



THE NET

Lincoln Business Watch



Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is a multi-disciplinary approach to deterring criminal behavior through environmental design. CPTED strategies rely upon the ability to influence offender decisions that precede criminal acts. Generally speaking, most implementations of CPTED occur solely within the urbanized, built environment. Specifically altering the physical design of the communities in which humans reside and congregate in order to deter criminal activity is the main goal of CPTED. CPTED principles of design affect elements of the built environment ranging from the small-scale (such as the strategic use of shrubbery and other vegetation) to the overarching, including building form of an entire urban neighborhood and the amount of opportunity for “eyes on the street”.

CPTED strategies rely upon the ability to influence offender decisions that precede criminal acts. Research into criminal behavior shows that the decision to offend or not to offend is more influenced by cues to perceived risk of being caught than by cues to reward or ease of entry. Certainty of being caught is the main deterrence for criminals not the severity of the punishment so by raising the certainty of being captured, criminal actions will decrease. Consistent with this research, CPTED based strategies emphasize enhancing the perceived risk of detection and apprehension.



The FOUR Main Concepts:

Access Control– A design concept directed primarily at decreasing crime opportunity by denying access to crime targets and creating a perception of risk in offenders.

Defensible Space– Creating a buffer between the employee and any potential threat. (A way to avoid physical contact and/or a way to escape if necessary.)

Natural Surveillance– A concept directed primarily at keeping intruders easily seen by the most casual observers. (Avoid concealed areas, install lighting, keep windows clear of obstructions, install see-through fencing and make landscaping work for you.)

Territoriality– Physical design can create or extend a sphere of influence over users. Legitimate users develop a sense of territorial control while potential offenders, who perceive this control, are discouraged.

GENERAL SECURITY TIPS:

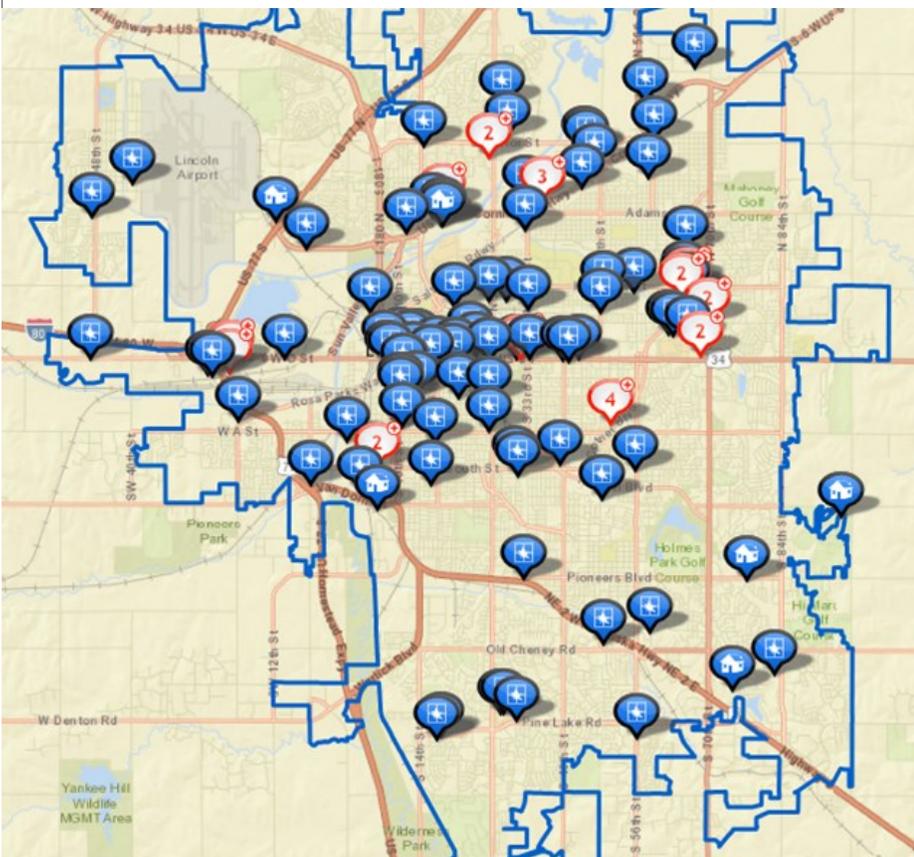
When closing your business:

- Leave cash register drawer open and empty
- If you have a safe, limit the number of people who have the combination, change it if someone quits.
- Keep a list of people who have keys. If someone quits, make sure the key is returned; if there is a question, re-key the locks.
- If you don't have a safe, hide the money in an unexpected container and place.
- Make daily deposits and alter the times deposits are made.
- When leaving secure all windows and doors. Make sure landscaping is trimmed; bushes should be no higher than 3' and trees should be no lower than 6'.
- If you sell cigarettes and you're not a 24-hour business, secure cigarettes by placing a cage or cabinet around them so they aren't as visible and to make cigarettes less a target for theft.
- If you're using an outside shed for storage, use a padlock with a short shackle so bolt cutters can't cut it. Put lighting out by the shed.



CRIME TRENDS

Between January 1st, 2014 thru August 5th, 2014, the police department has investigated 149 burglaries to businesses. These crimes are not isolated to any particular area, time of day or day of week. Below is a map of Lincoln and the locations of the burglaries. Below the map are some graphs that indicate time of day and day of the week these crimes are occurring.



NORTHWEST TEAM: -50 Burglaries

NORTHEAST TEAM: -33 Burglaries

CENTER TEAM: -27 Burglaries

SOUTHWEST TEAM: -17 Burglaries

SOUTHEAST TEAM: -22 Burglaries

WHEN CLOSING YOUR BUSINESS

- Leave cash drawers open and empty
- If you have a safe, limit the number of people who have the combination.
- Keep a list of employees who have keys. If someone quits, get the key back.
- Make daily deposits and alter the times the deposits are made.
- When you leave, make sure all windows and doors are locked.
- If you don't have a safe, hide the money in an unexpected container and place.

