

Security

Security in any neighborhood is always an important issue. When improving an older home or constructing a new home, one needs to be aware of appropriate lighting and other measures that will make the home more secure. Lighting walkways and entrances while placing plants in strategic locations that do not obstruct the view of entries and side yards will help make a home more secure. Below are basic measures one can take to promote a safe and secure home.

Basic Security Measures



A Decorative Light Pole in Front Yard Helps to Eliminate Areas of Poor Visibility



A Wrought Iron Fence Provides Good Visibility In and Out Of Yards

- Older homes should be lighted and landscaped in ways that eliminate areas of poor visibility around the home from the street or adjacent homes.
- New homes should be sited and configured so that they minimize areas of poor visibility from the street or adjacent homes (e.g., maintaining a consistent front yard setback with neighbors).
- Security lights should be used to illuminate a potentially dark or non-secure area. Flood and spot lights should be avoided as they often create glare or light trespass on neighboring properties. Simply keeping a front or back porch light on throughout the night provides an effective deterrent.
- The placement of any fences or plant materials should be evaluated for its potential to create a hidden or unsecured area.
- All windows should be provided with locks.
- All entry doors should be provided with deadbolt locks.
- When an entry door does not have glass, the door should be provided with a peep hole or visual access by way of an adjacent window.
- When visible from the street, window grills or bars should be decorative and complement the architectural style of the home.



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