your group with more information about these and other safety-related topics. To schedule a safety seminar, call Public Safety at 229-2121.