

# The Power of Light



Most burglaries take place during daytime hours when homes and apartments aren't likely to be occupied.

But the cover of darkness also offers opportunity for the burglar.

Fight back with lights that are strategically placed and designed.

- Buy outdoor lights with photoelectric cells that turn on automatically at dark and go off at dawn. This way, you won't forget to leave your lights on during the day, a clue that you may be on vacation.
- Include installations mounted on the gable of a roof or garage where burglars cannot unscrew the light bulbs.
- Attach flashers to your alarm system. Blinking flood lights will alert your neighbors that a burglary is in progress when they are set off by a break-in.
- Use automatic timers that simulate normal lighting patterns at staggered intervals. Total darkness in a home is an invitation for burglars. A constant single light is not much better.
- Strongly consider the use of motion sensitive lights. They can highlight a trespasser, make his suspicious presence stand out to draw attention and unnerve him.

A brightly lit lawn is no guarantee that a burglar won't strike, especially when the lighting system is not strategically positioned. Burglars will often use the dark shadows that bright light creates along the side of the house such as near a bedroom window.

Olathe Municipal Code, Chapter 6.06.045 provides information about Unlawful Outdoor Illumination.