



SECURITY NEWSLINE

Your Guide to Greater Security
Awareness
in the Greater Chicagoland area

AUTUMN ISSUE 2020

IN THIS ISSUE, WE'RE COVERING

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- **CAT BURGLARS: WHAT ARE THEY + WHAT CAN YOU DO**
- **HOW YOUR MOOD AFFECTS YOUR VULNERABILITY**
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AS A HOMEOWNER. AS A BUILDER. AS A BUSINESS OWNER. YOU ARE SAFE.

Alert Protective exceeds the expectations of security needs in the Chicagoland area.

Rest assured, if you need security, Alert Protective Services will come through every time.

**WE REMAIN OPEN AND AVAILABLE
TO CUSTOMERS DURING THIS TIME**

PRIVACY PROTECTION IN THE ELECTRONIC AGE

In our technologically advanced age, personal data that used to be inaccessible is now just a few keystrokes away.

Every time you use a bank ATM, charge your credit card, or purchase something online, your information is obtained and sometimes stored in databases.

So what can you do to protect your privacy? Here are some tips to avoid leaving traceable footprints around:

- Do not give out your social security number
- Say "No, thank you!" to telemarketers or don't even answer numbers you do not recognize
- Avoid entering sweepstakes

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CAT BURGLARS: WHAT ARE THEY + WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PROTECT YOURSELF

Most people have heard of the term 'cat-burglar' but do you actually know what one is? People are referred to as cat burglars if they enter your building by climbing to an upper story.

Tricky--and scary--so how can you make sure you have the upper hand?

- **Arm your security system:** Whether you leave the home for 5 minutes or 5 days, you should arm your system.
- **Lock up:** Burglars look for easy access points, so don't give them any. All windows, entry doors, and storm doors should be locked up tight when you are away.
- **Remove easy access points:** Risk-free entrance points are gold to burglars, so remove them. Make sure entry points are well-lit with motion sensor lights.

Remember, your security system is the best defense against any would-be burglars!



HOW YOUR MOOD AFFECTS YOUR VULNERABILITY

Your bad mood can instantaneously put you in a compromised situation when you are not paying attention. In fact, did you know that most often muggers select victims who seem preoccupied, distracted, or not alert of their surroundings. Additional studies have shown that people who are angry or depressed are more vulnerable.

Why is this? How does your bad mood influence the way you think or react in a situation?

People who are in a bad mood are:

- More likely to take chances--like cutting through a bad area
- Less alert about their surroundings
- More likely to skip regular security measures
- More likely to appear vulnerable while walking
- More likely to provoke others
- More likely to drink in excess

So how can you protect yourself? Try to remove yourself from the hostile situation to keep your headspace. Be serious about "putting on a happy face" for safety's sake. Stop, breathe, and be aware of your surroundings at all times.

ONE OF THE SAFEST AREAS OF CHICAGO

in a recent community newsletter distributed by Roscoe Village Neighbors, they were praising the diligent efforts of the area residents and businesses for constantly being on the look out for criminal activity.

The presence of Alert Protective's high-definition security cameras posted at 25 key locations have been a major aid in keeping Roscoe Village and its residents and business owners safe.

The "Neighborhood on Watch" (NOW) video program aids Chicago police in protecting the area and investigating area incidences. We are proud to be part of the Roscoe Village Neighborhood watch and look forward to seeing this and other Chicagoland areas remain safe and secure.



PET PROFILE

MEET LUIS + MILO

Hey I'm Luis and I have many pets around my house, but the one who has the spotlight today is Milo!

He is the youngest of all my dogs. He is the son of my second oldest dog, Cinnamon. Milo is about a year old and still has the energy to prove it! Also, his favorite snack to eat is a banana.

He is a very friendly dog that loves to play around with everyone he meets. So far, Milo has gone on 2 hikes and 1 fishing trip with many more to come!



OUR MISSION, OUR PROMISE.

"We strive to deliver innovative, user-friendly security systems to every customer because we strongly believe crime is best fought by deterring it"

TIPS TO SAFELY SHOP ONLINE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Covid-19 is going to produce a huge shift to online shopping this holiday season, which means you need to be on the look out for identity and credit card theft more than ever.

If you are ready to jump into the holiday shopping, do so with caution. We suggest keeping the following tips in mind to ensure you have a safe + theft-free shopping season:

1. Place orders from a secure connection.
2. Know the store you are shopping from so you are assured of the site's quality.
3. Avoid offers that seem "too good to be true", (because they probably are).
4. Don't use a store that requires more information than necessary to make a purchase. (NO ONE should be requesting your social security number)
5. Make your passwords unique when visiting different sites.
6. Avoid using debit cards as they are linked to your bank account.
7. Have effective internet security systems in place prior to shopping.



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What's new in the security industry? Follow us on Twitter, Facebook and our blog!

COVID-19 CASES ON THE RISE. STAY SAFE.

With the fast-approaching cold weather comes flu-season and surge in the local cases of Covid-19 statewide.

As an essential business, Alert Protective remains committed to providing outstanding customer service and security surveillance amidst these unprecedented times.

We encourage Chicagoland residents to continue reaching out to us for your security needs and know that we are 100% working hard to keep you safe and secure at home and everywhere else.

Keep wearing your mask. Keep washing your hands. Stay safe, Chicago.

