

If you are attacked:

-Remain calm. Try not to show signs of anger or fear.

-Give up your valuables. Comply with demands for your money, purse, wallet or jewelry etc.

****If an attacker tries to get you into a car or out of public view, scream, fight and run.***

-Get a description. Age, race, height, weight, build, hair color, facial hair, type of clothing etc. Note distinguishing features that are not easily changed or removed.

-Call 911 as soon as possible. Stay on the line with the operator and give as much information as you can. Unless you are in danger, stay where you are (and where you told 911 you are) and wait for Police to arrive. If you must leave the area, call 911 ASAP from a safe location.

*Formulate mental plans of what you will do in a variety of situations. This will help you to react quickly and appropriately if you are victimized.

Neighborhood Service Centers:

Northwest

1099 Jay St - Bldg D Suite 200
428-7620

Southwest

923 Genesee St
428-7630

Southeast

846 S.Clinton Av
428-7640

Northeast

500 Norton St
428-7660

**REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS
ACTIVITY IMMEDIATELY
THROUGH 911**

Rochester Police Department

East Division Office
630 North Clinton Av.
Rochester, NY 14605
585-428-9800

West Division Office
1099 Jay St. Bldg. D
Rochester, NY 14611
585-428-9810

Police Headquarters
Public Safety Building
185 Exchange Blvd.
Rochester, NY 14614
585-428-6720

Rochester Police Department

CRIME PREVENTION AND PERSONAL SAFETY

*A guide for residents of
the City of Rochester*



Neighborhood Service Centers

The Basics of Street Safety

There are three basic rules that will keep you from becoming the victim of a crime in most situations:

1.) **STAY ALERT**— Always be aware of your surroundings and people inside your personal space. Don't allow yourself to become distracted to the point that you lose track of what is happening around you.



2.) **ACT CALM AND CONFIDENT IN ALL SITUATIONS**— Stand tall, keep your head up and appear in control. Criminals tend to prey on those that appear weak and unable to fight back. Make quick eye contact with people to let them know that you have seen them and could identify them to the police.

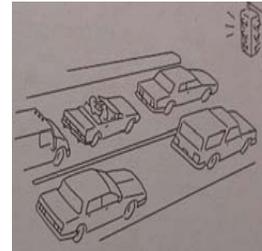
3.) **TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS**— If a situation feels wrong, it probably is! You know the circumstances of your daily life better than anyone. People who appear out of place or are engaged in activity that is uncommon in your neighborhood will often set off warning bells that should not be ignored. Get away from any suspicious condition immediately and call 911 to report it. Your observations may deter a crime or even result in the arrest of a criminal. **REMEMBER**— always remove yourself to a safe place first, then alert the police.

MORE GENERAL TIPS

-**Whenever possible**, walk with a friend. Criminals are less likely to approach groups than individuals. Avoid back alleys, rear parking lots or other poorly lit areas. Try to stay in places with plenty of people around.

-**Carry a purse** with the strap across your chest and the purse in front of you, grasped firmly with one hand. Carry a wallet in your front pocket rather than in the rear. This shows potential thieves that you are in control of your property and it will not be easy to take.

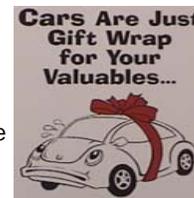
-**When driving**, keep your doors and windows locked, be suspicious of anyone walking up to your vehicle, and leave yourself enough room in traffic to drive away from a dangerous situation.



Be cautious of people or vehicles following you. If you feel that you are being followed, **don't go home**. Instead, drive to a populated place such as a 24 hour store, a fire or police station, or anywhere else there is a lot of people. Call 911 as soon as it is safe to do so.

-**Never** leave valuables in plain view inside your car. If you must, lock items in the trunk and out of sight.

-**Use a steering wheel lock** or other theft deterrent to reduce the risk of vehicle theft



-**If your car breaks down**, call 911 on your cell phone or wait inside your car for police to arrive. If someone

stops to help you, just ask them to call 911 for you and remain in the car with the doors locked.

Safety at Home

-**Install dead bolt locks** on all entry doors. Be sure that all doors and windows/locks are in good repair.

-**Install motion sensing floodlights** on all sides of your home, in addition to any porch lights.

-**Keep shrubs neatly trimmed** away from doors and windows. Criminals often use these to hide from view while breaking in to your home.

-**Consider installing an electronic alarm system.**

Be sure it is reliable and simple to operate. Many systems can automatically call 911 in case of emergency.



Rochester Police Department

Contact a Crime Prevention Officer at your local NSC office to schedule a free home security survey and for more information on other crime prevention programs in your neighborhood.